

WELCOME INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD



REVISED AND UPDATED

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This booklet is part of a series designed to help you grow to maturity in Christ. Many new converts who long to make progress in their Christian lives struggle with the how of the process. This booklet is designed to help you take the first steps along the road.

I have had the privilege of pasturing a church for the past twenty years and am fully aware of the difficulties people encounter in their spiritual growth. Recently I was introduced to Leroy Eims book, "The Lost Art of Disciple Making." I found this book very helpful, especially the overall pattern he suggests for leading a person to maturity.

Once a person meets Jesus and is born again he becomes

A CONVERT

As certain principles from the word of God are built into his life, he becomes

A DISCIPLE

As a disciple he is trained on how to serve the Lord and is thus equipped to become

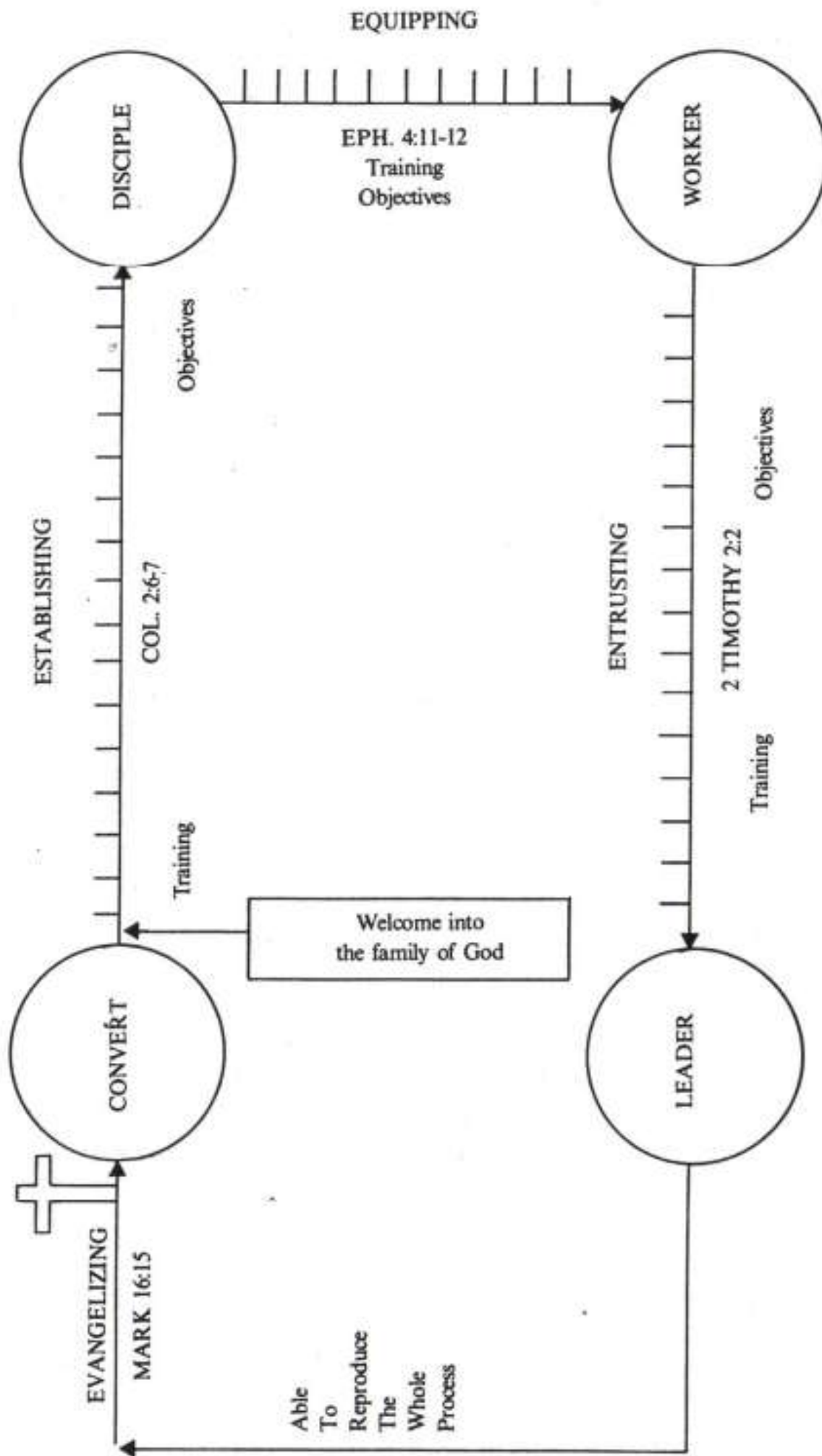
A WORKER

It's a privilege to serve the Lord, but as one continues to serve Him the whole matter of Leadership soon emerges. As a person is trained in the principles of leadership he should emerge as

A LEADER

The Lord always works through leadership and is therefore looking for mature leaders.

This Chart, adapted from Leroy Eims' book will form the outline to be followed in this series of booklets.



Being born physically into an earthly family is a total miracle! A new person has come to join a family! It is something that is completely beyond human comprehension or description.

Being born spiritually into God's "forever family" is also a total miracle!

To see a person recognise that they have received new life from Jesus; have been born into a new family - the family of God - is something that baffles human understanding, and is too wonderful to describe.

As a prospective mother receives a seed of life and brings forth a new creation in human birth, so a person receives the seed of the Word of God preached to them into their hearts, and a new life is born.

As a mother has to face the rigors of childbirth to bring forth her child, and even in some cases comes close to death, so Jesus faced the rigors of the cross and the pains of death to bring forth life for us.

When a child is born into a family he does not understand the implications of his birth. He does not understand what a family is nor what security it offers. He does not understand the privilege of having loving parents, brothers or sisters. He does not understand that he may have been born into a rich, or Royal family. Only as the years go by does he recognise the privileges which have accompanied his birth.

