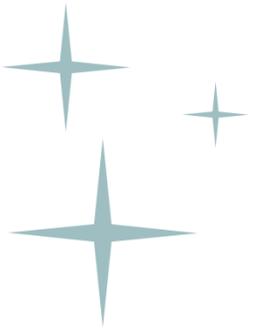


SIX  
LESSONS



FOLLOWING  
GOD



Created by Youth For Christ ©2025

**welcome**

# HAVE YOU SAID, "YES!" TO FOLLOWING JESUS?

If so, this is a great next step in  
discovering your faith story with God.

**In this booklet  
there are  
six lessons:**



**1**

**Saying "Yes!"**

**2**

**Getting Acquainted**

**3**

**Discovering Identity**

**4**

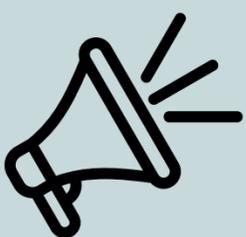
**Joining the Team**

**5**

**Abiding with God**

**6**

**Inviting Others**

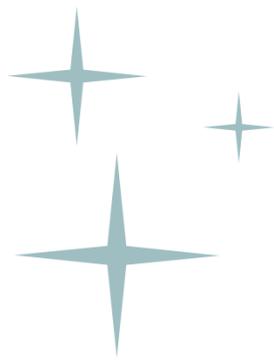


Leaders, please visit  
the last page for a  
special note.

1



Here are some tips.



Although you can do this on your own, it's best to do with a leader or group so you can talk through it together. Try to do one lesson per week. Each lesson will take about a half an hour.



Questions to talk about with others or write out will have the symbols:   If you're doing this online, take notes on your phone or in a notebook.



When it's time to read or listen to the Bible you will see:    You will need a paper or digital Bible for this. YouVersion is a good free app with lots of helpful tools.



When looking up a Bible verse the bigger or first number is the chapter. The second or smaller number after the : is the verse.



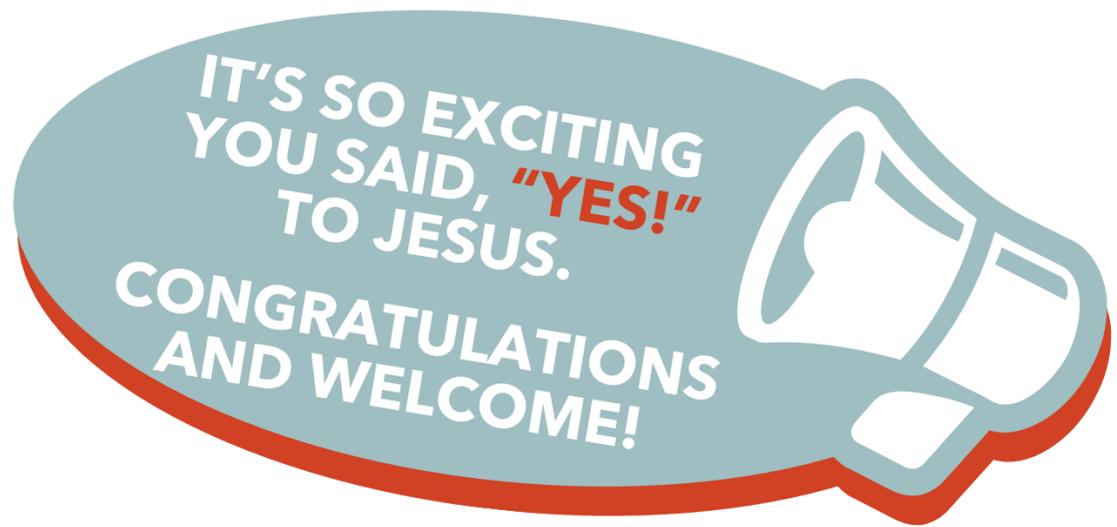
Each lesson ends with some "possible next steps":   To get the most out of *Following God* pick one or more to do.

