

him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you” (John 14:16-17). The Holy Spirit will strengthen you spiritually by being a Teacher, Guide, Comforter, and more.

A bright future ahead. You may be wondering exactly what is involved in living this life as a Christian. Understand that encouraging and distressing events happen to everyone, and Christians are not exempt from their share of troubling situations. That is why it is so important to allow Christ to mold and strengthen your character to match His. The steps outlined at the beginning of this tract are practical things you can do each day that will reinforce your decision to follow Christ, as well as strengthen your personal relationship with Him.

Satan has many tactics to try to distract, discourage, and draw believers away from Christ. But there is wonderful news! Paul the Apostle wrote in Romans 8:35, 37-39, “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? . . . Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature,

shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Victory is sure when you keep your hand in the Lord’s.

The bottom line . . . You have embarked on the greatest and most fulfilling adventure of your life! God will be faithful to help you every day as you continue to grow stronger in your relationship with Christ.

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GAINING
SPIRITUAL
Strength

After you have asked the Lord for forgiveness of your sins and received salvation, your life will never be the same. Satan, the enemy of your soul, will try many things to turn your heart away from Christ. However, there are practical measures you can take each day that will strengthen your faith.

Read the Bible daily. “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee” (Psalm 119:11). A daily reading schedule will keep you in His Word, and will allow His Word to grow in your heart.

Pray each day. “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (James 5:16). “Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his face continually” (1 Chronicles 16:11). Christ is your friend, and you will gain spiritual strength as you spend time talking and listening to Him each day.

Meet with other believers regularly for worship. “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). Getting together with other believers is a great way to share your faith and to gain encouragement from the testimonies they share.

Make restitutions for past wrongs. “And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men” (Acts 24:16). Cleaning up your past life will give you great peace in knowing that you are forgiven by God and man.

Choose friends who will inspire rather than discourage you. “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?” (2 Corinthians 6:14). Your choice of friends will have a direct impact on your daily life. Those who share your passion for Christ will encourage you when the going gets tough.

Learn the difference between temptation and willful acts of sin. “There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above what ye are able, but will with the temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it” (1 Corinthians 10:13). Everyone experiences temptation—even Christ was tempted. Unless you knowingly and purposefully yield to temptation, you have not sinned. Just as your choice to follow Christ was a conscious decision, so will acts of sin be a matter of choice. Satan will tempt you to sin, but he cannot

force you to do wrong. “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).

Develop a strong relationship with Jesus Christ by seeking for and receiving the experiences of sanctification and the baptism of the Holy Spirit. “For this is the will of God, even your sanctification” (1 Thessalonians 4:3). Sanctification is an act of God’s grace that purges your inherent sinful nature. After you have been saved, God’s Spirit draws you to an even deeper relationship with Him. As you dedicate your life completely to Him, through faith and the Blood of Christ, He will sanctify you and set you apart for His use. While salvation provided forgiveness for the sinful deeds you committed, sanctification cleanses your heart of the sinful disposition from which wrongful actions spring.

After you are sanctified, you are eligible to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost. This experience is the Third Person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, coming into a person’s life to give power for God’s service. Jesus said, “I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know