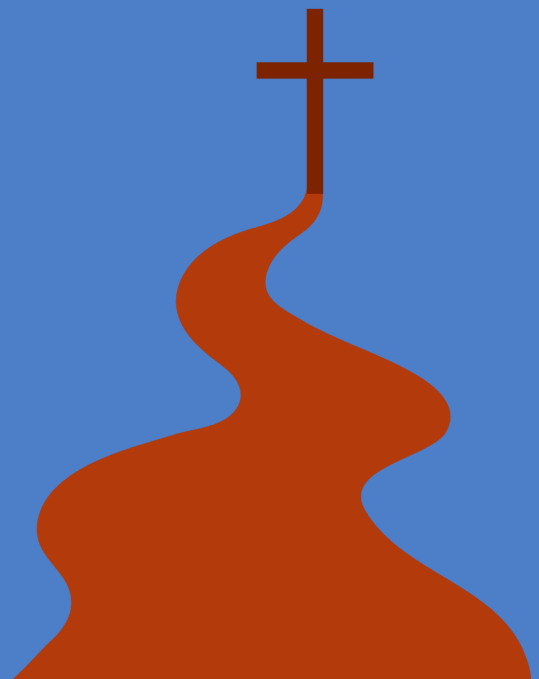


I'm a New Christian!

What Now?

**A Free Guide to Help You in Your New Life
as a Believer in Jesus Christ**



Welcome to God's Family 🎉

Welcome, brother! Welcome, sister! Congratulations on deciding to follow Jesus Christ!

I welcome you to the best life you'll ever live on earth.

I'm profoundly thankful to God for stepping into your life and claiming you as His own.

I congratulate you because you were willing to listen to and accept Jesus' message.

Since the moment you accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you became part of the HUGE family of the Christian faith.

You'll never regret the decision of becoming a follower of the living God.

You're not alone on this journey. Starting today, the Faith Driven Journey ministry and I will support you in your spiritual development and growth. And soon, if you haven't done so already, you'll find a community, a church where you can worship God alongside other believers.

Celebrating your decision to walk with Jesus,



Creator and Writer of Faith Driven Journey

About the Author



Vanerim is passionate about faith, words, and languages. She was born and raised in Puerto Rico.

Before becoming a writer, she taught Portuguese at school and college levels. She holds a Bachelor's in Foreign Languages with a concentration in Portuguese and French and a Master's in Religious Education.

Her passion for words and faith led her to the wonderful world of writing to encourage and instruct Christians on their spiritual journey.

At the end of 2020, she moved with her husband to the state of Maryland in the United States of America, where they currently live.

You can contact Vanerim through her email [**vatilano@faithdrivenjourney.com**](mailto:vatilano@faithdrivenjourney.com) or by visiting her social media channels [**LinkedIn**](#) and [**Instagram**](#).

What Is This Guide About?

New things are exciting!

As a **new Christian**, you're starting a relationship with your Creator.

You may be wondering how to begin living a life based on your faith in Jesus Christ.

As I mentioned earlier, you now have Faith Driven Journey and me to help you get acquainted with the Christian faith and way of life.

This step-by-step guide will provide you with **five key steps** to make sense of your new life as a believer in Jesus Christ.

Each step will have a "Why?", a "How?", and a "Take a Step of Faith" section.

In the "Why?" section, you'll discover the importance of each step. This is followed by the "How?" section, where you'll learn how to apply them. Finally, in the "Take a Step of Faith" section, you'll have the opportunity to put what you've learned into practice.

Go to the next page to start living out your life as a Christian!

The 5 Steps to Start Living a Life as a Christian

Step 1

Get Closer to God Every Day

Why? 🤔

Knowing your Creator will lead you to spiritual satisfaction.

Before accepting Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we didn't have the urge of knowing Him closely.

Since you have accepted His way of life, you have the opportunity to personally meet the One who showed you His love and offered you salvation.

How? 💡

There are many ways to get closer to God.

The principal way to get to know God better is by spending time reading the Bible.

Don't know what the Bible is? Don't worry! Here is everything you need to know for now.

The Bible is a collection of 66 books. It's divided into two parts: the Old Testament—also known as the Hebrew Bible—and the New Testament.

The Bible's content provides the necessary information to learn, know, and understand the Christian faith and lifestyle.

It's transparent in showing God's character and teaches how to relate to God and others.

Take a Step of Faith ✨

To grow closer to God every day, buy or borrow a Bible. Begin reading the Bible with the Gospel of Mark, one of the books of the New Testament. This book will introduce you to Jesus Christ and His works, and you'll learn what it means to be His follower.

Step 2

Embrace Your New Character in Jesus Christ

Why? 🤔

Placing our faith and hope in Jesus Christ comes with a change of character.

We live and act based on the values and principles that characterized Jesus.

We're an example to the world that every person can be the best version of themselves if they accept Jesus.

Following Jesus moves us to choose forgiveness over resentment, generosity over selfishness, honesty over dishonesty, self-control over loss of control, hope over uncertainty, and much more.

How? 💡

First, acknowledge that you need to change in order to think and act differently.

Second, be honest with yourself. Think about the behaviors, thoughts, and things you need to change or get rid of.

Lastly, tell God that you need help embracing and understanding the best way to develop your new character according to Him. If you need help telling Him this, say the following prayer:

“God, thank You because You have the power to transform me from the inside out. Please, help me to accept that I need to change and that I can do it because You are supporting me on this journey. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

Take a Step of Faith ✨

Over the next week, read the Bible verses on the next page. They will remind you that character change is possible. If you wish, you can print them out, write them down on paper, or take a screenshot to refer to them daily.

