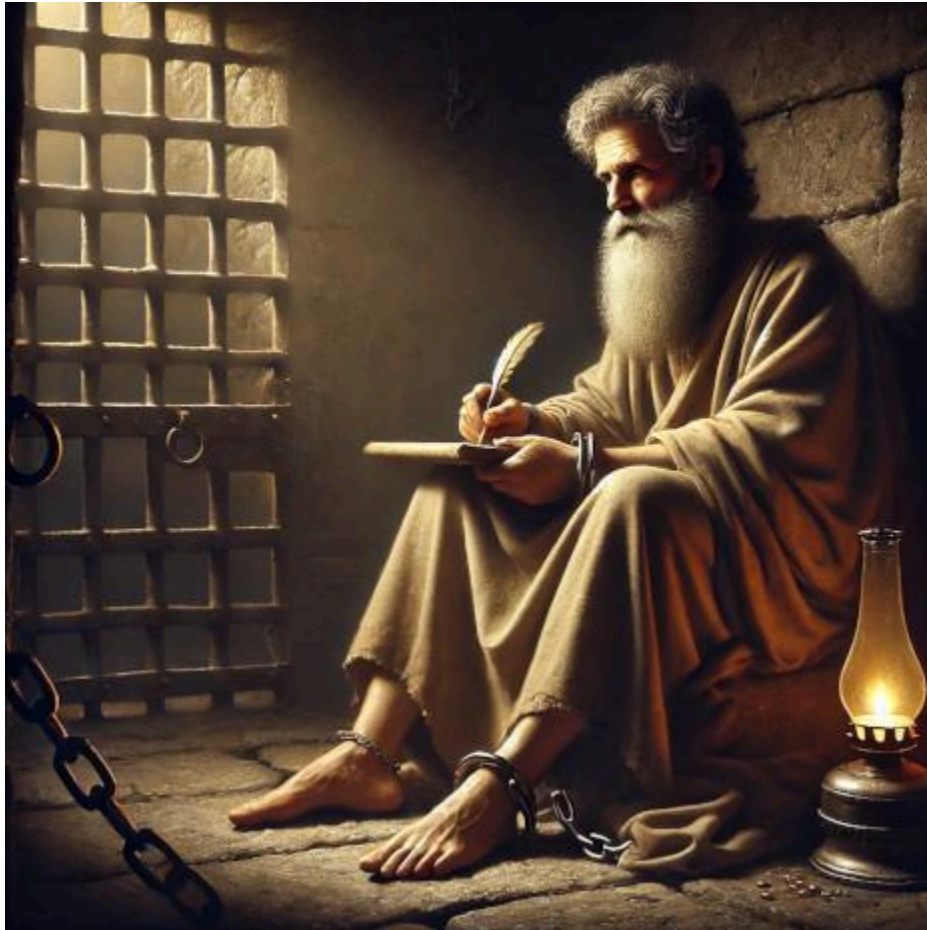


The Apostle Paul Gospel Of Grace



By Elder W H Moody

Ebook



**Introduction**

Throughout the Scriptures, God has revealed His divine plan in stages. One of the greatest revelations came through the Apostle Paul—the unveiling of *the mystery* hidden since the foundation of the world. This book explores the profound depth of that mystery and its impact on believers today.

As you read, you will find not just theological insights but also reflections and practical applications. This study is designed to deepen your understanding of Paul's revelation and how it transforms our walk with Christ.

May the Lord grant you wisdom as you embark on this journey.

****Elder W H Moody****

Apostle Paul

Romans 2:16

In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.



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Chapter 1: **The Transition of the Gospel to Paul**

The Jews lost the Second Temple in **70 A.D.**, when the Romans, under General Titus, destroyed Jerusalem. This event marked a significant turning point in biblical and historical contexts, particularly concerning the transition of the gospel from Israel to the Gentiles.