# 1

# SAYING "YES!"



*This is the first of six lessons to help develop your new faith.*



**Talk or write about...**



**What is the story of when you said, "Yes!" to Jesus?**



**What things led up to you making that decision?**



**What were you saying, "Yes!" to? What are some "No's" that might come along with your decision?**



**FOLLOWING  
GOD**

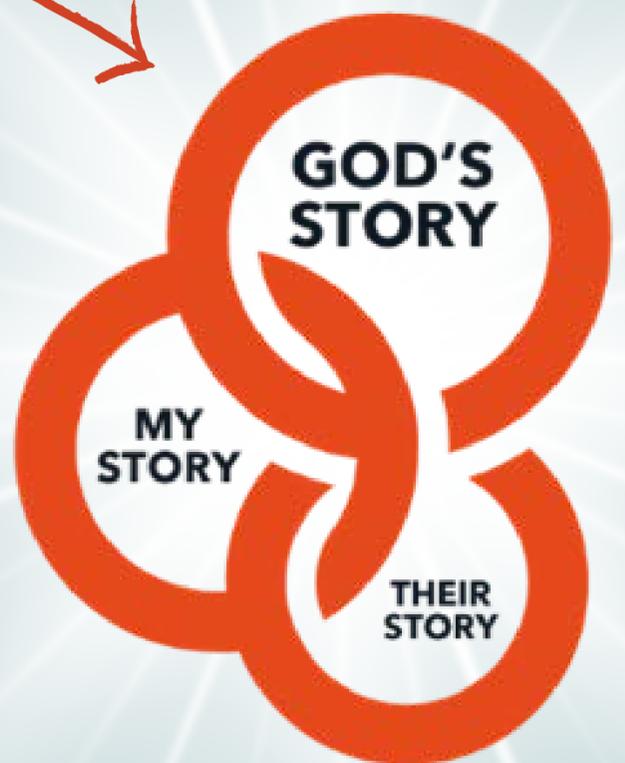


**SAYING  
"YES!"**

# YOUR STORY IS **CONNECTED** TO GOD'S STORY.

*It's also connected to many who have said, "Yes!", as well as others who have not yet decided to do that.*

**GOD'S BEEN PREPARING FOR YOU TO FOLLOW HIM FOR A LONG TIME.**



## THE BIBLE TELLS **GOD'S STORY** OF INVITING US TO FOLLOW HIM.



The second part of the Bible, called the **New Testament**, has four books about Jesus bringing that invitation to us.



**Look up in a paper or digital Bible the first chapter of Mark, which is right after Matthew and before Luke and John. Read or listen to the first 8 sentences (verses).**



**What did the people do when they heard John the Baptist?**

# FOLLOWING GOD

# 1

# SAYING "YES!"



**SIN** = doing things we shouldn't and not doing the right thing

**REPENT** = being sorry for what we did and changing directions

**FORGIVEN** = released from consequences and restored with love

**BAPTIZE** = being washed with water as a symbol we're forgiven



Repentance happens privately in our hearts with God...



...while baptism is a visible celebration with other people.



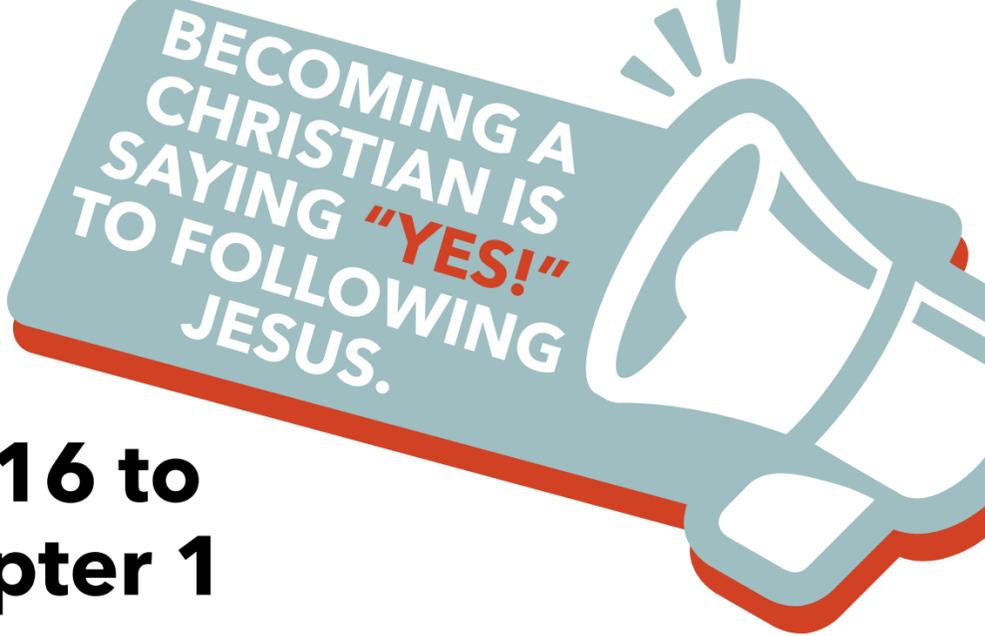
Which of the arrows below best represents what it was like when you said, "Yes!" to Jesus? Why?



