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GUIDE Nº 2 OF 15 · FREE

You Are a New Creature

What actually happened when you gave your life to Christ

— 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17 (KJV)

A free guide for new believers · slgrace.com

A letter to you, dear friend

Dear friend, welcome to the family of God. If you have truly turned to Jesus Christ — if you have believed in your heart that He died for your sins and rose again, and you have called on Him as your Lord — then something real has happened to you. It is not a feeling. It is not a new rule book. Heaven itself has recorded a change. This little guide will help you understand, in plain words, what God has done in you, so that no one can shake you and no lie can steal your joy.

You may not feel different every hour. Some new believers feel great joy at once; others feel quiet, even tired. Do not judge your salvation by feelings. Judge it by God's Word. Feelings change like weather. God's promise stands like a rock. In the pages ahead we will look together at five solid truths: you were saved by grace, you have become God's child, your old record has been dealt with, a new life has begun inside you, and your place now is 'in Christ.' Take your time. Read a section, stop, think, and pray. There is no hurry, and there is no test at the end — only a Father who is glad you have come home.

Saved by grace, not by your strength

First, understand how you were saved. You were not saved because you were good enough. None of us was. The Bible says we are saved by grace through faith — grace means God's free kindness to people who did not earn it. Faith means you trusted Jesus, the way a drowning man trusts the hand that pulls him out. Your good works did not save you, and your bad past did not stop God from saving you when you called on Him. That is good news, because if salvation depended on your strength, you would worry every day whether you had done enough. It depends on what Jesus finished on the cross.

Think of it like this. A prisoner cannot pay a debt of millions with a few coins. Someone rich and kind must pay it for him. Your sin

was a debt you could never pay. Jesus paid it fully when He died in your place. When you believed, God applied that payment to your account. This is why Christians sing and rejoice: not because we are proud of ourselves, but because we are grateful to Him.

Because you were saved by grace, you also stay saved by grace. You will grow, you will learn, you will stumble and rise again — and through it all, the hand that holds you is God's hand, not your own grip. Hold this truth tightly on hard days: 'He did not save me because I was strong. He will not lose me because I am weak.'

> *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."*
>
> **— Ephesians 2:8-9 (KJV)**

You confessed Jesus — and heaven heard you

God's road to salvation is simple enough for a child and deep enough for a scholar. The apostle Paul wrote it plainly: confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead. Notice the two parts together — the heart believes, and the mouth speaks. Private belief becomes open confession. If you have done this sincerely, Paul's words end with a promise, not a maybe: 'thou shalt be saved.'

Perhaps you prayed in a church, in your room, in a bus, or with tears on your bed at night. The place does not matter. The Person you called on matters. Perhaps your words were few and broken. God hears the heart behind the words. A baby's first cry is not fine speech, yet the mother understands perfectly. Your Father understood you.

If you have never actually prayed and received Christ — if you only stood among others, or you are not sure — you can settle it right now, today, as you read. There is a prayer near the end of this guide. Pray it slowly, meaning every line. God is not far from you.

> *“That 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. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*
>
> **— Romans 10:9-10 (KJV)**

You are now a child of God

Before you believed, you knew God as Creator — the One who made you. Now you know Him as Father. When you received Jesus, God gave you the right, the honour, the legal standing of a child in His family. This is not a nickname. In the Bible’s language, you have been born again — born a second time, this time by the Spirit of God. Your first birth gave you life in your mother’s family. This new birth gives you life in God’s family, and this life will never end.

Being God’s child changes how you pray. You do not come begging a stranger; you come to your Father. It changes how you face shame: a child who falls is picked up, cleaned, and taught — not thrown out of the house. It also changes how you see other believers: they are your brothers and sisters now, in every tribe and language. You belong to a worldwide family, and you will never walk alone unless you choose to hide — and even then, your Father will come looking for you with love.

Write this sentence somewhere you will see it: ‘I am a child of God. My Father knows my name.’ On the day doubt whispers that you are nobody, answer it with that truth.