While the destruction of the Temple was a major event, the transition to Paul's ministry began earlier. The **book of Acts** shows that Israel, as a nation, rejected Jesus as their Messiah (Acts 7:51-60, Stephen's stoning), leading to **God turning to the Gentiles** through Paul.

- In **Acts 9:15**, Paul is called chosen by Jesus as the apostle to the Gentiles.

- In **Acts 13:46**, Paul explicitly states:

"It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles."

Apostle Peter's Endorsement of Paul (2 Peter 3:15-17)

Peter acknowledges Paul's wisdom and authority in **2 Peter 3:15-17**, saying:

"...our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction." (KJV)

This passage shows:

- Peter recognized Paul's writings as Scripture** (v.16).
- Some struggled to understand Paul's revelation** (v.16).
- Peter urged believers to heed Paul's teaching to avoid error** (v.17).

Conclusion The **destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D.** was a major sign that God was no longer working through Israel as a nation. However, the transition of the gospel to **Paul's ministry** had already been in motion since Israel rejected the Messiah. Peter, before his death, acknowledged Paul's unique role, further confirming that **Paul's revelation of grace to the Gentiles was now central for all Jews also.**

Chapter 2: **Apostle Paul's Emphasis on the Cross**

Paul states in **1 Corinthians 1:23-24**:

"But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God."

This verse highlights how the message of **the cross** became the foundation of the **gospel of grace**:

- The Jews struggled with it because they expected a conquering Messiah.
- The Greeks saw it as foolishness because they valued human wisdom over divine revelation.
- But for those who believe, **Jesus' crucifixion is the ultimate display of God's power and wisdom.**

The Gospel of Grace

Paul further clarifies the gospel in **1 Corinthians 15:3-4**:

>_"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures."_

This is the **gospel of grace**, which is distinct from the **law** given to Israel. Under **Moses' law**, righteousness was based on obedience to commandments. Under **grace**, righteousness comes by **faith in Christ's finished work** (Romans 3:21-26).



Paul's Exclusive Revelation

Paul received **a direct revelation from Jesus** regarding this gospel, as stated in **Galatians 1:11-12**:

> **"But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ."**

This shows that Paul's message was **not a continuation of the kingdom gospel** (which was for Israel) but a **new dispensation of grace** (Ephesians 3:2-3).

Conclusion

Now that the gospel has transitioned from **law to grace**, we no longer preach the kingdom gospel of signs and the Mosaic law, but **Jesus Christ crucified, buried, and risen**—the message of **salvation by grace through faith** (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Chapter 3. Paul Ministry

In **2 Corinthians 4:1-8**, Paul explains the nature of his ministry, the power of the gospel, and the struggles he faces in preaching Christ. Let's break it down:

Verses 1-2: The Integrity of Paul's Ministry

> **"Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God."**

- Paul acknowledges that his ministry is a **gift of mercy** from God.
- He refuses to use **deception** or manipulate God's Word.
- His goal is to **preach the truth plainly**, letting it convict hearts.

Verses 3-4: The Gospel is Hidden to the Lost

> **"But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."**

- The **gospel is hidden** to those who reject it.
- Satan, "the god of this world," **blinds the minds of unbelievers**, preventing them from seeing the truth.
- Jesus is the **image of God**, meaning that seeing Christ is seeing God revealed.

Verses 5-6: We Preach Christ, Not Ourselves

> **"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."**

- Paul emphasizes that he **doesn't preach himself**, but **Jesus Christ as Lord**.
- Just as God spoke light into existence at creation, He has **shined the light of the gospel** into believers' hearts.



- This light reveals the ****glory of God in Christ****.

**Verses 7-8: Treasure in Earthen Vessels**

> **_"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;"_**

- The ****gospel is a treasure****, but believers (including Paul) are like ****fragile clay jars****—weak, yet holding something priceless.

- This proves that the ****power is from God, not human strength****.

