



JRNY CHURCH

I
RAISED
MY
HAND
NOW
WHAT?

TABLE OF CONTENTS

04 / What's Next?

06 / Jesus: Relationship With God

08 / Prayer: Talking To God

10 / The Bible: Hearing From God

12 / Church: The Mission Of God

13 / Let's Go Bring 'Em Home

14 / The Best Is Yet To Come



WHAT'S NEXT?



CONGRATULATIONS!

All of Heaven stopped to celebrate because you made the decision to follow Jesus! Today marks the beginning of an ever-growing, authentic, life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ, and we want to help you get started. You may have questions you've always wanted to ask. You may be looking for some direction on what's next. You may simply be looking for some inspiration to keep moving forward. Wherever you are, this book is designed to encourage you and be a resource for you as you follow Jesus. We believe this is just the beginning for you! We believe God loves you uniquely, and that JRNY Church can be your church home.

To get connected, follow us on social media @jrny.church for daily encouragement, and download the JRNY Church app. On the app, you can see past sermons, take personal notes, and find resources to help you grow in your faith!

Scan the QR code below to download our app and get deeper connected here at JRNY Church!



This is a monumental moment in your life, so before we go any further, take some time and fill out these details about the day you decided to follow Jesus:



NAME _____

WHERE YOU WERE _____

DATE _____



JESUS

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

You have been adopted into the family of God, and Jesus laid down His life for you. God sent His son Jesus to earth to teach, guide, and save us from a life rooted in sin, away from God. We are adopted into the family of God through grace alone, which is offered to us freely each new day. This means that your new identity in Christ makes you part of the family of God, and He **CHOSE** you!

SO WHO IS JESUS?

In scripture Jesus is described as many things. Let's take a closer look:

John 1:14 says: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

Also, in John 14:6, Jesus says: "I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Hebrews 12:2 says, "...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).





WHY IS THAT IMPORTANT TODAY?

Jesus is more than just a good person or a teacher. He claimed to be God and then proved it by living, dying, and resurrecting from the grave. The reason why Jesus had to die was because He was perfect and the only sacrifice that would be able to defeat sin. He was fully man and fully God at the same time.

God came up with this plan long before the earth was created to send His son to rid us of the enslavement to sin so that we could have a close, intimate relationship with Him.

Sin separates us from God, and the consequence of sin is death. So we needed to be made righteous to have a relationship with Him.

When you raised your hand in acceptance to the free gift of salvation, you were wiped clean of your sins, and you've taken on the righteousness of Jesus! You were made a brand new person!

So why does Jesus' identity matter? The reason this is so important is that if Jesus is not God, then His death would not have been enough to pay for the sins of the whole world.
(1 John 2:2)

Jesus is the only one that is capable of paying such a price (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21). God offers us eternal life and Jesus is the only way to receive salvation.

PRAYER

TALKING TO GOD



Going to God in prayer can seem intimidating when you have never done it before. You might wonder:

Why would God want to talk to me?
What if I'm too messed up for God?
How do I even talk to God?
Can God hear me?



These are normal questions to ask, and asking them is good. God wants us to speak with Him, build a personal relationship with Him, and take both our joys and sorrows to Him. In doing this, we speak to God just like we would speak to our best friend or our family. God is not concerned with us using perfect language when we pray (Matthew 6:5-8). God already knows our hearts and our desires; He just wants us to openly bring those things to Him in our own way.

This relationship begins when we fully surrender and simply start the conversation with God.

Even the disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to talk to God. We know this prayer today as “The Lord’s Prayer” which we can read in Luke 11:1-4:

“One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him: “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” He said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.’”

Praise: Fill your prayer with praise because He is the reason you are praying to begin with.

Repentance: Expect prayer to expose where you are still resisting him and then surrender those things to God.

Ask: Ask, seek, and knock.
Be transparent in your requests with God.

Yes: Say “YES” to whatever God calls you to through prayer and scripture.



IT'S OKAY

When we are first getting to know someone there can be that awkward feeling of not knowing what to say or how to say it because you are just getting to know one another.

God knows us better than anyone, so that means that He already feels comfortable with us when we decide to begin that relationship. He wants to listen to us; He wants to guide us; He wants us to share with Him openly. When we surrender to God, we give the opportunity for Him to do more than we could ever ask, think, or imagine (Ephesians 3:20).

At first, it may be helpful for you to carve out time each day that you intentionally sit with God to pray. Being intentional with our time in prayer allows us to see God work in all circumstances. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)
We can talk to God anytime, anywhere!

MAKE IT YOUR OWN

- Make time to speak with God everyday over the next week.
- Write down a short list of prayer requests to talk to God about.
- Ask someone in your life if there is anything they need prayer for.

THE BIBLE

HEARING FROM GOD

Following Jesus doesn't mean that your life gets instantly easier; it means that you have the perfecter of faith and a perfect teacher to learn from and grow your faith in each day. Jesus is the example of how we should live our lives for others. There will be moments where you feel overwhelmed and tired, but rest assured that scripture is our source of how to trust in God in every moment, especially when it is hard.

SO, HOW DO YOU KEEP YOUR MOTIVATION AND THAT DESIRE TO WANT TO FOLLOW JESUS?

It starts by renewing your mind through scripture each day, by being in your Bible, and absorbing the words that have been passed down to us over time.