In the same way, when you were born into God's family you didn't realise or recognise the privileges and the inheritance that are yours, that God is your Father, that Jesus is your Elder Brother and that you are part of the Royal Family of God.

The Bible, which is God's Word, brings this into focus for you. It explains:

- a) What happened to you when you became His Child.
- b) What your privileges are as part of God's family



What happens when the gospel is preached to a person and they surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ? That person becomes a convert. As he grows in the Lord and learns lesson upon lesson from the Word of God, he becomes ***a disciple***.

As a disciple, he goes on to understand how he can be use of God, and he then becomes ***a worker***.

As a worker, under God, he may learn certain things at the hand of the Lord and become ***a leader***.

Once a person has had an encounter with the living Christ and he has entered into this new life and has become a convert, one of the first things he needs to understand is what happened to him when he became converted.

TEN THINGS FATHER WANTS YOU TO KNOW



You have become a new creation.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone,
the new has come!"

The Living- Bible puts it this way:

"When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new person
inside. He is not the same any more. A new life has begun!"

When people meet with Jesus and enter God's family, many wonderful
changes take place:

They experience a new peace of heart and mind - Rom. 5:1

They experience a new peace of heart and mind - Rom. 5:1

They have a new desire to attend church - Heb. 10:25

They feel they want to be with the family of God - 1 John 1:7

Their old habits begin to fall away - 2 Cor. 5:17

They seem to automatically acquire a new set of values - Phil. 3:79

They begin to desire and to read the Bible - 1 Pet. 2:2

They become a totally new creation and many other similar changes take place.

This process of change will continue in your life for as long as you respond to it.



However, if you become hard in your spirit towards the Lord, and you no longer allow the Lord to apply the Word to your heart and life, something becomes hard on the inside. This hardness will stop the process of change. Some people have allowed the Lord to begin a change in their lives, but because of the hardness of their heart, have stopped the Lord's changing process and have allowed themselves to move away from God. They must turn back to the Lord and let Him continue the work of making them into totally new persons.