- Paul endures ****suffering, persecution, and hardship****, but God sustains him.

**Conclusion**

Paul's message in ****2 Corinthians 4:1-8**** is that:

1. The ****gospel is clear****, but Satan blinds unbelievers.
2. Paul's ministry is ****not self-centered**** but focused on ****preaching Christ****.
3. The ****power of the gospel**** is not in human strength, but in God.
4. Even though Paul faces ****trouble and suffering****, he does not lose hope.

This passage is a powerful encouragement that, despite opposition, we should continue preaching the truth, trusting in ****God's power, not our own****.

Chapter: 4. Paul defends the Gospel Of Grace Jerusalem Counsel

In **Galatians 2:1-5**, Paul defends the gospel of grace and demonstrates how he **kept the faith** despite opposition.

Breaking Down Galatians 2:1-5

Verse 1: Paul Returns to Jerusalem

> **"Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also."**

- Paul refers to his **second visit to Jerusalem**, likely the **Jerusalem Council (Acts 15)**, where the early church debated whether Gentiles needed to follow the **Law of Moses**.

- He brought **Barnabas (a Jew) and Titus (a Gentile)** to emphasize that Gentiles could be saved without becoming Jewish.

Verse 2: Paul Preaches the Gospel to the Leaders

> **"And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain."**

- Paul went to Jerusalem because **God directed him ("by revelation")**.

- He explained the **gospel of grace** privately to church leaders like **Peter, James, and John** to ensure unity.

Verse 3: Titus Was Not Compelled to Be Circumcised

> **"But neither Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised:"**

— —

- **Key victory!** The Jewish leaders **did not** force Titus, a Greek, to be circumcised. - This was proof that **Gentiles were saved by faith alone**, without following Jewish customs.

Verses 4-5: Paul Resisted False Brethren

> **"And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage: To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you."**

- **False brethren (Judaizers)** tried to **force the Law** (circumcision, rituals) on Gentile believers.

- Paul **stood firm** and did not compromise **for even an hour**.

- He fought to ensure that **the gospel of grace remained pure**—salvation is by faith in Christ, **not by the law** (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Conclusion ### How Did Paul Keep the Faith?

- 1. He defended the gospel of grace** against legalism.
- 2. He refused to compromise** by allowing Gentiles to be put under the Law.
- 3. He opposed false teachers** who tried to bring believers into bondage.
- 4. He ensured the truth of the gospel would continue** for future generations.

This passage is a powerful reminder that **faith in Christ alone** is what saves—not religious rituals. Paul **kept the faith** by standing firm against legalism and making sure the gospel remained pure!



Chapter 5. Paul Defense Before King Agrippa

****Acts 26:1-32**** records Paul's defense of the gospel before ****King Agrippa****, ****Festus****, and other officials. This is one of Paul's most powerful speeches, where he boldly testifies about his ****conversion, mission, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ****.

**Breakdown of Paul's Defense Before King Agrippa (Acts 26:1-32)**

**1. Opening: Paul's Respectful Approach (Acts 26:1-3)**

> **"I think myself happy, King Agrippa, because I shall answer for myself this day before thee touching all the things whereof I am accused of the Jews:"**_

- Paul respectfully acknowledges ****King Agrippa's knowledge of Jewish customs****.

- He expresses ****confidence**** in explaining his case.

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**2. Paul's Early Life as a Pharisee (Acts 26:4-8)**

> **"My manner of life from my youth... know all the Jews; Which knew me from the beginning... that after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee."**_

- Paul recounts how he was a ****strict Pharisee****, emphasizing his deep ****Jewish roots****.

- He highlights the ****hope of the resurrection****, which was central to Jewish belief (but denied by the Sadducees).



3. Paul's Persecution of Christians (Acts 26:9-11)

> _"I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth."_

- Paul **confesses his past sins**, showing how he once persecuted Christians.