We believe the Bible was inspired by God through the Holy Spirit. The Truth of scripture from the creation of the world to the end of time is documented in the text.

The Bible covers any issue or topic you may deal with: loss, hope, money, worry, mental health, faithfulness, and the topics can go on and on.

“All scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.”

2 Timothy 3:16

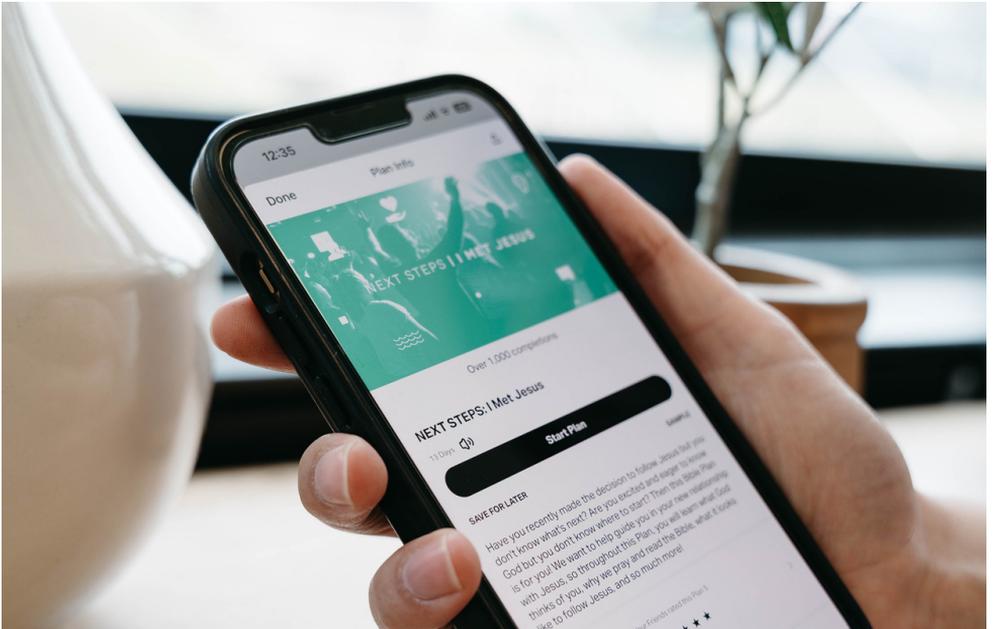
We know reading the Bible can seem intimidating, but with the creation of the free Bible app, God's word is now easy for anyone to access.



GET STARTED IN THE BIBLE APP



- Download the Bible App to find resources to help you deepen your faith every day of the week.
- Find a Bible translation for you. We recommend NIV, NLT, or ESV, all of which are written in a way that is easy to understand and apply to your daily life.
- Check out our “Next Steps | I Met Jesus” Bible plan on the Bible App.
- The hardest part is getting started. Commit to 15 days of getting in the Word to see how God reshapes and adjusts your mindset.



CHURCH

THE MISSION OF GOD

We are created to be in community and to have a place that we can all call home.



We live in a world that is constantly trying to take our attention away from the things that truly matter in our lives. Social Media, extracurricular activities, the things we watch—they all have the ability to distract us from following Christ. We are meant to grow in faith together, so being in community is essential to our spiritual growth.

WHAT IS THE TRUE MEANING AND NATURE OF A CHURCH HOME?

A church is more than just a physical building—it is a group of people gathered together in pursuit of authentic relationships with God. Beyond age, race, or

background, church is the way we develop our spiritual maturity. God wants to teach us how to love, and love doesn't mean much until it is tested by somebody else.

In other words, the church has a big role in calling us all to live as Jesus lived. Church is a place where everyone can give as well as receive. Church is where the broken can be healed, the lost can be found, addictions can break, and the grace and mercy of God is the reason for it all.

The church is home.

LET'S GO

BRING 'EM HOME

Now that you have made the decision to follow Jesus, this is a decision that you can't keep to yourself. God wants to work not only in your life but through your life as well.



WHAT DOES THAT LOOK LIKE?

Invite others to church so that they have the opportunity to experience God firsthand for themselves. When you truly accept Christ into your life there is a shift in who you were and who God is developing you to be. When others ask you how or why you have had this shift in your life, the answer is Jesus and they can come to know Him, too.

Serve in an area that you are able to use your God given gifts and talents to build the kingdom of God. We are a church on mission, and it is through serving that we are able to take part in building God's church here and now.

Learn at one of our most important community events called "**Welcome to Church Night**" where you can see the heart, vision, and mission of God through JRNY, laid out in an evening centered around building a local church that exists **For Those Not Yet Here**. This will help you find the next best step for you.

THE BEST

IS YET TO COME



The decision you made is real, lifelong, and will take you places you never dreamt of going. Living for God, following Jesus, and being led by the Holy Spirit is the life you've always wanted, and we are so thrilled to help you get started!

It's important to take time to thank God for all that He has done for you before you knew Him, and for everything He will continue to do as you deepen your relationship with Jesus.

Find joy in each new day and know that we are here to support you, walk with you, and answer any questions you may have along the way! Your journey is just beginning, and we want you to know that we believe the best is yet to come.

— JRNY CHURCH

STAY CONNECTED!

Visit [Jrny.Church](https://jrny.church) to join us at our next Welcome to Church Night and sign up for a Group!

Follow us @jrny.church

