

YES

Saying YES to Jesus





*Please take a few
minutes and watch
the enclosed DVD.*



YES

Congratulations!

You're at the beginning of a spiritual journey that will change your life. The decision to accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior is the most important decision you will ever make, and we're providing this packet to help get you started.

Right now, you're probably excited but still have a lot of questions to sort out. This will guide you through many of those questions, plus provide a few resources to help you learn more on your own. We're praying for you as you begin your new life as a follower of Christ!

Did you say “Yes” to Jesus today?

If you said “Yes” to Jesus, then God has forgiven you, has made you His child, and has come into your heart and life – you are a “new person” in Him.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun.

He said he would do this for you, and God never breaks his word. Look next at two promises God gives us.



yes

1. When we say “Yes” to Jesus, the Bible says that God gives us eternal life, and this life is in his Son, Jesus Christ.

1 John 5:11

And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

2. We are friends with God and have a wonderful new relationship with Him – all because of His grace and what Jesus Christ has done for us.

Romans 5:11

So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.

Ephesians 2:8-9

God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

If you prayed a prayer today to say “Yes” to Jesus Christ, sign your name & date here:



YES

If you haven't yet asked Christ to come into your life, you can ask Him right now through prayer.

Prayer is simply talking to God.

Here is an example:

"Heavenly Father, I confess that I am a sinner, and I thank you that you love me anyway. I believe that Jesus died to pay for my sins and then rose from the grave for me. I accept you into my life. I turn from my way of doing things to your way and give control of my life to you. Thank you for saving me and giving me new life.

Amen."



What Just Happened?

By saying “Yes” to Jesus Christ, we are admitting that we need to be saved from the consequences of our sin. Sin has a way of destroying relationships, and the break that existed between you and God because of sin has just been healed through Jesus Christ.

Christ has come into your life...

Colossians 1:27

For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory.

and you have received eternal life.

John 5:24

I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life.

Your Sins Have Been Forgiven...
and this is a gift from God when we accept Jesus as a payment of our sin. We can't earn it, and we don't deserve it – it is simply a gift of God's grace.

Titus 3:5-7

He saved us, not because of the righteous things we have done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. Because of his grace he declared us righteous and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life.

Congratulations!

You have a new relationship with God, and a new future.

All of heaven is rejoicing – and we are too.

Welcome to God's family!

What Happens Next?



Deciding to follow Christ is more than just trying to live a better life. You need to make your faith personal. If your heart – or spirit – is changed, your outward actions and ambitions will follow. Here are a few things you can do to get started in the right direction:

- *Tell someone*

Romans 10:9-10

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.

- Celebrate your new life in Christ by participating in a *believer's baptism*, as Jesus commands. Contact the church office at 309-342-3166 about Bethel's Newcomer's Class to learn more about Baptism.

Mark 16:16

Believe and be baptized.

- *Worship*, spend time with other Christ-followers, and *serve* in a church where Christ is preached.

Hebrews 10:25

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near!

- *Share Christ with others* and tell them about the difference he's making in your life. Demonstrate your new life by showing your love and concern for others.

Matthew 4:19

Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people."

John 15:8

When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to the Father.

- *Read your Bible* to know Christ's heart better, and connect with God through prayer. We've included a 31-day Bible Reading Plan to get you started. If you don't have a Bible of your own, we can provide you with one.