- He imprisoned believers and even supported their **execution** (such as Stephen in Acts 7:58-60).

4. Paul's Conversion on the Road to Damascus (Acts 26:12-18)

> _"At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me."_

- Paul describes his **dramatic encounter with Jesus**.

- Jesus tells him:


- **"Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?"** – Persecuting the Church was persecuting Christ.

- **"I have appeared unto thee for this purpose..."** – Jesus calls Paul to be a witness.

- **"To open their eyes... from darkness to light..."** – Paul's mission is to preach salvation to **Jews and Gentiles alike**.

5. Paul's Obedience to the Heavenly Vision (Acts 26:19-23)

> _"Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:"_

- 
- Paul immediately **obeyed Christ's calling**.
 - He preached first to Jews, then to Gentiles, declaring:
 - **Repentance**
 - **Turning to God**
 - **Faith in Jesus Christ**
 - Paul emphasizes that **Christ's suffering and resurrection were foretold in the Scriptures**.

6. Festus Interrupts: "Paul, You're Insane!" (Acts 26:24-26)

> **"Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad."**

- **Festus, a Roman governor, thinks Paul is crazy** for talking about resurrection.
- Paul **boldly responds**, saying he speaks "words of truth and soberness."
- He appeals to **King Agrippa's knowledge of the Scriptures**.

7. Paul Challenges King Agrippa (Acts 26:27-29)

> **"King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest."**

- Paul directly asks **King Agrippa** if he believes the Old Testament prophecies about Christ.

- **Agrippa responds**:

 - > **"Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."**

- Paul passionately replies:

 - > **"I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds."**

- Paul's wish is for **everyone to believe in Christ, regardless of his imprisonment**.

8. Verdict: Paul Is Innocent but Still Imprisoned (Acts 26:30-32)

 - > **"This man doeth nothing worthy of death or of bonds."**

- King Agrippa and Festus **agree that Paul is innocent**.

- However, **because Paul appealed to Caesar**, he must go to Rome.

- If Paul had not appealed, he **could have been released**—but God's plan was for him to witness in Rome (Acts 23:11).



Conclusion **Paul's Defense: Key Takeaways**

- 1. Paul testified to his Jewish background and belief in the resurrection.**
- 2. He admitted his past sins of persecuting Christians.**
- 3. He boldly proclaimed his encounter with Jesus and his mission to preach to Gentiles.**
- 4. He stood firm despite opposition, refusing to water down the gospel.**
- 5. Even a king was almost persuaded, showing the power of Paul's witness.**

Paul kept the faith, defended the gospel, and set an example of courage in the face of persecution. His testimony before Agrippa was not just a legal defense—it was an invitation to salvation!

Chapter: 6. **Paul's Final Days in Rome – How He Finished His Course**

Paul's last recorded days are found in **Acts 28** and his final letter, **2 Timothy**. He spent his final years in Rome, where he continued to preach the gospel despite being imprisoned.

1. Paul's First Imprisonment in Rome (Acts 28:16-31, ~60-62 A.D.)

After surviving a shipwreck (Acts 27), Paul arrived in Rome and was placed under house arrest. However, he was not in a traditional prison but **lived in a rented house**, guarded by Roman soldiers (Acts 28:30).

Paul's Ministry During House Arrest

- He preached the **kingdom of God and the gospel of grace** to all who visited him (Acts 28:30-31).
- He wrote several of his **prison epistles**: **Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon**.
- Many were saved, including **some of Caesar's own household** (Philippians 4:22).
- The Jewish leaders in Rome **rejected the gospel**, fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy of their blindness (Acts 28:25-28).
- Paul boldly declared that **salvation had now gone to the Gentiles** (Acts 28:28).

After two years, Paul was **released** for a short period (~62-64 A.D.), during which he continued to travel and write **1 Timothy and Titus**.

****2. Paul's Second Imprisonment and Martyrdom (~66-68 A.D.)****

During Emperor ****Nero's persecution of Christians****, Paul was arrested again—this time, under much harsher conditions.

