

DISCOVER YOURSELF IN CHRIST



A NEW BEGINNING

calgary|life|church

**YOU ARE CREATED IN
THE IMAGE OF GOD.**

WELCOME HOME

By receiving Jesus, you have just made the most important decision of your life. Not only have you received forgiveness for all your sins, but you have also been given a new life. It's called 'Zoe life' or the supernatural, abundant, and eternal life of God. You received eternal life that has so much to offer *here and now*. This life begins like a seed that when properly cared for will produce an abundant harvest of peace, fulfillment, and joy.

The seed of God's living Word has been planted in your heart. You can expect a harvest of good things coming your way. Now that you are born of God, He has adopted you into His family - the Church. Here you are accepted and celebrated. You belong here!

The church is not a building, it is a spiritual family. God designed His Church to be the home where we find belonging, value, identity, and purpose with one another.

YOU BELONG HERE

Following Jesus is a journey of discovering and becoming all that God had in mind when He designed you. It is the most rewarding journey you will ever embark upon. God never meant for you to take this journey alone. We are all in this together. We want to help you grow in your relationship with Jesus.

Some of your next steps will be: getting baptized, joining a connect group, and serving on a team. All of these with a daily routine of reading your Bible, and praying (talking to God), will help you to grow spiritually. Spiritual growth means you are getting to know Jesus better, you are becoming more like Him, and are learning to trust Him more and more.

Spiritual growth is like a garden; it doesn't just happen. Growth is intentional. This booklet contains a 28-day reading plan to help you get started. He will reveal Himself to you through His Scriptures, the Bible. *His Word is food and nourishment for your soul.* For more information regarding the Next Steps, please contact our office at 403-239-9099 or email office@calgarylifechurch.com.

THE READING PLAN

What follows is a 28-day reading plan, complete with room for you to daily write out your thoughts using The SOAP Method. We have selected the Gospel of John and Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. Why? Because the Gospel of John reveals to us the loving, saving nature of Jesus more eloquently than any other text we have. Ephesians teaches us about God's great Church and the role it plays in each believer's lives.

It's our hope that through these two texts you will have an initial foundation upon which you can continue to build a solid relationship with God. You've made an important decision to follow Jesus, and we're so honoured to be on this journey with you.

Welcome to the family.

Grace and peace,
Calgary Life Church

**"YOUR WORD IS A LAMP TO GUIDE MY
FEET AND A LIGHT FOR MY PATH"**

PSALM 119:105 (NLT)

S.O.A.P - A BIBLE STUDY TECHNIQUE

We don't read the Bible just to read it. You have better things to do with your time than check something off of a religious to-do list. We read the Bible so that we can *know God and be changed by His wisdom*. Since that's the aim, we recommend journaling during your reading time.

We utilize a helpful outline, sometimes called "The SOAP Method," to organize our thoughts and maximize our time in God's word. SOAP is an acronym for Scripture, Observation, Application and Prayer. Here is an example of how SOAP works in action.

STEP 1 - PRAY

Begin with a short prayer, asking God to reveal Himself to you and help you understand and apply scripture. Maybe your prayer would go something like this: “Father, thank you for your Word. Help me to understand it. Bring it to life in me today. Amen.”

STEP 2 - READ

Jump in to the day’s section of scripture. Take special care to look for something intriguing, challenging or otherwise thought-provoking.

STEP 3 - WRITE

This is where SOAP comes in.

HERE'S AN EXAMPLE

Scripture - write it out.

“EVEN BEFORE HE MADE THE WORLD, GOD LOVED US AND CHOSE US IN CHRIST TO BE HOLY AND WITHOUT FAULT IN HIS EYES.” (EPH.1:4)

Observation - what struck you about that scripture?

BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE EXISTED, GOD LOVED ME AND CHOSE ME.

Application - how can I use this truth in my life?

I DON'T HAVE TO BE A SLAVE TO THE APPROVAL OF OTHERS. I CAN BE FREE FROM THEIR OPINIONS ABOUT ME. I CAN BE FREE FROM THE WEIGHT OF PERCEIVED EXPECTATIONS OF MY PEERS. WHY? BECAUSE THE GOD OF THE UNIVERSE KNOWS ME PERFECTLY, FLAWS AND ALL, AND STILL HE LOVES ME AND CHOSE ME. I AM SO FREE.

Prayer - a quick prayer you can recite throughout your day.

FATHER, THANK YOU FOR LOVING ME. HELP ME TODAY TO LIVE FOR YOU AND NOT FOR THE APPROVAL OF OTHERS. REMIND ME OF THE FREEDOM I HAVE IN CHRIST, BECAUSE I MIGHT FORGET. THANK YOU. AMEN.

DAY 1

Today's Reading: John 1:1-34

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DAY 2

Today's Reading: John 1:35-2:12

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DAY 3

Today's Reading: John 2:13-3:15

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DAY 4

Today's Reading: John 3:16-4:45

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DAY 5

Today's Reading: John 4:46-5:29

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DAY 6

Today's Reading: John 5:30-6:21

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DAY 7

Today's Reading: John 6:22-7:31

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DAY 8

Today's Reading: John 7:32-52

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DAY 9

Today's Reading: John 7:53-8:38

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DAY 10

Today's Reading: John 8:39-9:41

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DAY 11

Today's Reading: John 10:1-11:16

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DAY 12

Today's Reading: John 11:17-57

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DAY 13

Today's Reading: John 12:1-19

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DAY 14

Today's Reading: John 12:20-50

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DAY 15

Today's Reading: John 13:1-35

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DAY 16

Today's Reading: John 13:36-14:31

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DAY 17

Today's Reading: John 15:1-16:15

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DAY 18

Today's Reading: John 16:16-17:26

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DAY 19

Today's Reading: John 18:1-24

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DAY 20

Today's Reading: John 18:25-40

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DAY 21

Today's Reading: John 19:1-37

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DAY 22

Today's Reading: John 19:38-20:18

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DAY 23

Today's Reading: John 20:19-31

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DAY 24

Today's Reading: John 21, Eph 1:1-2

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DAY 25

Today's Reading: Eph 1:3-2:10

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DAY 26

Today's Reading: Eph 2:11-4:16

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DAY 27

Today's Reading: Eph 4:17-5:33

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DAY 28

Today's Reading: Eph 6

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What did you learn from following this 28-Day S.O.A.P?

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**GOD'S PLAN
INVOLVES YOU.**

"AND NOW, JUST AS
YOU ACCEPTED CHRIST
JESUS AS YOUR LORD,
YOU MUST CONTINUE
TO FOLLOW HIM. LET
YOUR ROOTS

**GROW DOWN INTO
HIM, AND LET YOUR
LIVES BE BUILT
ON HIM.**

THEN YOUR FAITH WILL
GROW STRONG IN THE
TRUTH YOU WERE
TAUGHT, AND YOU WILL
OVERFLOW WITH
THANKFULNESS."

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7 (NLT)