The new Christian is so changed that others often remark, "What's happened to you?" Such remarks stem from the fact that they have become new creations - new people. But one day a new and surprising discovery is made. You discover that you are not perfect, and that some of your problems have not vanished. A little bit of the old life surfaces and you feel you have taken a step backwards. When that happens, ask for forgiveness, put it under the blood of Jesus, continue to move ahead, and let the Lord continue His process.

As you mature in your Christian life, these problems will not worry you as much as they did previously for the presence of the Lord in your life will make you stronger each day.

1 John 4:4 says,

"You are of God, little children, AND HAVE OVERCOME THEM, because greater is he (Jesus) that is in you than he (the devil) that is in the world."

Not only are you a new creation but the CREATOR Himself has come to live in you making all things new.

You have experienced a new birth.

When you became a new creation, you were born into a family. Jesus said,

"Except a man BE BORN AGAIN he cannot see the Kingdom of God." John
3:3

This statement almost seems to have shocked Nicodemus, and so he logically asked Jesus,

"How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" John 3:4

Jesus then made a clear statement which helps us understand our new birth,

"Except a man be born of WA TER and of the SPIRIT he cannot enter the kingdom of God" John 3:5

BORN OF WATER

What does this mean? Three different views have been expressed:

1) it refers to natural human birth.

This is a legitimate view when one considers that every baby, before birth, lives in water. At birth, "the water breaks" and the child is born of water. This view is supported by the parallel statement in the next -verse,

"That which is born of flesh is flesh."

What Jesus is saying is that physical birth alone does not bring a person into the kingdom. The Jews thought that it did.

2) It refers to the washing of water by the word.

Ephesians 5:26, "That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word."

A person hears the word of God preached,

"Jesus loves you - Jesus died for you - Jesus took in His own body your sins. If you will receive Jesus and repent of your sin, you will be born again."

The sinner receives that word, responds to it, receives the Lord Jesus and is born again. In a real sense that person has been washed by the water of the Word. This is a reasonable application but not as convincing as the first view.



3) The third view is that it refers to water baptism

This view is difficult to accept for it makes water baptism essential to salvation. You do not have to be baptised to become a child of God.

Baptism is an act of obedience in the life of a person who has already become a child of God. My conclusion is that to be born of water is a clear reference to physical birth.

BORN OF THE SPIRIT

Jesus says in John 3:8 (N.I.V.)

"The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone BORN OF THE SPIRIT"



Jesus is saying two very important things here:

- : 1. The work of the Holy Spirit in bringing a person to new birth is beyond human understanding. It is like the mysterious wind, yet just as real.
- 2. The Holy Spirit Himself performs this miracle.

How does this happen?

John explains this in John 1:12-13 (N.I.V.)

"Yet to ALL WHO RECEIVE HIM, to those who BELIEVE IN HIS NAME, he gave the right to become children of God - children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, BUT BORN OF GOD."

When you received Jesus into your heart and life as Saviour and Lord, You were.

Yes, you have experienced a new birth

You have been placed in a new family.

Jesus makes it very clear in John 1: 12 that,

"All who received Him who believe in His name, He gives the right to become Children of God." (N.I.V.)

In other words, you have become part of His family. All those who have put their faith in the Lord belong to "the household of faith" Gal. 6:10

Because we have received the Lord Jesus we can say with Paul in Ephesians 2:19,

"Consequently, we are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and MEMBERS OF GOD'S HOUSEHOLD." (N.I.V.)

There are many people who have come from a broken home and have had the misfortune of having parents who have placed a heavy burden upon them by not living upright lives.

To those in such circumstances I want to say, "God has made arrangements for you to belong to another family - His own family." Though you may find it difficult to identify with your natural family, he says, "Identify with Me, and with your brothers and sisters in Christ. Enjoy what it means to be placed into a new family!"

To belong to a family is so special!



It gives us a sense of Belonging, of Security, of Strength, and of Protection.

To belong to God's family guarantees this and more.

God is a "family man."

GOD IS OUR FATHER

Psalm 68:5

"A father to the fatherless,... is God in His holy habitation.