****What Happened During His Final Imprisonment?***

- Unlike his first imprisonment, Paul was placed in a ****cold Roman dungeon****, likely the ****Mamertine Prison****.
- Many ****deserted him**** out of fear (2 Timothy 4:16).
- ****Luke**** was his only companion (2 Timothy 4:11).
- He wrote his last letter, ****2 Timothy****, urging Timothy to be strong in the faith and continue preaching the gospel.

****Paul's Final Words (2 Timothy 4:6-8)****

> _"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." _

- Paul ****knew his time was up****.
- He was ready to be "offered" (a reference to being executed).
- He had ****fulfilled his mission**** to preach Christ to the Gentiles.
- He anticipated a ****reward in heaven**** for his faithfulness.



3. Paul's Death in Rome (~67-68 A.D.)

Historical tradition (from early Christian writings) states that:

- Paul was **beheaded** by order of **Nero**.
- Because Paul was a **Roman citizen**, he was spared **crucifixion** (unlike Peter, who was crucified upside down).
- He died as a **faithful servant of Christ**, leaving behind a legacy that shaped Christianity.

Conclusion: Paul's Finish in Rome

Paul **finished his course** in Rome as a prisoner, preacher, and martyr. His **faithfulness under persecution** ensured the gospel would continue to spread for generations. Even in death, Paul **won the fight**, leaving behind a testimony that still changes lives today.

Chapter: 7. Paul's final words about his life's work come from **2 Timothy 4:6-8**:

> **"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."**

Breaking Down Paul's Last Words

- 1. "I have fought a good fight" – Paul acknowledges his spiritual battle against sin, false doctrine, and persecution.**
- 2. "I have finished my course" – He completed the mission given to him by Christ: to preach the gospel of grace to the Gentiles.**
- 3. "I have kept the faith" – Despite trials, Paul remained faithful to the gospel.**

What Good Came from Paul's Fight?


1. The Gospel Spread to the Gentiles

Paul's ministry took the gospel beyond Israel, fulfilling his role as the **apostle to the Gentiles** (Romans 11:13). He established churches in **Asia Minor, Greece, Rome, and beyond** Missionary Journeys (Acts 13:1-14:26) (Acts 18:22) (Acts 18:23-21:14). Without his work, the message of grace may not have reached the world as it did.

2. People Were Saved and Churches Established

Many were saved and became leaders because of Paul's ministry:

- **Timothy** – A young pastor mentored by Paul (1 & 2 Timothy).
- **Titus** – A leader in the early church, guiding the churches in Crete (Titus 1:5).
- **Onesimus** – A runaway slave who came to Christ and was reconciled to his master (Philemon 1:10-16).



- **Lydia** – A businesswoman in Philippi, the first European convert (Acts 16:14-15).

- **The Philippian Jailer** – He and his household believed after Paul and Silas were miraculously freed (Acts 16:25-34).

Paul's letters also encouraged **countless believers** and continue to do so today.

3. The Bible Was Completed with His Writings

Paul wrote **13 epistles (possibly 14 if Hebrews is included)**, explaining the doctrine of **grace, salvation, justification by faith, and the church's role in God's plan**. These letters form the foundation of Christian theology.

4. Paul's Faithfulness Inspired Future Generations

Paul's endurance through suffering—beatings, imprisonments, shipwrecks—showed that **God's grace is sufficient** (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). His testimony still encourages believers to stand firm in faith.

Conclusion: Did Anyone Get Saved?

Thousands in Paul's time were saved because of his ministry, and **millions more** have come to faith through his writings. His fight wasn't in vain—**the gospel of grace spread, churches were planted, and the faith continued**. Today, his letters still bring people to Christ.

Paul's last words remind us that **staying faithful to Christ has eternal rewards**—both for us and for those who come to believe through our witness.



