# GROWING UP spiritually

KEYS TO A HEALTHY & STEADY
CHRISTIAN MATURITY



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# Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
YOUR NEW STATUS IN CHRIST  HOW TO GROW IN YOUR NEW CHRISTIAN LIFE	4
	7
	11

# INTRODUCTION

Receiving Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour is the most important decision you have ever taken. Something happened in the spiritual realm that completely changed the direction of your life. You were on your way to hellfire, but you are now a citizen of the Kingdom of God and will spend eternity with Jesus in heaven, after a fruitful journey on the earth. We want to show you who you are NOW as a new creation in Christ Jesus, some of your rights and privileges as a child of God and also some things to do to overcome some challenges that make people return to their old life of sin. Please take some time to read and memorize the highlighted scriptures.

# Chapter 1

# YOUR NEW STATUS IN CHRIST

### 1. You are a new creature in Christ

Your old life of sin is dead and gone. Jesus has completely deleted every sin you have ever committed and has given you a brand-new nature (2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 5:1; 1 Peter 2:24-25).

2. You are now a child of God and a member of His big family

(John 1:12-13; Ephesians 2:18-19; Romans 8:16; Galatians 3:26; Ephesians 5:8)

### 3. You have the nature of God in your spirit (righteousness)

Jesus Christ has given you the righteousness of God as a gift, so you can now please God naturally. You can approach God without fear, shame or guilt of sin (1 Corinthians 1:30; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Roman 5:17; Romans 5:19)

### 4. You are now delivered from the power of Satan

You are now in the Kingdom of Christ. Satan no longer has the power to make you sick, to steal from you or to kill you. Jesus has taken that power from him. If you were experiencing any form of attacks from the enemy, you are free from it now. (Colossians 1:13-14; Colossians 2:13-15; 1 John 4:4; John 8:36)

### 5. You now have power over Satan and all the demons in the world

Christ in you is greater than the devil and all his demon. Jesus raised you up to sit with Him in a place of power. The days when the devil harassed and oppressed you are over. Now you can exercise the authority of Jesus Christ against him. Now you can use the name of Jesus to resist the devil and he will flee from you (Luke 10:19; 1 John 4:4; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 2:4- 6/Ephesians 1:19-22; James 4:7).

### 6. You cannot be cursed

Now that you are born again, Christ has redeemed you from the curses of life. Every generational curse on your life was broken the moment you became born again. No witch doctor can cast a spell on you. Nobody can harm you. Anybody trying to use witchcraft against you is playing with fire because he or she will come under a curse. Now you can enjoy the blessings of God (Galatians 3:13-14; Genesis 12:2-3; Isaiah 54:14-17; Mark 16:17-18)

### 7. You are led by The Holy Spirit

The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead comes to live in your spirit when you become born again, that way, nothing can separate you from Jesus Christ. You are now in a covenant relationship with Him. You can now speak to Him and hear Him speak to you. The Holy Spirit tells you whatever He hears from God concerning you, He shows you what to do, and guides you through life (Romans 8:9; Romans 8:14; John 16:13; John 14:26; John 14:21).

# HOW TO GROW IN YOUR NEW CHRISTIAN LIFE

If you do the following, you will continue to grow spiritually:

### 1. Feed on the word of God

Read your Bible EVERY DAY. I recommend you start with the book of John and read all the way through the New Testament. Get a copy of the complete bible and also download one on your mobile phone (I recommend you download the <u>YouVersion</u> Bible App).

"In the same way that nursing infants cry for milk, you must intensely crave the pure milk of God's word. For this "milk" will cause you to grow into maturity, fully nourished and strong for life."

Peter 2:2 TPT).

Renew your mind with the word of God. Before you were born again, your mind was filled with dirty music, movies, ideas, experiences, etc., and they have to be replaced with good things if you want to live a good, holy life. If you neglect the word of God, you will soon become weak and Satan will pull you back to your old life of sin. God's word will help you overcome Satan whenever he comes to tempt you to sin. You will learn about your rights and privileges as a child of God. You will also learn how to relate with God and your fellow human beings in love. Listen to sermons that will build your faith. If you contact us we will recommend some preachers to listen to (Matthew 4:1-11; Acts 20:32; 2 Timothy 3:15).

