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# I AM SAVED! WHAT NEXT?

Welcome to the Family of God, beloved! Once we receive Jesus Christ, we begin to work out our salvation (Philippians 2: 12). It is important to emphasize here that we do not work for salvation, but do need to work it out when we get saved. The Holy Spirit enables us to do this. Many have been made to believe that receiving Christ as Lord and Saviour is all that is required to make it to Heaven and have eternal life, regardless of the lifestyle one chooses to live; but this is not true. The truth is that all does not end with the Prayer of Salvation. Making a decision to receive Him is the starting point of our blissful relationship with God. Christ will never turn His back on anyone who believes in, and receives Him (John 6:37, Matthew 18:11-13). That said, a person who claims to have received Him may very well do the *turning* directly or

2

indirectly, when they reject His Lordship altogether. He or she is then said to have left the Faith by choice. Jesus Christ said that not everyone who says they believe and follow Him will make it to Heaven, unless they do the will of God the Father (Matthew 7:21-27). It takes some time to get to the point where we finally reject and depart from Him, but it is possible. The Bible speaks of it as, "A dog turning back to its own vomit" (2 Peter 2:20-22). Gladly, our merciful and loving Father is always delighted to have us in His arms when we wander away, but find our way back to Him, like the prodigal son (see Luke 15:11-32).

You may have wondered: "*I am saved. What should I do now?*"

(i) **Forgive Yourself:** You are now a new person. God showed how much He

3

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(i) **Forgive Yourself:** You are now a new person. God showed how much He

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loves you by offering His only Son to die in lieu of punishment for all your sins.

*Therefore, if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. (2 Corinthians 5:17)*

Old things in the verse above are the sinful passions and desires that you once had. Your enslavement to them was broken when you received Jesus Christ. You are no longer your own, but the temple of the Holy Spirit. He now dwells in you (1 Corinthians 6:19).

## **(ii) Commit to Living a Life of Holiness:**

This is of great importance, determined to fully obey God and live for Him, all things will start to fall into place. The Holy Spirit will enable you to live holy, as you cooperate with Him.

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### **(iii) Get a Bible and Spend Time**

**with God:** Develop the habit of reading the Bible and praying to God always. It may not be for a long period of time initially, but as you grow spiritually, you will find that the time you spend with Him gets longer. You can make use of a Bible online for now, if you don't have one yet. Visit our webpages, *Read the Bible Online* and *Listen to the Bible Online*, for Bibles in many languages. It is important that you read your Bible daily, to be grounded in the teachings of Christ. Reading the Bible will help you live a victorious life. In it also, you will find the promises of God to you. The Bible (which is the Word of God) helps you stand firm when the devil whispers his lies and tries to lure you back into sin and the life of misery that you just escaped. The Bible is a powerful

5

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### **(v) Seek fellowship with followers**

of Jesus Christ: Associate with other true believers who will answer other questions that you may have, and support you on your Christian journey. **Pray to the Lord for understanding and meditation on what you've read.** There are certain parts of the Bible that you may not be able to comprehend at first. Again, pray for understanding. As time goes on, what you read will begin to make sense, and bring great benefits to you.

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### **(vi) Get baptised:**

Ask to be baptised by immersion in water, as modelled by Jesus Christ (Matthew 3:13-17), and commanded (Matthew 28:19). Through baptism, we identify with His death and resurrection as forgiven people through death and burial of our sinful nature, our selfishness, pride, and placing all that we possess before Him. The Spiritual Leader at your local church or assembly will touch more on the subject of Baptism.

7

### **(vii) Be a Faithful Witness for the**

**Lord:** Tell others about your new faith in Jesus Christ. Let them know about His saving grace and the importance of Salvation. Refer to our *Evangelism Styles* webpage for tips on becoming an effective witness for Him. Greetings!

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