FOLLOWING  
GOD

1

SAYING  
"YES!"



**Now read or listen to verses 16 to 20 of Mark Chapter 1 (1:16-20)**



**What was Jesus' invitation to the fishermen?**



**How are their stories similar or different from yours?**

## HERE ARE SOME POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS...



**Talk with a pastor or leader about getting baptized.**



**Tell someone your story about saying, "Yes!" to Jesus.**



**Thank God for the invitation He gave you.**



**Make a plan to do the next lesson: **Getting Acquainted.****



**Read the other stories about Jesus in Mark 1.**



# FOLLOWING GOD

# 1

# SAYING "YES!"

# 2

# GETTING ACQUAINTED



**What have you learned about God while growing up?**



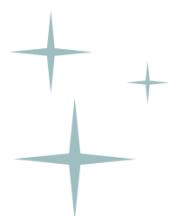
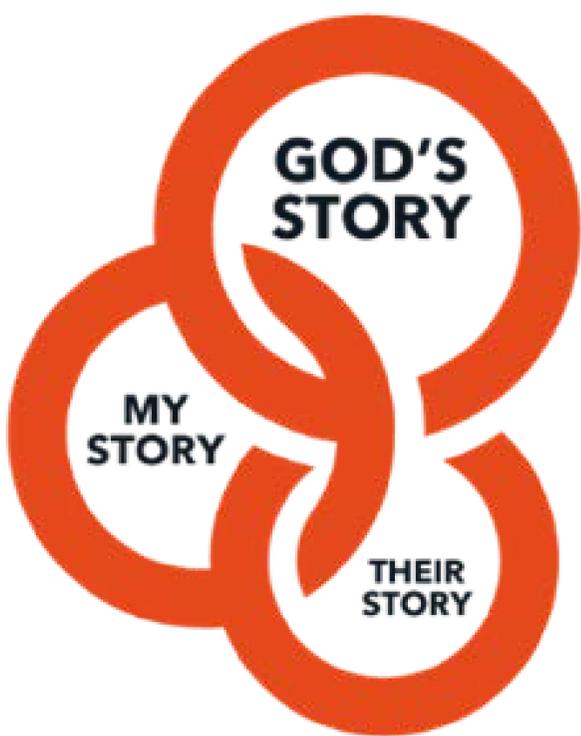
**How has your view of God changed since saying "Yes" to Him?**



**What questions do you have about what God is like?**



Regardless of how long we've known God, He has existed forever. From beginning to end, the Bible tells about God's Story.



# THE BIBLE STARTS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT WITH **GENESIS**, WHICH MEANS "FORMATION" OR "BEGINNING."



It's not about the origin of God, but about when the earth and people first began.



Go to the beginning of a paper or



digital Bible. **Read or listen to the first chapter of Genesis.**



What surprised you? What was most impressive to you?



What did you learn about God's power? About God's presence?

The technical terms for this are that God is

**OMNIPOTENT**  
(= all powerful)

and

**OMNIPRESENT**  
(= everywhere).



# FOLLOWING GOD

# 2

# GETTING ACQUAINTED



In another Bible verse (Psalm 62:11-12 NIV) the author says:



Look back at Genesis 1. Where do you see God's love for us?



What's one area in life you need God's power or presence or love?

Look at one other aspect of God underlined below in **verse 26**:



"THEN GOD SAID, 'LET US MAKE HUMAN BEINGS IN OUR OWN IMAGE, TO BE LIKE US.'"



This is referring to the **Trinity** of God - as **Father**, the **Son (Jesus)** and **Holy Spirit**.

Although there is only one God, we can see **the three persons of God** working together in Genesis 1.



We'll notice God's Trinity in other stories throughout the Bible.



FOLLOWING  
GOD

2

GETTING  
ACQUAINTED

Now, turn to the last chapter of the Bible.

The name of this book comes from the word **"reveal"**.