### 2. Talk to God in prayer

Prayer is our means of communicating with God. It is also our means of telling God what we want Him to do for us. God, likes to hear His children tell Him how they feel and what they want. In prayer, you also get to hear Him speak to you and shower you with His love. Pray before you sleep and as soon as you wake up; pray before you do anything; pray before you make a decision; pray when you are confused; pray when you feel discouraged; pray always. In church, you will be taught how to pray effectively (1 Thessalonians 5:17; John 15:16; John 16:23-24; Matthew 7:7-11; Mark 11:22- 25; 1 Timothy 2:8).

### 3. Find a good church to fellowship with

God has put His special servants in the church to help you grow spiritually. You will be fed and cared for in a good church. As a new believer, you will make some mistakes from time to time, and be tempted to do some bad things you used to do before you became born again. But if you are actively involved in a church, you will receive a lot of encouragement from other Christians. If you need assistance in finding a good church to join near you, we can assist you if you contact us (Jeremiah 3:15; Hebrews 10:25; Matthew 18:19-20; Acts 2:41-47; 1 Corinthians 12:27-28; Ephesians 4:10-16). We encourage you to join our church. God is working mightily in our church. Many lives have been changed through our ministry and we are committed to helping people grow in their Christian life. Please

contact us on the phone numbers we have provided and visit us on the address we have included.

### 4. Make new born-again friends

Now that you are saved, you must let all your old friends know that you are no longer their old 'buddy'. They need to know that you are now a changed man and that you are no longer interested in the former life of sin. Encourage them to also receive Jesus as you did. If you don't do this, they will easily mock, intimidate, and discourage you, and you may join them in doing what you used to do before. Find a friend who is also a believer and connect with him or her regularly on any convenient platform (WhatsApp, phone calls, or physical meetings) to fellowship together – studying the bible together, praying together, going on evangelism together and attending Christian gatherings together. You cannot make it alone (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10; 1 Corinthians 15:33;

Proverbs 27:17).

# 5. Receive the baptism in The Holy Spirit

You need the power to live a fruitful and victorious Christian life, and that power comes when you are baptized in The Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

The following are some benefits of being baptized in the Holy Ghost and speaking in tongues:

- A. You will receive spiritual power to preach the gospel and do great things for God (Acts 1:8; Acts 10:38; Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-18)
- B. Speaking in tongues is your way of building up your spiritual strength (Jude 1:20; 2 Corinthians 14:4)
- C. The Holy Spirit's fire burns up every impurity and sinful habit in your life. As you speak in tongues you are fanning that fire (Luke 3:16-17; Malachi 3:1-3).

If you want to receive this baptism in The Holy Ghost right now, lift up your hands, close your eyes and say this prayer aloud.

"Jesus, I ask you to baptize me with The Holy Ghost and fire right now and give me the ability to speak in other tongues. I believe I receive it right now and I thank you Sir."

Now open your mouth and begin to speak in tongues loud and fast. Don't allow Satan to lie to you and discourage you. You have asked and you have received.

# 6. Commit to the serving in the house of God

We are saved to serve God. Now that you have received the Holy Spirit, He gave you some gifts which He wants you to use to serve God in His house. Find a department in church where you can use your gift to serve God and His children. As you serve God, your spiritual growth will be enhanced. There are so many blessings you will receive when you begin

to serve God. Read the following scriptures to find out more: John 12:26B; Job 36:11; Exodus 23:25-26; Matthew 6:33.



Enjoy your victorious Christian life!

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

God called **SAMUEL ODOH** to equip believers for a life of dominion through the teaching of the word of faith.

His passion is to mobilize, train and deploy an army of believers from all walks of life, who will win the lost, make disciples and transform nations with the word of God.

He teaches believers to walk in freedom and exercise dominion over sin, the devil, sickness, and poverty in conferences, seminars, and Bible studies. People from several countries have been blessed by his <u>podcast</u>.

One very crucial part of his ministry is helping ministers of the Gospel succeed. He works with pastors to develop systems and structures to keep their churches healthy and growing. He helps train their leaders and equip members of their congregation to become effective in personal evangelism and discipleship.

He is happily married to Ndiliseka and they serve God's people together.

Other Books Written by Samuel Odoh

- 1. How to Win Anybody to Christ
- 2. What to Do When You Need A Financial Miracle
- 3. Prospering in These Hard Times
- 4. It's Your Turn: Rise Up and Take Your Place in Leadership
- 5. Overflow: A Missing Key to Having More Than You Need
- 6. Make Disciples: Discover Practical Keys To Effective Discipleship And Small Groups Fellowship
- 7. A Life of Honour
- 8. Rescue: How to Restore A Backslidden Believer
- 9. Get A Job Supernaturally

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