NEXT STEPS FOR THE

NEW BELIEVER

by BRYAN ELLIOTT from MORE THAN GOLD

Choosing to make Jesus Lord of your life is a decision worth celebrating! Mark today's date and write it down in your Bible or somewhere special. This is the day of new beginnings! As you enter into relationship with Him, I encourage you to take the following steps to anchor and grow your faith.

Read the Bible. It is vital that you get to know who God is, what He has done, and what He will do. Challenge yourself to read the Bible in a year (many guides are available to walk you through this process). The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are a great place to start as you learn more about Jesus and His ministry on earth.

Make prayer a daily habit. Developing any relationship requires time and communication. Set aside time every day to pray and listen for God's voice. Consider journaling your prayers to help you focus your time with Him. Tell God what you're thankful for or what needs you have. He wants to hear it all!

Find a healthy, Bible-believing church. We need other believers around us to grow spiritually. Fellowship and communion through worship, prayer, and the study of God's Word with the body of Christ sharpen us and prepare us for the road ahead. Don't be afraid to check out a few churches, and make sure to connect with the one you choose!

Engage in a small group and find a mentor. We need others to disciple us in the ways of the kingdom—worldview, principles, and lifestyle. Get involved with a small group or Bible study to help guide and challenge you in your faith journey. Begin to pray and look for wise counsel who can mentor you one-on-one. Don't be afraid to ask!

Get baptised. Water baptism is an essential outward symbol that declares our faith in Christ to the world. What's more, it is a powerful physical reminder and spiritual activation of the fullness of the grace we have received through faith. It is a biblical practice that brings us into the deeper aspects of our union with Christ and greater maturity. This is not intended to be a religious act or performance.

Talk about it! Don't keep the good God has done in your life to yourself. Share your journey with family, friends, and whoever else God may put in your path. We are blessed to be a blessing, and God wants to use your story for His kingdom!

He knows we are His since He has also stamped His seal of love over our hearts and has given us the Holy Spirit like an engagement ring is given to a bride—a down payment of the blessings to come!

-2 Corinthians 1:22, TPT

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

This resource is from Bryan Elliott's book, *More than Gold.* Bryan is the President and co-founder of M46 Ministries along with his daughter, Bryn Elliott. Their mission is to inspire, disciple, and bring hope to the nations.

Find more resources at m46ministries.com