**"Revelation"** means to show things not known or seen before.

God is powerful and present and loving all the way to the end of the Bible.



Similar to how **Genesis** shows how God created the world, **Revelation** describes what He made heaven to be like.



Read or listen to the first seven verses of chapter 21 (Revelation 21:1-7).



What parts of heaven show God's power and love?

God not only existed before time but will also be around forever.

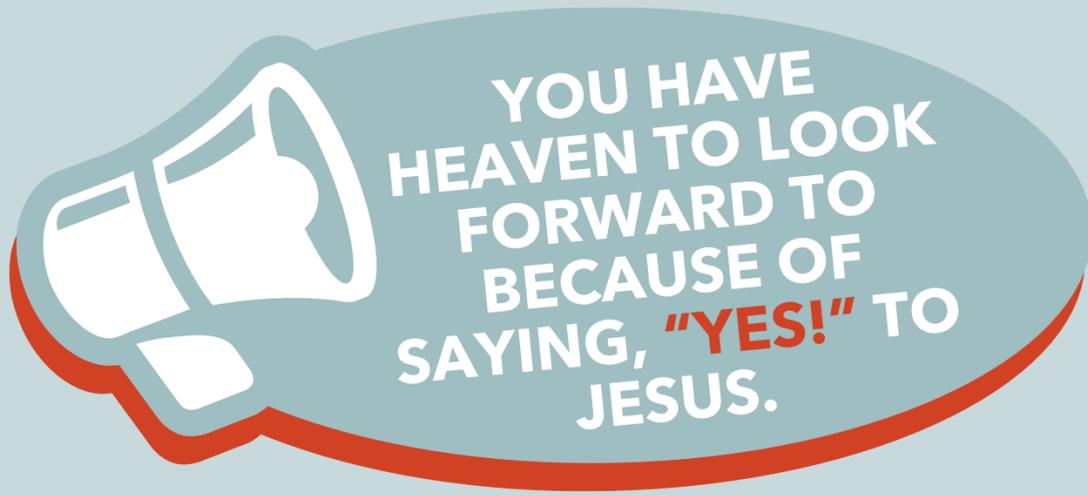
That's why people say He is "eternal" or "everlasting".



FOLLOWING  
GOD

2

GETTING  
ACQUAINTED



 **Draw a picture or write a song about what heaven will be like.**

## HERE ARE SOME POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS...

-  Write a thank you card or love letter to God.
-  Take a walk outside looking for evidence of what God made.
-  Read Psalm 139 to see how God is also omniscient (= all knowing).
-  Ask a friend or relative what they know or like about God.
-  Make a plan to do the next lesson: **Discovering Identity.**



FOLLOWING  
**GOD**

**2**

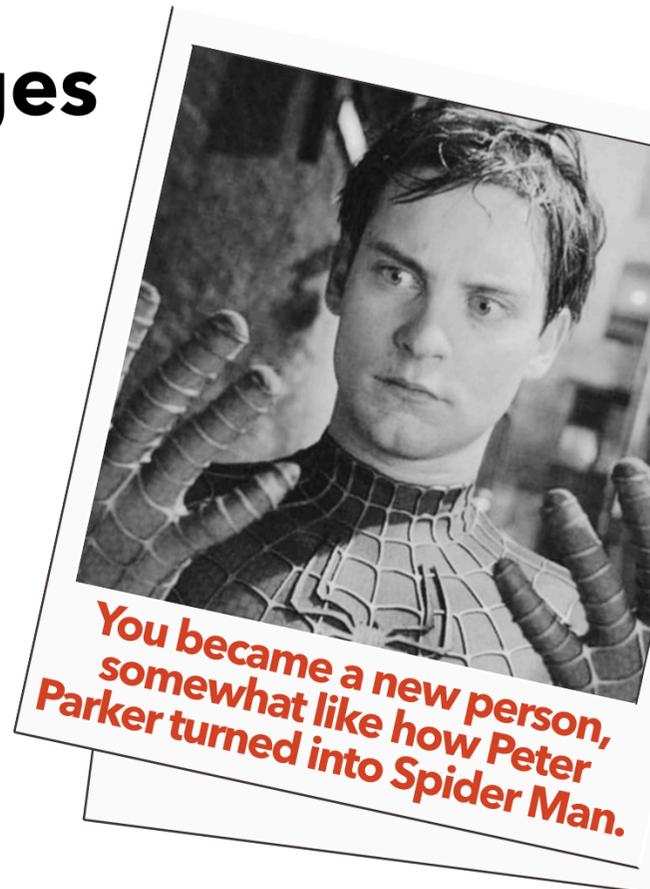
**GETTING ACQUAINTED**

# 3

# DISCOVERING IDENTITY



Have you noticed changes in yourself since saying, "Yes!"?