- “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!” –**2 Corinthians 5:17** (NIV)
- “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” –**Romans 12:2** (NIV)
- “7 But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ (...)” –**Philippians 3:7-8** (NIV)

Step 3

Know that Questions, Doubts, and Challenges Will Come

Why? 🤔

I congratulate you on overcoming the biggest challenge for many people: saying yes to Jesus Christ.

It's possible that you step into this faith with some doubts, uncertainties, and questions. And now, you're doing your best to understand it.

I have to be honest with you.

On this journey of faith, many questions and doubts will arise. There will be answers for many of them. At other times, there may be no definitive answers.

Questioning and doubting are welcome in the Christian faith. It's in these moments of reflection and questioning that our conviction and relationship with God are strengthened.

How? 💡

When questions, doubts, and challenges arise in your faith-driven journey, you can do any or all of the following:

1. Share with God what your feelings and thoughts are. When we share what we're experiencing with God, our minds calm down and become receptive to thinking, analyzing, and finding solutions.
2. Consult a pastor, leader, or fellow Christian in your church to help you with your questions.
3. Do your best to keep attending church, serving, and participating in church activities. Receiving support from other believers will strengthen you in times of doubt or difficulty.
4. Read, read, and read! There are excellent books and online resources that can shed light on basic questions about the Christian faith. Ask your pastor, leader, or fellow Christian to recommend a good resource on the topic you want to explore.

Take a Step of Faith ✨

Pray the following: “God, You are capable of helping me overcome any doubt and challenge. I’m new to this faith. Please, help me to find some clarity and answers to **[Express your doubt or challenge here]**. Thank You because I’m learning to live the best life I can as your son/daughter. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

Encouragement from a Pastor



“Sometimes it can feel impossible to overcome issues in our lives. But when we understand that we have the Creator of the universe in our corner providing for us, then it can give us the confidence to face anything head on.”

–Shane Valenstein, Lead Pastor of City On A Hill Community Church
Maryland, United States of America

Step 4

Find a Church

Why? 🤔

Once we begin living the Christian life, we need the support of other believers to develop and grow spiritually.

Finding a church where you can learn about the beliefs of the Christian faith will give you the tools you need to live as a follower of Jesus Christ.

The best thing about joining a church is the opportunity you'll have to develop relationships with other believers in Jesus.

How? 💡

Identifying the church you'll become part of isn't an easy task. There are many churches out there!

The variety of churches in the Christian community isn't a bad thing. On the contrary, it gives you the chance to choose what community is best for you.

When identifying the best church for you, keep the following in mind:

1. Read the document that outlines what they believe. This document should contain **the core beliefs of the Christian faith** that are **nonnegotiable**. These beliefs are what define the Christian community. Among them are:

- The Bible is the Word inspired by God.
- God is a triune God. He is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Jesus is fully God and fully human.
- All human beings are sinners.
- Jesus died for every sinner on the cross, making possible the reconciliation of humanity with God.

- Jesus rose physically from the dead.
- Salvation is by grace and not by works.
- The Holy Spirit lives in every believer and guides them in the faith.
- Jesus Christ will return a second time to judge the living and the dead.

2. Check if the church has groups or classes where you can read and study the Bible with other believers. Learning about what you believe is key to living your faith to the fullest.

3. Make sure the church provides opportunities to serve both inside and outside the church. Serving defines the Christian community.

Take a Step of Faith

Start by exploring your neighborhood. Is there a church near your home or neighborhood that you can visit? If you're unsure, do an internet search for Christian churches near you. Or ask a family member, friend, or coworker if they can recommend a church for you to visit. **Don't rush this process!** You'll find the right church for you. And once you find it, commit to learning, participating, and serving there.

Step 5

Share Your Story of Transformation

Why? 🤔

You're an important member of God's family.

You're part of millions of people that decided to stop living a life without God. Now, you live for Him.

1 Peter 3:15 (NIV) says, "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect (...)."

As Christians, we're committed to sharing with others the blessing of walking with God in life.

How? 💡

There are many ways you can share your story of transformation.

The most important thing is to let Jesus Christ shine through. Always remember to give Him credit for the opportunity He gave you to become a better person.

He was the one who transformed you. No one else.

According to your personality, you can choose one of the following to start sharing your story of transformation.

1. If you're an extrovert and love talking to people, share your story with friends, family, and/or coworkers. If you attend church, join the church's outreach group. The outreach group looks for ways to share the good life we have in Jesus with people inside and outside the church.

2. If you're an introvert, start by sharing your transformation story with someone you trust. If you attend church, find a small group where you can talk about your experience with Jesus. Participating in small groups reduces the tension that can come from being around many people.

Take a Step of Faith ✨

In the coming weeks, set aside a time to write down, either on paper or digitally, why you decided to follow Jesus and how your life has changed since then. This will keep your story of transformation fresh in your mind and enable you to share it with anyone who crosses your path.

A Note of Gratitude and Resources

Thank you for allowing us to be part of the first steps of your faith journey!

Our support doesn't end here. Visit us at faithdrivenjourney.com where you'll find words of encouragement to help you grow and stay strong in your faith.

Here are some additional resources for you that can be found on our website. We're confident that they will help you to become the best Christian you can be.

How to Get Closer to God Every Day (Series)

- [Devotionals: A Brief and Effective Resource for Drawing Closer to God](#)
- [Developing a Grateful Heart](#)
- [The Bible: Where You Meet God](#)
- [Timed Prayer](#)

The Practice of Prayer

- [What Is Prayer?](#)
- [9 Simple Prayers](#)

Essentials of the Christian Faith

- [What Is Faith?](#)
- [What Is Sin?](#)
- [What Is Repentance?](#)

God bless you!

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and faith-based content in your
inbox?



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