YES

31 Day Bible Reading Plan



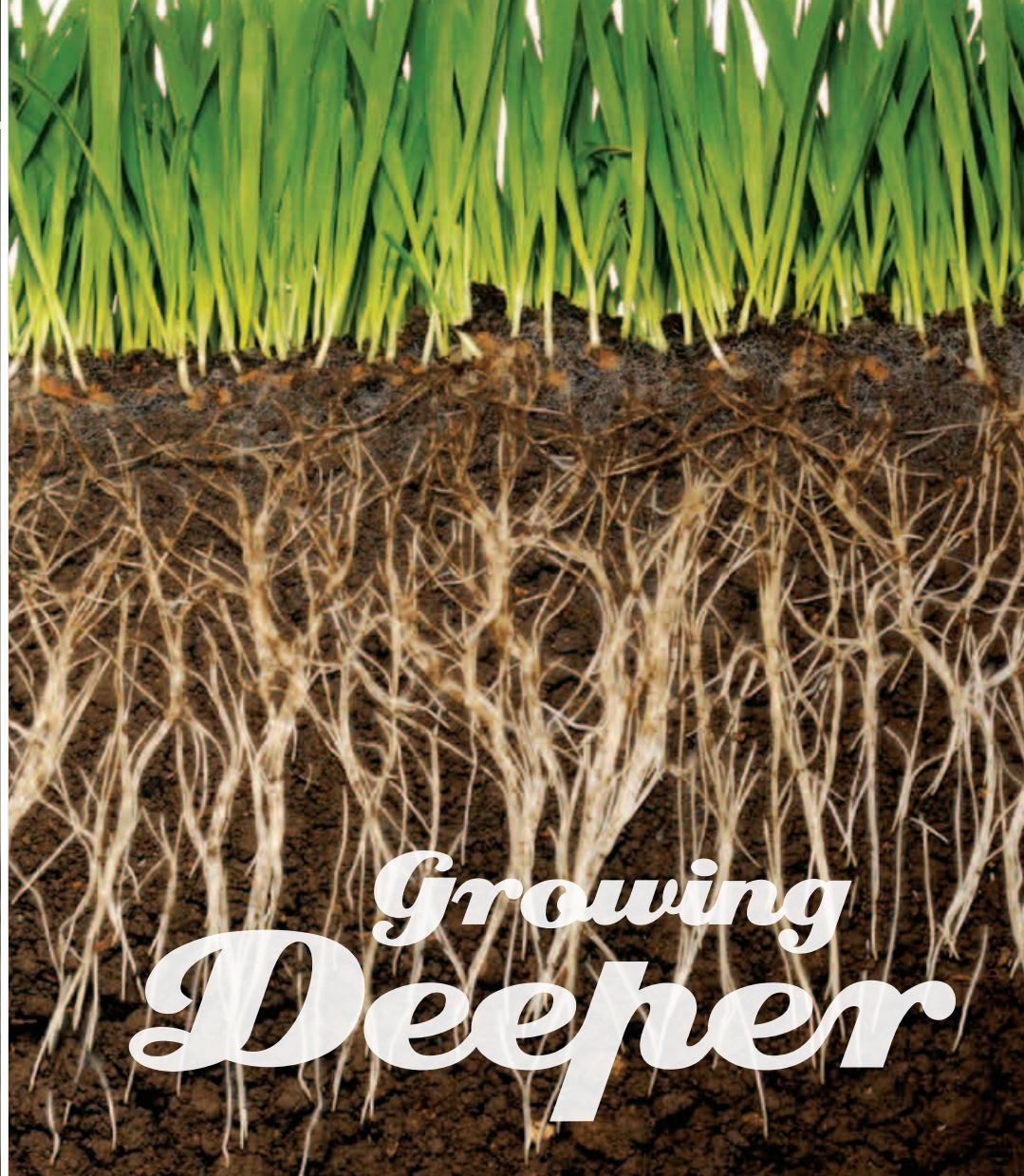
Day 1	Luke 1	Preparing for Jesus' arrival	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 2	Luke 2	The story of Jesus' birth	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 3	Mark 1	The beginning of Jesus' ministry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 4	Mark 9	A day in the life of Jesus	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 5	Matthew 5	The Sermon on the Mount	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 6	Matthew 6	The Sermon on the Mount (<i>continued</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 7	Luke 15	Parables of Jesus	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 8	John 3	A conversation with Jesus	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 9	John 10	The Good Shepherd	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 10	John 14	Jesus' final instructions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 11	John 15	Jesus' final instructions (<i>continued</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 12	John 16	The work of the Spirit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 13	John 17	Jesus' prayer for his disciples	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 14	Matthew 26	Jesus' betrayal and arrest	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 15	Matthew 27	Jesus' execution on a cross	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 16	John 20	Resurrection	<input type="checkbox"/>

Day 17	Luke 24	Jesus' appearance after resurrection	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 18	Romans 3	Paul's theology in a nutshell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 19	Romans 5	Peace with God	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 20	Romans 7	Struggles with sin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 21	Romans 8	Life in the Spirit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 22	Romans 12	Life in the world	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 23	Ephesians 2	Our life in Christ	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 24	Ephesians 4	Unity in Christ	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 25	Ephesians 5	Living in Christ	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 26	Philippians 2	Being Christ-like	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 27	Philippians 3	Maturing in Christ	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 28	Philippians 4	Trusting Christ through trials	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 29	Galatians 5	Life in the Spirit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 30	Colossians 3	Life in Christ	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 31	2 Timothy 2	Being strong in Christ	<input type="checkbox"/>





Please visit www.mybethel.com for more resources to help you grow deeper in your faith. If you said “Yes” to Jesus or if you have questions about the information you read in this booklet, please let us know by sending an email to yestoJesus@mybethel.com.



*Growing
Deeper*



Saying
YES
to Jesus

bethel baptist
experiencing God's presence

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