Much of the New Testament is written to Christians in churches. Many of them were written by a man named the **Apostle Paul**.



In his letter to the Jesus followers in **Ephesus**, Paul helps them realize they are not who they used to be. He wants them to understand their new identity as Christians.



Look up the first 14 verses of chapter 1 (Eph. 1:1-14 NLT).



Fill in every spiritual "blessing" with the letters given below.

- God L \_\_\_\_\_ us (v.4)
- God C \_\_\_\_\_ us (v.4)
- God A \_\_\_\_\_ us (v.4)
- God F \_\_\_\_\_ us (v.4)
- God R \_\_\_\_\_ His plans to us (v.9)
- God gave us the H \_\_\_\_\_ S \_\_\_\_\_ (v.13)
- God will give us an I \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 11&14)

Answers:  
Loved,  
Chose,  
Adopted,  
Forgave,  
Revealed,  
Holy Spirit,  
Inheritance



Which "blessing" from the previous page are you most thankful for today? Why?



Which "blessing" from the previous page do you want to learn more about?

"This is what he (God) wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure."

Ephesians 1:5

*No one loves us more than God. He doesn't just put up with us. He sincerely likes us! God adopts everyone who says, "Yes!" to Jesus. He chose us like foster children needing a loving home.*

**God became the perfect Father that each of us wants and needs.**

*Now that we're family, God also includes us as part of His plan to rescue the rest of the world. He also generously gives us, as His kids, His inheritance of eternal life and the Holy Spirit.*



The Christian life is about realizing and living out a **new identity**.



We learn who we really are from **God's words in the Bible**.



**The Holy Spirit** teaches and reminds us of what is now true.



**Other Christians** also help us understand God's love for us.



Superman wore a suit with the letter "S" on his chest, but we now have the "S" of God's Spirit living right inside our hearts!

FOLLOWING  
GOD

3

DISCOVERING  
IDENTITY



Fill in the blanks with changes that occur in our identity.

"I used to \_\_\_\_\_ but now I \_\_\_\_\_."

Example:

"I used to feel guilty but now I am forgiven."

If you're doing this lesson with others, compete to see who can come up with the most answers for, "I used to...but now I..."



## HERE ARE SOME POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS...



Thank God in prayer for all that He's changed in You.



Consider the changes that have happened in you and compare it to those of Spiderman or Superman.



Ask a family member what differences they see in you.



Write out your new identity from Ephesians 1 on the back of a picture of yourself.



Remind a Christian friend of one "blessing" they now have.



Make a plan to do the next lesson: **Joining The Team**.