Isaiah 64:8

"But now, O Lord, Thou art our father; we are the clay, and Thou our potter; and we all are the work of Thy hands."

Matthew 6:9

"After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed by thy name."

Romans 8:15

"For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

If God is our Father, then

Jesus is our elder brother

Which makes us joint-heirs with Christ? Romans 8:17

What a privilege to belong to this family!

You now have a new clean slate

Romans 5:1 says,

"Therefore being justified.. (just as if I have never sinned!) by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

We need to understand what took place when the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross.

Jesus was made sin for us. 2 Cor. 5:21

"For He (God the Father) hath made Him (Jesus) to be sin for us who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him".

or as the Living Bible puts it,

"For God took the sinless Christ and poured into Him our sins. Then, in exchange, He poured Gods goodness into us"

Isaiah 53:6 "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way and the Lord has laid on Him (Jesus) the iniquity of us all."

I Peter 2:24

"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree."

God stretched back into the past and out into the future; into the years that had not yet come, and gathering all the sin put it on the Lord Jesus.

John the Baptist said, John 1:29

"Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world."



Through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, your sin has been removed - You have a clean slate!

Romans 8:1

"There is therefore now NO CONDEMNATION to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit."

Revelation 1:5-6

"Grace and peace .. from Jesus Christ, to him who loved us and WASHED US FROM OUR SINS IN HIS OWN BLOOD, and has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever."

1 John 1:7

"If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and THE BLOOD of Jesus Christ His Son, CLEANSETH us from all sin."

No matter what sins we have committed, or how many He removes them all.

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1 COR. 6 : 9 –11



"Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived" (take note of the terrible list) "neither fornicators" (pre-marital sex), "nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind" (homosexuality)," nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God And such were some of you: BUT YE ARE WASHED, but you are sanctified, BUT YE ARE JUSTIFIED in the name of the Lord Jesus..."

It does not matter what you have done in the past, when you come into the family of God you are given a clean slate.

Do you remember what happened to Pilgrim in "Pilgrims Progress" as he made his way up to the cross? He knelt at the foot of the cross with the great burden of sin on his back. The moment he knelt at the cross the burden fell from his back and rolled down the hill into the empty tomb. Your sin is in the empty tomb, under the blood of Jesus - leave it there!

You have a new quality of Life.

“And this is the record, that God hath given to us ETERNAL LIFE, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life: and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have ETERNAL LIFE, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God”

Do you know that you have eternal life? Or, have you ever doubted it? I want to explain it this way, so that you may be able to explain it to others.

When a young girl becomes engaged, as a token of her engagement she receives from her prospective husband an engagement ring. Normally an engagement ring is made of gold with a diamond artistically set in the gold. As the diamond comes with the ring, so the gift of eternal life comes with Jesus who is the eternal Son of God.

In verse 11 of 1 John 5 it says,

"And this is the record that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son."

The day you receive Jesus, you receive eternal life.



You will have eternal life as long as Jesus is there. By the way, He has come to stay, for He said

"I will never leave you nor forsake you." Hebrews 13:5

Eternal life is not a ticket that God gives us, it is a Person - His name is Jesus. He is the eternal Son of God, and if the eternal Son of God lives in you, you have eternal life. 1 John 5:12

I used to think of eternal life in this way:

If you take a little bird, and bring him to a diamond that is a mile cubed, and every five years he comes by to sharpen his beak on the diamond, by the time the diamond has worn away then eternity is only beginning!

Eternity is not only quantity in terms of length, but eternity is quality. It is the life of God. In the verses quoted from 1 John 5:11-12 where the word "life" is recorded, we can put the word Zoë (pronounced Zoe-Aye). The life of God.

Having received this new quality of life we need to understand that it came when we received A Person, Jesus.

You have received a new nature

1 Peter 1:4

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."

The old nature that every one of us has, is corrupt. Unfortunately however it basically dominates the people of this world.

When Jesus comes to live in us He gives us a new nature - His nature. When we receive this new nature certain things happen.

