

I've Decided to Follow Jesus... Now What? Here are Seven Steps to Consider:

1. Exercise Your New Faith “Muscles”

The first step is to let your blossoming faith lead you along your new path to Jesus' love and support. Faith is an essential part of the Christian life. While you'll still need to deal with life's many challenges, as a Christian you'll have Jesus' strength and example to draw from. The more you rely on your new faith, the stronger He will make you to handle life's ups and downs with unquenchable joy.

2. Pray

Prayer is your direct connection to God. Prayers help you build a more intimate relationship with Him. You can always expect an answer to your prayers. Even when you feel like God is silent, He is really just saying, “not yet.”

The good news is that God wants what's best for you, even when it's not immediately obvious. He will hear you and respond to you because He loves you.

“I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications.” -Psalm 116:1

Pray when you're struggling, feeling lost, or when you're happy. Pray with others, for others, or pray for yourself. Pray from the heart and let God know how you feel. Talking to God helps build a connection with Him. Tell Him about your problems, just like you would a parent or a close friend. Take time every day to thank Him for His love and support. Freely express yourself and share your thoughts.

3. Study the Scriptures

Read the Word of God. The Bible is a beautiful book. As someone new to the faith, it's important that you know Him and how His teachings shape our lives. The best place to start is in the New Testament because God's love, character and power are revealed through Jesus' life. Start with the Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—that tell His story from the perspectives of four different disciples.

4. Develop Healthy Habits

Creating a habit of regularly worshiping God is important. It doesn't have to take long or be formal. You can worship God through prayer, song, Bible journaling or faith art journaling. Invite His presence into your existing daily routines by welcoming Him into your home, workplace, school, etc. to change the spiritual atmosphere. Don't put up barriers to spending time with God. He will meet you where you are.

5. Get Connected with Other Believers

God is all about relationship which is why He designed us to be in relationship with others, especially other Christians, for the purpose of mutual encouragement, sharing of needs, and sharing wisdom to build each other up. You can do this online too! You'll want to find a Christian church to attend and participate in. Consider joining a Bible study group or helping out with church events. Spending time with supportive Christian believers will help encourage you in your new faith.

6. Get Baptized

Baptism is an outward expression of your inward faith and a testimony that symbolizes the end of an old way of life and a new beginning. Getting baptized is an outward celebration of your decision to become a Christian and it encourages others as well.

7. Tell Others About Your Newfound Faith

Tell others that you've decided to become a Christian. The fact is, telling others about your newfound faith also helps reinforce it. Sharing your faith can be rewarding and can help bring others closer to Jesus as well. For believers, there's no greater joy than being a Christian, so it's only natural to want others to enjoy the same experience.