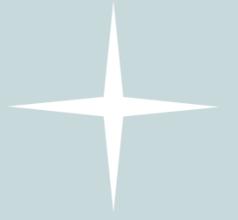
FOLLOWING  
GOD

3

DISCOVERING  
IDENTITY

# 4

# JOINING THE TEAM

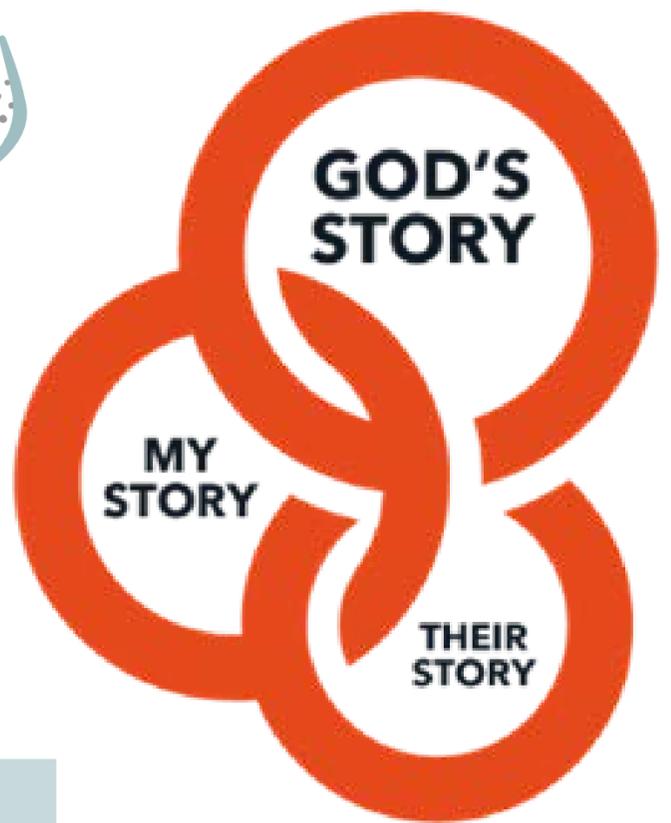


 Did anyone help you learn about Jesus while growing up?

 Who taught you about God and helped you say, "Yes!"?



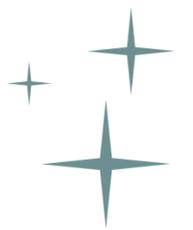
  
My Story, God's Story and Their Story are all interconnected.



As you've probably noticed, God often uses others to help us.



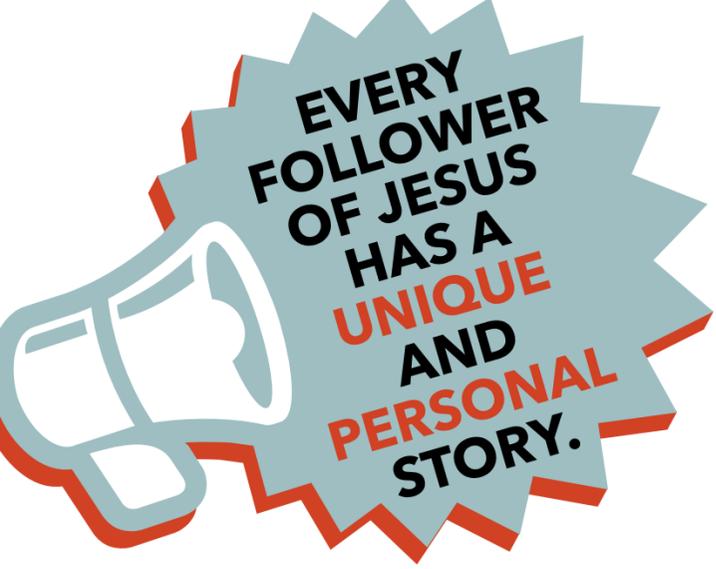
In lesson 6 we'll see how we can also help others say, "Yes!"



# FOLLOWING GOD

# 4

# JOINING THE TEAM



What is another person's story you've heard about choosing Jesus?



How is yours **similar** or **different** from theirs?

Each of our faith stories have **similarities** and **differences**.

The same person who wrote Ephesians, Paul, also sent letters to new believers living in **Rome** and **Corinth**.



He wanted them to know every Christian is given a special gift or ability for helping others.



Read or listen to Romans 12:6-8 NLT.



List the different types of gifts described.

- |                |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>1</b> _____ | <b>4</b> _____ | <b>7</b> _____ |
| <b>2</b> _____ | <b>5</b> _____ |                |
| <b>3</b> _____ | <b>6</b> _____ |                |



Which one of these comes naturally for you?



Are there gifts you can see in someone else?

FOLLOWING  
GOD

**4**

JOINING  
THE TEAM



Now go  
read or  
listen to 1  
Corinthians  
12:12-27.



Christianity could  
be compared to a  
“team sport.”



How does  
Paul  
describe  
all  
followers  
of Christ?



What part (i.e. nose,  
elbow, etc.) best  
describes you?



What's a situation of when verse 26  
could take place?

