



NEW BELIEVERS' MATERIAL

GROWING IN CHRIST

INTRODUCTION

Becoming a Christian is the most important decision you will ever make. Knowing and accepting Jesus as your Lord and Saviour takes time to develop and becomes more meaningful as time goes on.

Just like a baby growing up needs to be nurtured and fed, in the same way you need nurturing and help with finding out what the Christian life is all about. This manual is to assist you to be established in your faith through Bible study and learning from a teacher or fellow-believer (mentor). We also recommend new members of the Holroyd New Life Church need to go over its teachings to familiarise themselves with its particulars.

We acknowledge the part of Ringwood Christian Family Centre, Goulburn Valley Christian Fellowship, and Freedom in Christ Ministries in helping to prepare these notes. And they are in a perpetual state of development. Your input is welcome too!

The studies are broken up into 14 topics and include:

1. **Who is God?**
2. **Who is Jesus?**
3. **Look what Sin has done**
4. **Repentance**
5. **Fellowship and Church Life**
6. **Baptism in Water**
7. **Baptism of the Holy Spirit**
8. **The Bible and Bible Study**
9. **Prayer**
10. **Eternal Judgment**
11. **Temptation and Spiritual Warfare**
12. **Freedom in Christ**
13. **Sharing the Gospel**
14. **Giving**
15. **Ethical Issues**

The manual is a Bible study for each of these topics. There are steps involved which are:

1. **Reading:** Information may be provided to help educate you on Christian theology. Take the time to read this carefully and to reflect upon it. Write your own notes in the margins and make sure you discuss with your mentor anything that you have difficulty understanding.
2. **Memorising:** There is often a memory verse that expresses a key thought for that principle. Memorise it and reflect upon it.
3. **Learning:** Questions about the principle along with a verse of Scripture are asked. Read the question, study the verse and write out your answer in the space provided after each question. Your mentor will review your answers with you each week.
4. **Growing:** Here is a place for you to write out any questions or comments you have on any area of interest that you would like to discuss. Your mentor will discuss these with you. Any problem that you are having at work, school or home can be talked about here.

Each week you will go through a different chapter with your mentor (some chapters may take more than one week). Be sure to have read the information, have the verse memorised and the questions answered before you meet again. Some chapters (such as Chapter 12 Freedom in Christ) are longer than others. These longer chapters contain material that you will most likely not normally come across during standard church services or bible study groups, and they contain material that may benefit more from one-on-one or small group study with a mentor. On the other hand some of the shorter chapters are topics that you will continue to learn for the rest of your Christian life through individual devotions, bible study groups and church services.

At the end of the lessons there are some appendixes. They are:

1. Resources – additional books and material that we recommend to extend your understanding.
2. Scripture Helps – verses you can look up when you are facing a particular situation.
3. Scriptural Truths – a list of verses to establish your identity in Christ. It may be helpful to put this up in a place where you will read it often.
4. Information for disciplers – a range of hints and encouragement for the person who is mentoring you and helping you to grow in Christ.

GOD BLESS YOU AS YOU STUDY HIS WORD!