Our value systems change. The things we considered precious, diminish in value, and the things that in time past were of no consequence to us become extremely important. Certain things we used to revel in we now hate. We no longer want to see injustice, nor hear bad language or filthy jokes, or associate too closely with evil people. Instead we long to be with the children of God, we become aware of God's Word and develop a longing to hear from God.

Whereas previously we would not enter a church, we now enjoy attending church to meet with the living God, because we have received the new nature of Christ.

What is actually happening is that we are becoming like the Lord Jesus. His nature has come to reside in us, and we are changing on the inside. But it doesn't take long to realise that inside of us there is not only the nature of Jesus. We soon realise there is another nature in us - our old nature, or "the old man" as it is sometimes called. The "old man" rears his ugly head very quickly.

However we need to develop this new nature in our lives. We must allow the Lord Jesus Christ to take complete control of us, so that more and more of the new nature shines through. Unfortunately at the same time we could make the opposite choice, and satisfy the old nature.

The decision in terms of which way you go, rests with you.

2 Peter 1:4

"... Whereby are given unto us, exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."

Each one of us is made up of three parts, body, soul, and spirit.



The body relates us to the world. It is through our spirits that we have contact with God. Our spirits are, as it were, a built-in broadcast receiver, and through that we have fellowship with God. Just as our spirits long for God, so our physical bodies are of the earth, and our flesh longs for the things of this world. This part of us must come under the control of the Spirit of God, when it does, then we move towards God. If our spirits do not come under His control, then we move towards the world. In the middle of the diagram is a circle with Soul written on it. The word soul describes our intellect, our emotions and our will. Our will makes the choice.

In which direction is your will choosing to go at this moment? God's way or the way of the World?

Yield to the new nature you have received, and do as Paul says we ought to do with the old one. Gal. 5:24 (NIV)

Col. 3 verses 8-10

"But now ye also PUT OFF all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds, and have PUT ON THE NEW MAN, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him."

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When I was a boy, my father was very much involved in serving the Lord, although he was a building contractor by trade. He had established a Sunday school, which flourished and subsequently became a church. However the time came when they realised a Pastor was needed and a man was called from another city. When I met him for the first time, I wondered whether they had made a mistake. But when we began to talk to the man, and saw the radiant smile on his face, we could see the reality of the Lord Jesus Christ shining through -I saw the most Christlike man I had ever seen. A man who had crucified the old nature; a man in whom Jesus could be seen.

In your life also, Jesus can be seen through you, as you release the new nature of the Son of God whose name is Jesus.

You now have a new partner

Do you know that the Bible says that two are better than one? Ecclesiastes 4:9. I'm so glad I'm a married Man! I don't know how I would cope with life without my wonderful wife. Two are better than one! When you go out on life's journey having come into the family of God, God says, "I've got a new Partner for you." The new Partner is the Holy Spirit.

In John chapter 14 Jesus is approaching His death on the cross prior to His ascension into Heaven, and He says to His disciples,

"I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." verse 18.

When did Jesus do that? He came in the Person of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.

I believe that every person who has opened his heart to the Lord has the Spirit of God living in him. The Spirit of God not only wants to live in you, but He wants to fill you, and control you, to the glory of God.

John 14:16 says,

"And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever."

The word 'Comforter' in the Greek ('Paracletos',) means 'One who comes alongside to help.'

Although a man may appreciate the help of his wife, there is no one to equal the Holy Spirit. He is the greatest companion you can ever know. Being related to the Holy Spirit means more than can be expressed in words. From Him we receive the wisdom of God, the anointing of God and the Power of God to make us effective from day to day for the King.

I once knew of a rather plain girl, who had never managed to get a steady boyfriend. Consequently she became downcast and discouraged. One day a Young christian guy, from out of town, came to the church and noticed her. I have never seen a girl change so much in so short a time. Just because he took notice of her, she actually became pretty overnight.



Our lives too are rather meaningless until we come into partnership with the Holy Spirit, and when that happens, people soon notice the difference.

