

your friends, and yourself. Pray for the world and our nation. You will have many needs to bring before God.

Start a prayer list and begin to pray systematically for God to answer your prayers. Answers to prayer and your study of His Word are closely related. God made this clear in John 15:7 when He said, *"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."* The real joy of the Christian life comes from beginning your day worshiping the Lord.

Share Your Faith

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." Romans 1:16

One of the most exciting and fulfilling things you can do is share your newfound faith with others. Don't you have joy in your heart because He has saved you? Yet greater still is the joy that comes from seeing friends and family trust Christ as Savior because of your witness.

Begin now to tell others what Christ has done in your life. What He has done for you can also be accomplished in the lives of others. God loves everyone and wants him or her to know Him as Savior. John 3:16 says, *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."* What a wonderful promise. Share it with someone soon.

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For ordering information:

Partners In Ministry
PO Box 198
Middletown, DE
19709-0198

1.800.892.0016

www.partnersinministry.org



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THIS TRACT HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH BY:



PUTTING
GOD
FIRST
NOW THAT I'M SAVED

Immediately after his salvation, the Apostle Paul, a brand new Christian, said, "...Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:6).

As a new believer, you have probably asked that very question. You want to know what you can do for the Lord and what the Lord expects from you. The biggest blessing comes when you have a desire to follow God's Word and God's will for your life. God's Word clearly explains what you need to do immediately after becoming a Christian. These steps are explained for you here. Let this be a guide for you as you strive to put God first in your new life as a Christian.

Identify With Christ Through Baptism

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:" Matthew 28:19

The first thing God wants you to do is to personally identify with Him through baptism. This is the very first step of obedience. Baptism pictures the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. As we go down under the water, it pictures the death of our old life and as we come up out of the water, it speaks of our new life in Christ. Romans 6:4 says, *"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."*

Be sure to make plans for the pastor to baptize you as soon as possible. Your baptism is a time of joy and celebration! You will be glad you made the decision to follow Christ wholeheartedly, and so will all the other believers who have already followed Him in this basic step. Making this commitment to the Lord is essential in your life as a Christian.

Commit To Faithful Church Attendance

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Hebrews 10:25

You cannot grow properly as a new Christian without the local church. If you are to make progress spiritually, the church is where you will receive instruction and help for your new life. You will learn Bible principles and scriptural insights that will be invaluable

in your walk with God. Make up your mind to be faithful to every Bible class and worship service. God will bless your life as you *"...desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby..."* (1 Peter 2:2). The pastors and teachers will help you to understand how you can glorify God with your life.

The local church is where you will fellowship with other believers. In Acts 2:41-42, God says, *"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers."* The church will provide a place for you to build new friendships with Christians. It will give you an opportunity to pray and praise the Lord with others who have the same burden to serve God that you have.

In short, there is no replacement for your local church. Give God first place by becoming a faithful member and finding a place where you can serve the Lord and others in His church.

Worship the Lord Through Prayer & Bible Study

"...the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward." Psalm 19:9b, 10, 11

Personal worship of God is a habit that you need to develop early in your Christian life. You can begin to worship the Lord personally by setting aside time every day to be alone with Him and allowing His Word to speak to your heart. Begin by reading at least one chapter per day in the New Testament. A good place to start is in the Gospel of John.

Read slowly or aloud to yourself. Allow God's Word to sink into your heart and ask Him to help you understand what it means. If a verse speaks to your heart, go over it several times until you have it memorized. There is "great reward" in knowing and keeping God's Word.

After you have read the Word, take time to pray. Prayer helps us to know God in a more meaningful way. Spend a few minutes praising God for all your blessings. Tell Him you love Him and want to serve Him with your life today. Then pray for your family, your church,