

7. You have a new lifestyle.

- a. A good foundation is essential for a house to stand strong. Jesus wants you to know that obeying God will give your life a solid foundation
- b. You show your love for Jesus by doing as he says
 - i. John 14:15
 - ii. Philippians 2:13
- c. Assignment – write one area of your life where you are obeying God and one where you think you are not. Ask God to show you what he wants you to do, and then to give you the strength to do it.

Please request part 2 of this study from the person that gave you this or contact us below.

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FAIRPARK WESLEYAN CHURCH

YOUR NEXT STEPS AS A NEW BELIEVER

PART 1 OF 2



Your New Beginning

Pastor Wayne Friday

YOUR NEW LIFE NOW... 2 COR. 5:17-18

1. You can be assured of your salvation

- a. Let's look at a short check list for assurance that you are saved in a Biblical sense:
 - i. Are you aware that God became flesh in the person of Jesus Christ (1 Timothy 3:16), and that He died for the sins of the world? Yes No
 - ii. Did you come to the Savior because you had sinned against God? Yes No
 - iii. Did you “repent” and put your faith (trust) in Jesus? Yes No
 - iv. Are you convinced that He suffered and died on the cross for your sins, and that He rose again on the third day? Yes No
 - v. If you answered yes to those questions you don't have to doubt your salvation!
- b. If you do experienced doubts about what really happened to you. Here are some assurances that God gives in the Bible
 - i. I John 2:3-6 gives us two ways to know:
 1. if you do what Christ says and
 2. if you live as Christ wants. What does Christ tell us to do? John answers in 3:23: “Believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another.” True Christian faith results in loving behavior; that is why John says that the way we act can give us assurance that we belong to Christ.
 - ii. Romans 8:16 Paul uses adoption to illustrate the believer's new relationship with God. In Roman culture, the adopted person lost all rights in his old family and gained all the rights of a legitimate child in his new family. He became a full heir to his new father's estate. Likewise, when a person becomes a Christian, he or she gains all the privileges and

responsibilities of a child in God's family. One of these outstanding privileges is being led by the Spirit (see Galatians 4:5, 6). We may not always feel as though we belong to God, but the Holy Spirit is our witness. His inward presence reminds us of who we are and encourages us with God's love

- c. God assures you that Jesus Christ has come into your life – John 14:20
- d. God assures you that your sins have been forgiven – Colossians 2:13-14
- e. God assures you that you have eternal life. I John 5:13 some people hope that they will receive eternal life. John says we can know we have it. Our certainty is based on God's promise that he has given us eternal life through his Son. This is true whether you feel close to God or far away from him. Eternal life is not based on feelings but on facts. You can know that you have eternal life if you believe God's truth.
- f. Assignment – Write a description of when, where, and how you became a Christian. Make a note of the assurances that God has given you today.

I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS ME

2. You can know that you are loved unconditionally

a. No matter what else may be going on in your life, no matter what acceptance or rejection you may be facing from others, you can know that God has completely accepted you and loves you unconditionally.

i. Eph 1:4-5 God loves you, chose you, and adopts you into his own family.

b. Assignment – Write about what it means to you to be a part of God’s family and to be loved unconditionally.

rehabilitated, or reeducated – we are re-created (new creations), living in vital union with Christ (Colossians 2:6,7) At our conversion we do not merely turn over a new leaf; we begin a new life under a new Master.

c. Colossians 2:6-7 You have begun a relationship that will continue the rest of your life

d. Assignment – Write how it feels to know that God has given you a new life. What does that mean to you personally?

4. You have the privilege of prayer

a. Just as good friends can talk to each other, so God, your heavenly Father, wants you to talk to him. And, while you may not understand it right now, you’ll find that he “talks” to you as well.

b. You can pray about anything! God wants to hear from you. Philippians 4:6 Imagine never worrying about anything! It seems like an impossibility; we all have worries on the job, in our homes, at school. But Paul’s advice is to turn our worries into prayers. Do you want to worry less? Then pray more! Whenever you start to worry, stop and pray.

c. Assignment – Commit yourself to getting used to talking to God. Start out with about three minutes a day of focused time talking to God. Talk to him as you

would to a friend. Begin a list of the things you’re talking to God about and the concerns that you’re bringing to him.

5. You have the treasure of God’s Word

a. When you buy a new gadget, you usually get an instruction manual. With your new life in Christ, you need God’s instruction manual, the Bible. In fact, the communication you “hear” from God will often come as you read his Word.

b. 2 Timothy 3:16 – You can trust God’s Word.

c. Assignment – Commit yourself to spending five minutes a day reading the Bible. Begin in the book of Mark (in the New Testament) and read about Jesus. As a result of something you read, write something you learned or something you need to do.

6. You have a great friend in Jesus, so get to know Him!

a. As you’re reading in the book of Mark, you’ve been learning more about Jesus. In essence, Jesus is God put into focus for human eyes. Jesus came in order to show us God and then to take the punishment for our sins.

b. Only because of Jesus do you have a personal relationship with God. Colossians 1:19-20

c. You can trust God’s Word Colossians 1:19-20

d. Assignment – Write a prayer to Jesus, thanking him for all he did for you.

3. You have a new life in Christ

a. What’s next? God has given you a new life, but don’t expect to be different all at once. Just as a new baby has to grow and learn, so God is going to work in you and help you to grow.

b. II Corinthians 5:17 Christians are brand-new people on the inside. The Holy Spirit gives them new life, and they are not the same anymore. We are not reformed,

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