

THETOLSONGROUP.COM

# NEXT STEPS

—— 6 STEPS TO DEEPER FAITH

SO YOU'VE  
DECIDED TO  
FOLLOW JESUS...  
**now what?**



DR. JOHN TOLSON

**STEP ONE:**

**WHO IS A CHRISTIAN?**

A Christian is someone who:

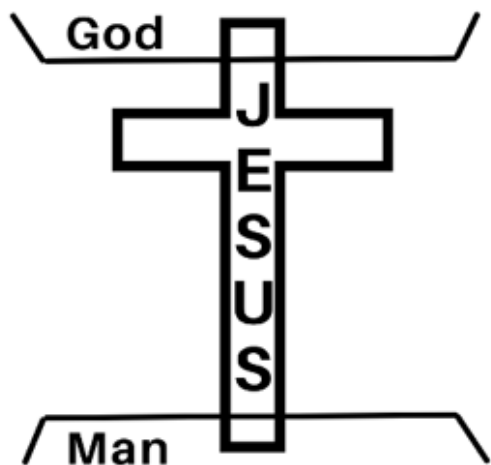
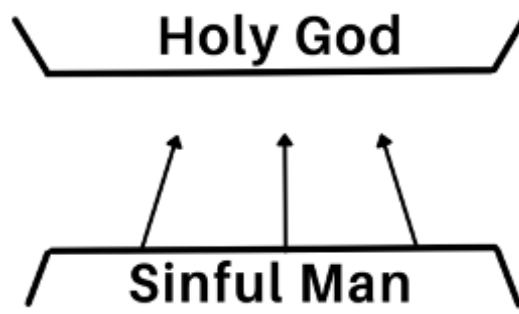
**A. Admits they are a sinner.**

"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard." - Romans 3:23

**B. Knows their sin separates them from a Holy God.**

"It's your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away and will not listen anymore." - Isaiah 59:2

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord." - Romans 6:23



**C. Believes Jesus Christ is God's only solution for their sin.**

Jesus came to bridge the separation between us and God.

"But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." - Romans 5:8

"Jesus told him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.'" - John 14:6

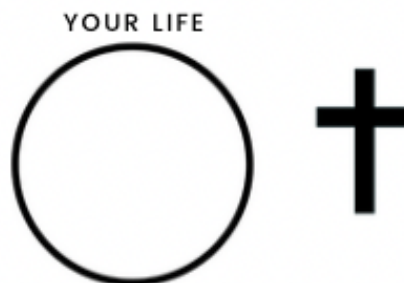
**D. Accepts Jesus into their life.**

"But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God." - John 1:12

"God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it."

- Ephesians 2:8-9

**Question!** Look at the circle to the right. Imagine this represents your life and the cross represents Jesus. **Where is Jesus in relation to your life? Is he inside the circle? On the line? On the outside? Getting closer?**



**If you have not asked Jesus into your life, pray this prayer to receive Jesus:**

**“Lord Jesus, I need you. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Thank you for forgiving my sins. Help me to become the person you have always wanted me to be.”**

**If you are not sure He is in your life, pray the above prayer.**

**STEP TWO: HOW CAN I BE SURE?**

How can be sure that Jesus came into my life?

**A. God promised to come into your life if you received Him.**

*"But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God."*

- John 1:12

*"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16*

**B. God does not lie!**

*"This truth gives them confidence that they have eternal life, which God—who does not lie—promised them before the world began." - Titus 1:2*

**C. The Christian Life is not based upon feelings.**



**FACTS:** The Christian life is based on facts from the Bible.

**FAITH:** The Christian trusts God and His Word (the Bible). Their faith is in the fact of Jesus Christ, not in feelings.

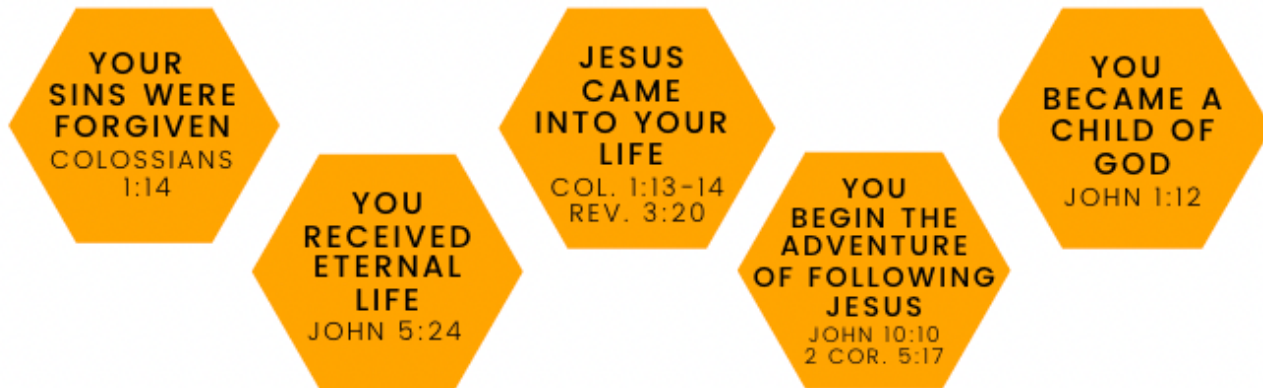
**FEELINGS:** Feelings come and go. Facts do not change.

*As a Christian, you must trust God and what He says in His Word, the Bible.*

## STEP THREE: WHAT HAPPENED WHEN JESUS CAME INTO MY LIFE?

What happened when Jesus came into my life?

The very moment you received Jesus into your life many things happened. Here are a few:



## STEP FOUR: THEN WHAT?

Now that I am a Christian... What's next?

### 1. Get to Know Jesus!

There are 4 Gospels in the Bible, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. They help us to know Jesus better.

### 2. Learn to Love Jesus!

We love Jesus when we do what He tells us to do. He tells us what to do in the Bible.

*"If you love me, keep my commands."* - John 14:15

### 3. Pray to Jesus!

God talks to us primarily through the Bible. We talk to God by praying. When you pray:

- i. Thank Him for His relationship with you
- ii. Confess your sins to Him and ask Him to clean you up
- iii. Tell God what is on your heart: your hurts, fears, desires, dreams
- iv. Pray for specific things for your family and friends.

### 4. Get in a Good Church!

Look for a church that explains the Bible, encourages you to do what the Bible says and love one another. (Hebrews 10:25) ATTEND REGULARLY!

Start with John!  
Read one chapter  
a day.

**STEP FIVE: DOES GOD WANT ME TO GROW AND CHANGE?**

*"Rather, you must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. All glory to him, both now and forever! Amen." - 2 Peter 3:18*



**Go** to God in prayer daily. (John 15:7)

**Read** God's Word daily.

**Obey** God moment by moment. (John 14:21)

**Witness** (Share what Jesus has done for you) Show others who Jesus is by how you live and what you say. (Matthew 4:19)

**Trust** God with every detail of your life. (1 Peter 5:7)

**Holy Spirit** (God's power in you) Allow Him to control and give you courage and power in your daily life. (Galatians 5:16-17; Acts 1:8)

**STEP SIX: HOW DOES GOD SEE ME?**

**I AM INCREDIBLY VALUABLE TO GOD.**

**God made me.**

*"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." Ephesians 2:10*

**God loves me.**

*"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life."  
- John 3:16*

**Jesus died for me.**

*"But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." – Romans 5:8*

**God has plans for my life.**

*"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." – Jeremiah 29:11*

**God has gifted me.**

1 Corinthians 12:1-11