God has blessed Yonggi Cho's church in Seoul, Korea, and done many wonderful things there. But I am convinced of this; it is not because of his Home-Cell structure; nor because of the effectiveness of Prayer Mountain, but it is because of his relationship and partnership with the Holy Spirit.

We have come into partnership with the Holy Spirit and now all we need to do is to develop It. We must learn to listen. We must recognise that He is a special partner, and we must be open to receive His wisdom, His instructions, His anointing, and His promptings. As we move in the flow of our Partner, the Holy Spirit, we become completely different people.

That was the secret of Jesus' ministry. Before Jesus went out and ministered effectively, He went to the river Jordan and was baptised, the heavens opened and a dove came down and sat upon Him. That is why Jesus could say,

"I never do anything but that I first see My Father do it. I never speak anything but I first hear My Father." John 5:19

How did He see and hear His Father? By the Spirit.

Business men, doctors, tradesmen, and people in all walks of life can be far more effective, when they are in partnership with the Holy Spirit. God can produce the best in any person in any situation. Let the Holy Spirit be your partner - trust Him to become your senior partner, and He will make you the best husband - wife - student - child, because you are in partnership with God.

This is what the new Partner will do:

He comforts	John 14:18
He encourages	1 Cor. 14:3
He guides	John 16:13 Act 2:17 (dreams and visions)
He empowers	Acts 1:8 Luke 24:49
He lives in us	1 Cor. 6:19-20

"What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?. For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." 1 Cor. 6:19-20

Enjoy your new partner

You have entered a new covenant

A covenant is an agreement. Signed and sealed. It is a guarantee.

God has entered into a guaranteed agreement with us whereby he guarantees His support. Because we have become His children He has guaranteed that He will never leave us nor forsake us. Hebrews 13:5 In Genesis 15:1-8 we see God entering into covenant with Abram. Verse 1 says,

"After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying "Fear not, Abram, I am thy shield and thy exceeding great reward."

What God says to Abram He says to you!



Abram said,

"LORD GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus. And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and I, one born in my house is mine heir.

And behold, the word of the Lord came to him saying, this shall not, be thine heir, but he that shall come forth out of thine own loins shall be thine heir. And he brought him forth abroad, and said, look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, so shall thy seed be.

And he believed in the Lord, and he counted it to him for righteousness. And he said unto him, I am the Lord that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees to give thee this land to inherit it.

And he said, Lord God, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it And he said unto him, Take thee a heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtle dove and a young pigeon. And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and lay each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not. And when the fowls came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.

And God said to Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not their's, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years....."

This is a prophetic word about the Israelites going into Egypt at a later stage.

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"And that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge..."

God's judgement upon Egypt - remember the ten plagues?

"And afterwards they shall come out with great substance."

Remember how they brought all the gold and all the precious goods from the land of Egypt?

"And thou shalt go down to thy fathers in peace. And thou shalt be buried in a good old age."

Verse 17 continues,

"And it came to pass, that when the sun went down and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between the pieces. In that same day **THE LORD MADE A COVENANT WITH ABRAM.**"

There was another day when Jesus the Lamb of God was taken like those sacrificial animals, was beaten, bruised, lacerated, crowned with thorns, nailed to a cross, His side pierced and His blood freely flowed for you and for me. In that moment God Almighty made a covenant with you and me.

Down through the history of the Old Testament, whenever a covenant was made, that covenant implied an absolute honesty and integrity between each party.

God said, "I will be absolutely true to you."

What is more, a covenant meant, "All that I am and have is made available to you."

When Jesus was crucified, Jesus was saying, "all that I am and have is available to you."

Remember; before Jesus went to the cross, during the Last Supper, He took the cup and said,

"This cup is THE NEW COVENANT in my blood,"

1 Cor. 11:25

Just as the Old Testament covenants were sealed by an animal dying and blood being spilt, so the new covenant that God Almighty made with us, was sealed by the blood of His Son.

God has stood behind that covenant ever since He made it.

If you have come into the family of God you are in the new covenant.

You now have a new security.

In a world full of insecurity and instability, the Lord gives us a new security.

