

# NOTES

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# SEARCH FOR

# Certainty I

## Growing as a Christian

### Practical Christianity for the 21st Century



**F**he more we know Jesus, the more we long to be like Him. As we understand Jesus' kindness, His tender compassion, His gracious forgiveness, and His steadfast loyalty to the Father's will, our own hearts are drawn to the one we most admire. The Christian life involves both coming to Jesus and growing in Jesus. It involves forgiveness and restoration. Jesus longs to forgive our sins, removing the guilt and condemnation of the past. His acceptance, forgiveness, and love help us to grow in Him. He desires to rebuild our lives. In this lesson we will learn God's way of making us whole again.



*The more we know Jesus, the more we long to be like Him.*

- ?** 1. What promise does God give to His people?  
Ezekiel 11:19, 20; Hebrews 8:10

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

God promises to do something for us that we cannot do for ourselves. He says, "I will give you a heart of flesh." God promises to work miracles inside of us.

- ?** 2. How can our faith increase? Romans 10:17;  
2 Peter 1:3, 4

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- ?** 3. Why are some people not benefited when they study the Bible? Hebrews 4:2

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

To receive benefit from reading the Bible, it must be personally applied by faith. Place yourself in every story. Believe that God will accomplish miraculous changes in your life as you read His Word.

- ?** 4. What is the essence of eternal life? John 17:3

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- ?** 5. When we know Jesus, what is the longing of our hearts? Matthew 26:39; John 8:29

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

## NOTES

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We long to do His will. Faith is not believing that God will do whatever we want; it is seeking what the Father wants, as Jesus in Gethsemane.

- ?** 6. What hinders our growth in Christ and a close relationship with Him? Isaiah 59:1, 2; Psalm 66:18

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Known sin is an obstacle in a full relationship with Jesus. When we continually turn our backs on Him, we cannot fully see His face.

- ?** 7. Who is the originator of all our temptations?  
John 8:44

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- ?** 8. What assurance does Jesus give us when we face temptation? 1 Corinthians 10:13

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- ?** 9. Since Jesus met all the temptations of Satan on our behalf, what does He invite us to do?  
Hebrews 4:14-16

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- ?** 10. Why can we have confidence that we will grow in Christ? *1 John 5:14, 15*

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Our Lord promises to provide us with the power for Christian living. We can have absolute confidence that when we ask for His power and His Spirit to do His will, He will gladly give us what we long for (Luke 11:13).

- ?** 11. Where do we find strength for Christian living? *Mark 1:35; Matthew 7:7; Jeremiah 29:13*

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

We discover strength for Christian living by seeking God in prayer. Prayer opens our hearts to God to receive His strength.

- ?** 12. What reassurance does Jesus give each of us? *Philippians 4:19*

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- ?** 13. When we feel we are too weak or the struggle is too great, what encouraging promise is ours? *Philippians 4:13*

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- ?** 14. What will God's love accomplish in us before Jesus comes? *1 John 3:1-3*

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- ?** 15. Who does Jesus declare Himself to be? *Hebrews 12:1, 2*

The Bible answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus declares that He is the author and finisher of our faith. What a promise. We may stumble, but He will never let us go. We may falter, but He will remain steadfast. As we continue trusting, believing, praying, and fellowshiping with God in His Word, we will continue to grow in Christ. As we share His love with others and witness to our family and friends, our own faith will increase.

#### MY DECISION

- I long to be like You, O Lord! Daily I will seek You in prayer and through a study of Your Word. As You open doors I will share Your love with others. I praise You that You are both the author and finisher of my faith.*

#### Additional Material on How to Grow as a Christian

*We grow as Christians if we believe:*

God will never allow us to be tempted above what we are able to bear. *1 Corinthians 10:13*

God has provided strength for every trial. *Philippians 4:13*

God has made provision for every need. *Philippians 4:19*

God has provided forgiveness for every sin. *1 John 1:9*

God has an answer to every prayer. *Luke 11:9-11; Matthew 7:7*

God has a solution for every difficulty. *Hebrews 4:14-16*

God has comfort for every sorrow. *2 Corinthians 1:3-7*