> *“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.”*
>
> **— John 1:12 (KJV)**

Do this:

1. Thank God aloud today, in your own words, for making you His child.
2. Find John chapter 1 in a Bible and read verses 1 to 14 slowly.
3. Tell one trusted believer, 'I have given my life to Christ.' Joy shared grows stronger.

Old things have passed away

Our key verse says old things are passed away. What does that mean in daily life? It means your old record before God — every sin, every shameful chapter — has been washed by the blood of Jesus. God does not keep a secret file against His children to surprise them later. It also means your old master has lost his claim. Sin ruled you like a harsh landlord; that tenancy is over. And it means your old identity is finished: you are no longer defined by the worst thing you did, the family you came from, or the names people called you.

Be honest with yourself, though: ‘old things passed away’ does not mean old habits vanish in one night, or that old friends and old places lose their pull at once. A tree cut down may still have roots in the ground. Your new life is real today, and it will also grow day by day. Some habits will fall quickly. Others you will fight, with God’s help, and win gradually. Do not call yourself a failure because growth takes time. A newborn baby is fully human on day one — and still must grow. So it is with you.

One practical step helps greatly: where you can, make a clean break. Delete what drags you back, return what is not yours, apologise where you wronged someone, and put distance between you and places of old sin. Do not try to prove you are strong by standing near the fire. New creatures learn to walk in new paths.

> *“And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you*

> *all trespasses."*
> **— Colossians 2:13 (KJV)**

All things have become new

The second half of the promise is just as big: all things have become new. You have a new heart — God has given you desires you never had before: a hunger for His Word, a love for prayer, a tenderness toward people. You have a new companion — the Holy Spirit now lives in you, and the guide 'The Holy Spirit, Your Helper' in this free series will open that up for you. You have a new future — heaven is your home, and even death has lost its terror. And you have a new purpose — your life is no longer only about survival; God has good works prepared for you to walk in, step by step, as you grow.

New does not mean strange and frightening. Think of a man who lived in darkness and steps into morning light: the world was always there, but now he sees it truly. Colours come back. Faces become clear. That is what has happened inside you. In the coming days you may notice you cannot enjoy some old jokes, some old music, some old talk the way you did. That is the new heart at work. Do not fight it. Feed the new life — with the Word, with prayer, with godly friends — and it will grow strong.

Welcome home, new creature. Heaven rejoiced the day you came (Luke 15:7). Now walk with us, one day at a time, and let us grow together.

> *"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."*
> **— Ephesians 2:10 (KJV)**

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — AND OF RECEIVING CHRIST

Father God, I thank You for saving me. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for dying on the cross for my sins and rising again. I believe in my heart and I confess with my mouth: Jesus is my Lord. If I have never truly given You my life before today, I give it now — forgive me, wash me, make me new. Holy Spirit, live in me and teach me to walk in this new life. I am Your child now, and I will follow You all my days. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Verses to hold on to

Keep these verses near you. Read one each morning. Say it aloud. God's Word will hold you on days when feelings are weak.

> *"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."*
> **— 2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)**

> *"Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."*
> **— John 3:3 (KJV)**

> *"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus."*
> **— Galatians 3:26 (KJV)**

> *"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God."*
> **— 1 John 3:1 (KJV)**

You are not walking alone

Dear friend, you have finished this guide — well done. Keep it near your Bible and return to it whenever you need it. Growth is day by day, and your Father is patient, present and proud of every honest step you take toward Him.

If you would like someone to pray with you, answer your questions, or walk with you in these first steps, our free Salvation Follow-Up team would be honoured to hear from you. Visit slgrace.com and open the chat — ask for the "Salvation Follow-Up" desk. It is completely free, and you will be received with love.

The other free guides in this series

1. First Steps With Jesus — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

2. How to Pray — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

3. Reading the Bible — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

4. Sure of Heaven — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

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May the Lord bless you and keep you, make His face shine upon you, and give you peace — today and all your days. (Numbers 6:24-26)