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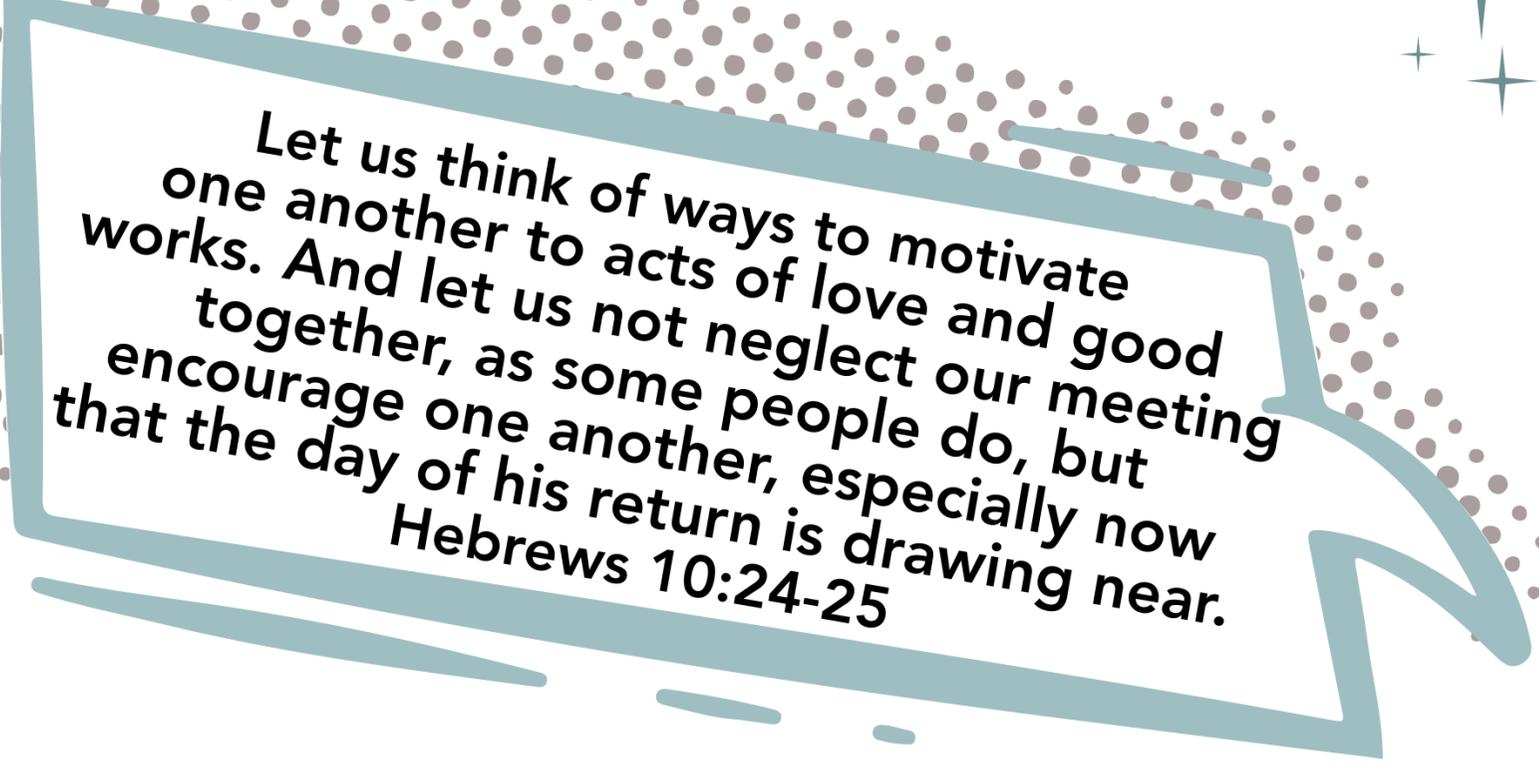
Just like it'd be crazy to try and win a team sport on your own, God didn't intend for us to follow Him alone.

He has joined us with **other believers** to help us all succeed and be encouraged.

FOLLOWING  
GOD

4

JOINING  
THE TEAM



Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.  
Hebrews 10:24-25

## HERE ARE SOME POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS...



Write a thank you card to God or someone who helped you.



Ask someone about when they said, "Yes!" to Jesus.



Reread 1 Corinthians 12 thinking about your gift & body part.



Look for someone you can "suffer with" or "honor" this week.



Attend a small group, youth group or church with a friend.



Make a plan to do the next lesson: **Abiding With God.**



FOLLOWING  
**GOD**

**4**

**JOINING  
THE TEAM**

# 5

# ABIDING WITH GOD



Saying, **"Yes!"** to Jesus starts transforming the way we live.

We begin to think and act differently while getting to know God, discovering our new identity as a Christian, and becoming closer to the team of believers around us.



What's one way you have started to live differently?



What is one way you want to begin living differently?

God makes changes in us while we remain close to Him.