This security emerges with such force in many scriptures, for example:



Col. 3:3

"Your life is hid with Christ in God."

Jude 1:24-25

"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory 'with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."

We are secure in Jesus Christ. If you are part of His family, that is the kind of security you have.

How wonderful to know that through all the difficulties of life the love of Jesus remains constant. Paul says so in Romans 8:35-39 (NIV)

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "for your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord"

Hebrews 13:5b

"For He hath said, I will never leave thee nor forsake thee."

The Amplified Bible brings out the full Greek meaning in which it was originally written.

"For He (God himself has said, I will not in any way fail you nor give you up, nor leave you without support (I will) not, (I will) not (I will) not in any degree leave you helpless nor forsake nor let (you) down (relax My hold on you~ Assuredly not!"

What security! Neither the Bank of England nor the Rock of Gibraltar could give such a security.

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You have received a new inheritance.

Would you like to inherit a million rand?

Romans 8:17 tells us that we have received at God's hand an inheritance that is worth MORE than millions.

"we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ."

The whole of God's eternal estate is willed to us.

1 Cor. 2:9-10

"As it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

By virtue of the fact that we are heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ, we have received an inheritance that goes beyond our wildest imaginations and dreams. All who turn down an inheritance like this must be crazy!

God gave the Children of Israel a land for their inheritance, although many enemies tried to stop them from inheriting it. We too have a lot of enemies who try to prevent us from possessing our inheritance.

God gave the Children of Israel a land flowing with milk and honey - but they had to possess it. They had several campaigns; to the north, the centre and the south. They had to fight to possess their inheritance.

God has given you an inheritance, but you have to fight the enemy by resisting him in the name of Jesus, until you possess it.

Our inheritance includes:
the promises of God
the power of God
the presence of God



God has given you-

A new creation - A new birth - A new family - A new, clean slate - A new quality of life - A new nature - A new partner - A new covenant - A new security - and a new inheritance.

Who could turn down such an offer?

Now that you have considered the Ten Things that Father wants you to know, may I suggest three important, practical things you need to do?

1. Mark them in your Bible.

Mark every verse of scripture quoted in this booklet by underlining the verse or by colouring it in.

Mark it as a chain reference. In other words, select the most significant scripture in each of the ten points and next to that verse write the heading. For example, turn to 2 Corinthians 5:17 Colour it in. In the margin write new creation. Next to this verse write John 3:3, which is the most significant verse of the following point, namely new birth, and so on to point ten. As you do this you will be "letting the WORD of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom." Colossians 3:16



2. Meditate on each of these points. Let the Spirit of God make them increasingly real to you.

3. Confess them with your mouth.

The word of God says,

**"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and WITH
THE MOUTH CONFESSION IS MADE unto salvation."**

Rom. 10: 10

It would strengthen you to make the following confession to the Lord, daily for some time. Subsequently you could make it as often as you may feel necessary.

Wonderful Father,

Thank you that you have effected a miracle in me and that I am now a new creation. Thank you that when you gave me the ability to repent of my sins and to surrender to your Lordship I experienced a new birth, I was born again. I happily acknowledge therefore that I have become part of the new family - God's family. Thank you too Father, that the blood of Jesus has cleansed me from sin and that I am enjoying the peace that comes from knowing that I now have a new clean slate. Thank you Jesus, that when you came to live in me you gave me a new quality of life - eternal life, the life of God. Thank you that I have also become a partaker of your new nature.

Thank you Holy Spirit that you have come to live in me as my new partner. It is so special to know that my body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

Thank you Lord you have included me in your new covenant - all that you are and have is available to me. It thrills me to know that I am a part of your everlasting covenant signed with the blood of Jesus. This has given me a new security and has opened up to me a new inheritance.

Thank you Father for revealing to me these ten facets of my inheritance.

I love you Father.

I love you Jesus

I love you Holy Spirit.

Note: Share this booklet with a friend who has recently met the Lord. Plan to spend some time together and read it. Help your friend to mark his or her Bible.



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