Chapter: 8. A Prayer For Salvation

Based on **Acts 26:20**, where Paul preached that people should **repent, turn to God, and do works worthy of repentance**, here is a **prayer of salvation** for anyone who believes and wants to be saved:

Prayer for Salvation

Heavenly Father,

I come before You, acknowledging that I am a sinner in need of Your grace. I believe that **Jesus Christ is Your Son**, that He **died for my sins**, was **buried**, and **rose again on the third day** for my salvation.

Lord Jesus, I **repent** of my sins and turn to You. I place my **faith in You alone** as my **Lord and Savior**. Wash me clean by Your precious blood and fill me with Your Holy Spirit.

From this day forward, I surrender my life to You. Help me to live according to Your will, to grow in faith, and to do good works as a testimony of my new life in You.

Thank You for Your **forgiveness, mercy, and eternal life**. I trust in Your promise that I am now a **child of God**.

In **Jesus' name, Amen.**



This prayer reflects ****Romans 10:9-10****, which says:

> **_"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."_**

Anyone who sincerely prays this prayer in **faith**** is saved and ****sealed by the Holy Spirit**** (Ephesians 1:13).**



Chapter: 9. **A Guide for New Believers**

Now that you have received **Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior**, here's a simple guide to help you grow in your faith and walk with God.

1. Assurance of Salvation

- **You are saved by grace through faith** (Ephesians 2:8-9).
- **You are a new creation in Christ** (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- **You have eternal life** (John 10:28).

> **"He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."**

(**1 John 5:12**)

2. Begin Talking to God Daily (Prayer)

Prayer is how you **communicate with God**. You can pray anytime, anywhere.

- **Thank Him** for saving you.
- **Ask for guidance** in your new journey.
- **Pray for strength** against sin and temptation.
- **Confess sins** and receive His grace (1 John 1:9).

> **"Pray without ceasing."** (**1 Thessalonians 5:17**)



****3. Read the Bible Daily****

The Bible is ****God's Word****, your guide for truth and spiritual growth.

- ****Start with the Gospel of John**** to learn about Jesus.
- ****Read Romans and Ephesians**** to understand salvation by grace.
- ****Study Paul's Epistles**** to learn how to live as a Christian.

> _"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby."_

(****1 Peter 2:2****)

****4. Join a Bible-Believing Church****

Surround yourself with ****other believers**** who can encourage and teach you.

- Find a ****church that teaches salvation by grace through faith**** (Ephesians 2:8-9).
- Fellowship with believers for ****spiritual support**** (Hebrews 10:25).
- Get ****baptized**** as a public declaration of your faith (Acts 2:38).

****5. Share Your Faith****

Tell others about ****what Jesus has done for you****.

- Share your testimony (Revelation 12:11).

- 
- Invite friends and family to know Jesus.
 - Live a life that ****reflects Christ**** (Matthew 5:16).

> _"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."_

(Mark 16:15**)**

**6. Stay Away from Sin and Grow Spiritually**

- The ****Holy Spirit**** will help you resist sin (Galatians 5:16-17).
- When tempted, ****pray and rely on God's strength**** (1 Corinthians 10:13).
- Replace old sinful habits with ****righteous living**** (Romans 12:2).

> _"Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh."_

(Galatians 5:16**)**

**7. Keep Your Eyes on Jesus**

- Trust Him in all circumstances (Proverbs 3:5-6).
- Remember, ****you belong to Christ forever**** (John 10:28-29).
- Keep ****growing in grace**** and faith (2 Peter 3:18).



> _"Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith."_

(**Hebrews 12:2**) ---

****Final Encouragement****

Your new life in Christ is a journey. There will be challenges, but ****God is always with you**** (Hebrews 13:5). Stay faithful, and let Him lead you every step of the way!

Make a printable version of this guide for easy sharing.

<https://www.apostle-paul-letters-to-the-christian-church/>