

STEPS TO MATURITY

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Celebration Centre Resources

**Foundation Studies**

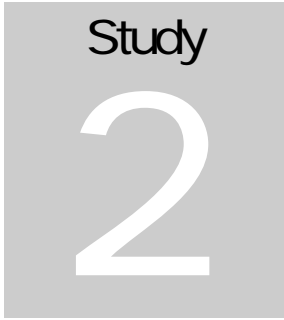
CELEBRATION CENTRE RESOURCES

# Steps to Maturity Study Guide

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© ROAR! Publishing  
81 Bickerton Street Wainoni  
Christchurch New Zealand  
Phone +64 3 389-7055 Fax +64 3 389-7431  
e-mail [office@celebrationcentre.com](mailto:office@celebrationcentre.com)

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## Walking With Jesus

**M**aking Jesus the Lord of your life and becoming a Christian is the most important and exciting thing that you will ever do!

2 COR 5:17 "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a \_\_\_\_\_, the old has gone \_\_\_\_\_ has come!"

JN 3:3-8 "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is \_\_\_\_\_."

You have been born of the Spirit. When you accepted Jesus as your Lord, a spiritual creation took place. Your inner being, your spirit, was recreated in the image and likeness of God.

One translation of 2 COR 5:17 says that any man who is in Christ Jesus is a "new species of being that never existed before".

## You Are Now Different

One of the first things you are probably beginning to experience is a desire within you to want to live a different sort of life. That is because you **are** different.

- 1 Read GAL 5:19-25. Verses 19-21 contain some of the things you may have been involved in. following on in GAL 5:22-23 lists nine qualities which God is now developing in your life. List below the nine "Fruits of the Spirit" -

a. \_\_\_\_\_

f. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

g. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

h. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

i. \_\_\_\_\_

e. \_\_\_\_\_

2 Write out JN 1:12

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## Being in Christ

When you received Jesus as Lord, God brought you into existence by His Holy Spirit. A seed was sown in your heart – the incorruptible seed of God’s word – which placed you in Christ Jesus.

You need to start to know, understand and experience the reality of knowing Jesus. One of the ways to do this is to read the Bible and underline every place it mentions ‘in Christ’, ‘in Him’ etc. These phrases occur over 130 times. As you come across them in your reading, read them carefully, and study what they mean, and then personalise it e.g. 2 COR 5:17 “If \_\_\_\_\_ (put your name here) is in Christ, \_\_\_\_\_ is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”

To follow are a few examples of what it means to be in Christ. Once you realise these things, you need to walk in the reality of them.

### 1. **You are saved.**

Read 1 TIM 15&16, HEB 7:25, AC 4:12, ROM 10:13.

ROM 10:9 “We are saved because we have confessed with our \_\_\_\_\_ and believed in our \_\_\_\_\_ that God raised Jesus from the dead”.

### 2. **You are healed.**

Read 1 PT 2:24. MT 8:16&17 IS 53:4&5.

GAL 3:13&14 tells us that Jesus went to the cross; He bore the curse for us, and broke the power of sin, sickness and disease. Our sins were carried by Him and He died in our place. In the same way our diseases were carried by Him so we would not have to. Today Jesus is healed, and lives in perfect health. Because we are in Him, we are healed too!

### 3. **You are delivered.**

COL 1:13-14 “For He has rescued (delivered) us from the \_\_\_\_\_ and brought us into the \_\_\_\_\_ He loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins”.

Satan and all his demons have no legal right to harass you. You are living in another kingdom. This means, of course, that we should live like citizens of the new kingdom.

**4. You are righteous.**

Write out 2 COR 5:21

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Righteousness simply means 'being in right standing'. Before you received Jesus as your Lord and Saviour you were not in right standing with God. Now, thanks to what Jesus did, you are standing right before God.

Therefore, you are righteous - not because of anything you have done, but totally due to what He has done! You are to act righteously (not self-righteously). You will find it helpful when thinking about acting righteously to think of righteousness as 'right-choice-ness'. Make choices and decisions that will please God.

**5. You are prosperous.**

Prosperity is Gods gift to all of us. Prosperity does not necessarily mean you have a great deal of money and possessions. Biblical prosperity is being able to meet a need in any situation, through God. If someone needs healing, you are able to get them their healing from God; if someone needs to be set free from the powers of darkness, you are able to do it; if they have a financial need, you can meet it, etc.

PR 10:3, 6, 22, 24 "Misfortune pursues the sinner, but \_\_\_\_\_ is the reward of the \_\_\_\_\_."

PR 13:21&22 "A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's' children, but a sinners \_\_\_\_\_ is stored up the \_\_\_\_\_".

## In Closing

To finish this study we will look at the fact that as a child of God, you have been given an inheritance. It is important to study the Bible and find out what your inheritance involves – and then act on that knowledge.

Read ACTS 20:32, EPH 1:3, 13&14, GAL 3:29, 4:7

ROM 8:17 "Now if we are \_\_\_\_\_, then we are \_\_\_\_\_ heirs of \_\_\_\_\_ and co-heirs with \_\_\_\_\_."

You are a co-heir or joint-heir with Christ. Whatever He has, you have also. Ultimately God wants to bless you in every area of your life.

**Read the prayer in EPH 1:17-23 and receive all it contains.**