In the very middle of the Bible in the Old Testament is a book called **Psalms**.



The name Psalms comes from a Greek word about music and each chapter is a song or prayer to God.



Listen or read through the very first Psalm. (Psalm 1:1-6)



How do the two people in verses 1-2 act differently from each other?



What are each of their lives compared to in verses 3-4?

FOLLOWING  
GOD



ABIDING WITH GOD

The person who finds *delight in the law of the Lord* is soaking up God through roots of learning about His ways in the Bible.

*"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work."*  
2 Timothy 3:16-17



**From the above verses, what are the different ways the Bible helps us?**

**FOLLOWING  
GOD**

**5**

**ABIDING  
WITH GOD**

Jesus also described our spiritual faith as being similar to a branch.



This was captured by His follower John, who wrote about His life.



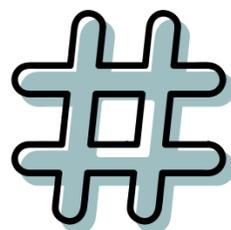
Read or listen to what Jesus said in John 15:1-17.



Other versions of this verse use the word **"abide"**. Both words describe a close relationship with God.



Count how many times the word "remain" is used:



\_\_\_\_\_



What does Jesus say about remaining or abiding in Him?



Don't miss what He calls us in verse 15. What is it?



FOLLOWING  
GOD

5

ABIDING  
WITH GOD

The more we abide or remain with God, the more we personally experience His love; so much so that Jesus calls us His "friends."



## HERE ARE SOME POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS...



Ask another Christian how they now live differently.



Read other Psalms as personal prayers to God.



Write down a verse you like and put it where you'll see it.



Look at how Jesus describes prayer in Matthew 6:7-13.



Find a time to be alone and talk with God about life.



Make a plan to do the next lesson:  
**Inviting Others.**

FOLLOWING  
**GOD**

**5**

**ABIDING  
WITH GOD**

# 6

# INVITING OTHERS



You can help friends and family to experience God's love in the same way people you listed in lesson 4 helped you say, **"Yes!"** to following Jesus.



**Who in your life is not personally connected to God?**



**Why is it important for you to talk with them about Jesus?**

Paul's letter to the Romans explains a lot about how God works. In chapter 10 he describes what a person who says, **"Yes!"** to Jesus believes in their heart.

*"If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be **saved**. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved."*

*Romans 10:9-10*



FOLLOWING  
GOD



INVITING  
OTHERS

This is again where our story with God is connected to others.



God's love increases in us as we abide in Him and His ways. It makes us want to discover other people's need for God's love. We get to invite our friends and family to have God become a part of their story, as He is for us.



How would you describe being "saved" in your own words?



FOLLOWING  
GOD

6

INVITING  
OTHERS

**Inviting is  
an exciting  
part of  
following  
God!**



**Go to the middle of Romans 10 and read or listen to verses 13-15.**



**What's our role in helping people to be saved?**



**Who does Paul say has "beautiful feet"?!**



**FOLLOWING  
GOD**

**6**

**INVITING  
OTHERS**

## Here are some ways to begin doing this:

- Pray for someone
- Help with a specific need
- Listen to what they believe
- Find out where they are hurting
- Explain your story of faith to them
- Describe what following God has been like
- Take them to church, youth group or your Club
- Ask if they get what it means to say, "Yes!" to Jesus
- Offer to pray with them when they're ready to chose God
- Keep praying, keep praying, and keep praying for them!!



**Who has been coming to mind while doing this?**



**In what way do you want to begin inviting this week?**



**FOLLOWING  
GOD**

**6**

**INVITING  
OTHERS**

✦ ✦ ✦ **Congratulations on finishing the Following God lessons!** ✦ ✦ ✦



**This is more of a start than an ending. You have just begun!!  
Keep meeting with others to encourage and strengthen each other in following God.**



**Who could you recommend this to or go through together?**

## **HERE ARE SOME POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS...**



**Go back through the lessons to see what you learned.**



**Pray daily for a person you know to say, "Yes!" to God.**



**Invite a friend to Club, youth group, or church with you.**



**Read the rest of Romans 10 or even start with chapter 1. (You may want to do this with a leader or small group.)**



**Creatively thank the person who helped you go through this.**



**FOLLOWING  
GOD**

**6**

**INVITING  
OTHERS**