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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

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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

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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 become 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).

(iii) Commit to Living a Life of

Holiness: This is of great importance, beloved (Hebrews 12:14). Once you are 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

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It is important that you are fed with sound doctrine on this journey. Find a church or place of fellowship, where you can worship and grow spiritually.

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