

## Lesson 1

# Your New Life with Jesus

### Welcome

Congratulations! It is great news to hear that you have begun a new life of following Jesus. Welcome into God's forever family (the family of those who believe in Jesus).

In this lesson you will learn more about what is new now that you are in this family.

But first, when did you come to know Jesus? Where were you? If you remember, fill in the time and place below.

### **I began my new life with Jesus:**

On this date (or day): \_\_\_\_\_

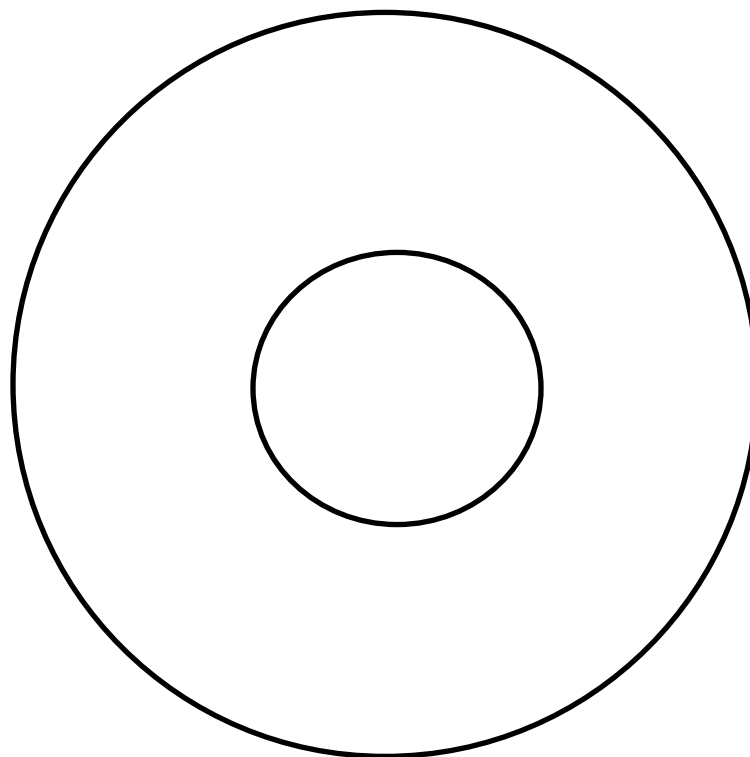
In this place: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name (signature): \_\_\_\_\_

## Your New Family

Think about you and God's bigger family for a moment.

Inside the small circle, draw a simple stick figure of yourself. Now write several words you can think of describing who you are. (For example: son, daughter, sister, brother, student, friend, etc.)



When you believe in Christ as Savior, God places you in his forever family. This is like the bigger circle.

Inside the larger circle, write the names of some people you know who are part of God's forever family. (Add more later as you think of them or meet new people.)

## So, What's New?

The Bible, God's Word, helps us to understand what has become new. These verses are from the Bible (book, chapter, verse).

Circle the words in each verse that tell what is new (the first one is done for you).

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!*

**2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV**

*Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.*

**John 1:12 NIV**

*But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God.*

**1 Peter 2:9 NIV**

*I no longer call you servants ... Instead, I have called you friends.*

**John 15:15 NIV**

Which verse do you like best?

## God Is with You

Because you believe in Jesus, God's Spirit lives with you and in you. Read the Bible verses below. Underline words that tell about God's Spirit. (If you have your own Bible, look these up there, too. Find the book name, look for the chapter number, then find the verse.)

*Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." So you are no longer a slave, but a son.*

**Galatians 4:6-7a NIV**

*He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior.*

**Titus 3:5-6 NIV**

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THINK  
ABOUT  
THIS

What will you enjoy about  
God being close to you?

# What's the Difference?

With the Spirit of God living in you and with you, life will not stay the same.  
Read these Bible verses, then answer the question below.

*For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.*

**2 Timothy 1:7 NIV**

*You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you.*

**Romans 8:9 NIV**

*But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth.*

**John 16:13a NIV**

What good things will God's Spirit bring to your life?  
In your own words, list what you learn from these verses:

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# A Bible Story

## Zacchaeus

Zacchaeus needed a new life. Read this story, and then think about the questions below.

**Luke 19:1-10 NIV**

*(Find this in the Bible book of Luke, chapter 19, verses 1-10)*

<sup>1</sup>Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. <sup>2</sup>A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. <sup>3</sup>He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. <sup>4</sup>So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

<sup>5</sup>When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." <sup>6</sup>So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

<sup>7</sup>All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.'"

<sup>8</sup>But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

<sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

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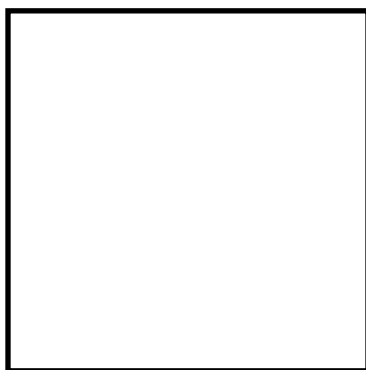
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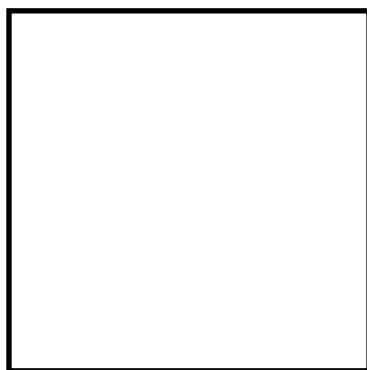
# How Will YOU Change?

Now that you are following Jesus, your days will be different. What might you do in the morning, during the day and in the evening? Write or draw your ideas in the boxes.

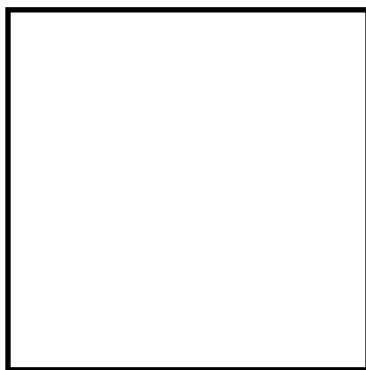
The Morning:  
Give each day to God



During the Day:  
Think about others



The Evening:  
Think about your day



*God has said,  
"Never will I leave you;  
never will I forsake you."  
Hebrews 13:5b NIV*

**No matter what  
time of day, God is  
always with you!**

# Something To Do...

## Start a Journal

If you can, buy or make a small booklet of paper as a prayer book or journal. Write your prayers, your thoughts or your questions in it. Or draw pictures of yourself learning about this new life with Jesus.

## Ask Your Questions

Do you have questions about your new life with Jesus? Write your questions here or in your journal. Ask another person in God's family to help you find answers.

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? \_\_\_\_\_

## Take Time to Pray

Talk to God anywhere. Ask him to help you find answers to your questions. Pray for others that you meet in God's family. Thank Jesus for anything you can think of that is good.

## A Bible Verse to Remember

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he  
is a new creation; the old has gone,  
the new has come!  
2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV*