NEW BELIEVERS

CONGRATULATIONS!

Wow, you've just made the decision to become a follower of Jesus! You just said "yes" to freedom! You said "yes" to forgiveness! You said "yes" to the love of God! You said "yes" to Heaven and being adopted into God's family. And you said "yes" to leaving your old ways and entering into new life. Today is the day that you said, "I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and I'm going to follow His plan for my life." That changes everything! Out of the many decisions you've made throughout your life, this is by far the best and the most important. It is so awesome to know that God loves us and He wants to be with us for all eternity!

John 3:16 NIV

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

You may be asking, "Where do I go from here? What is my next step?" Those are great questions because being a Christian is bigger than a prayer we pray; it's a life we live! The next step is to move from just believing in Jesus to becoming a disciple of Jesus. You might be asking what a disciple is. A disciple is simply someone who says, "I want to live the life Jesus has for me." So we want to take you on a short, seven-day journey to answer some of your questions and help you begin to gain traction as a disciple in your relationship with Jesus.

For the next few days we'll walk you through what this new life as a Christian looks like. The topics we will discuss are essential to your new journey with Jesus, so we highly encourage you to take one day at a time and not read ahead. Also, there will be a specific challenge alongside each day's topic.

So here's your first challenge! Head over to the new website we've created just for you, <u>victoryatl.com/newfaith</u>, watch today's "Welcome" video, and sign up to receive this upcoming week's short, daily videos through email or text. You don't want to miss out on the daily videos and other resources!

Here's the journey we'll be on over the next week:

DAY 1 | CONNECTING TO JESUS DAY 2 | TALKING TO GOD DAY 3 | LISTENING TO GOD DAY 4 | GATHERING BIG DAY 5 | GATHERING SMALL DAY 6 | SHARING GOD WITH OTHERS DAY 7 | CONNECTING TO VICTORY

We can't wait to get started! We hope you are as excited as we are. This journey with Jesus is one like no other. Be prepared for your whole life to be changed for the better!

| CONNECTING | TO JESUS

CONNECTING TO JESUS

We are beginning a journey of connecting with Jesus that will eventually make us whole and healed! Don't you want to be whole and healed both emotionally and physically? I'm sure your answer is, "Absolutely, yes! I want everything God has for me!"

Good news for every single one of us today is found in **2 Corinthians 5:17-18** NLT: This means that **anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person.** The old life is gone; **a new life has begun!** And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ.

You have stepped into a brand new life in Jesus! How amazing is that? Jesus Himself tells us how to begin living this life of health, healing, wholeness and fulfillment in **John 15:4-8** NIV.

"Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

What Jesus is saying is that all of life comes back to our connection to Him. Like a branch on a tree can only live if it's connected to the tree, we can only truly live if we're connected to the source of life, Jesus Christ. If we are connected to Him we'll be healthy, and if we're not connected to Him then we won't be healthy. Connecting to Jesus happens in many ways that we'll talk about over the next few days, but staying connected to Jesus is always an intentional action. That means it's not just going to happen. Connection is going to take some work, some time, some devotion and some prioritization.

We'd really encourage you to take the best portion of your day, when you're most awake and most alive, and give it to God. For most people this is in the morning, while for others it's during lunch or even in the evening. Take 10-15 minutes to read each day's message in this series and watch that day's video. Prioritize the "Challenge" at the end of each message. Do it that day or the next. Ask God how it would change your life if you actually implemented the message into your life. Remember, this walk with God isn't just about information, but transformation! Keep Jesus on your mind as you go through your day. Simply pray, "Jesus, I want to know you more," while in the car, at work, during your commute, doing laundry, etc.

The reason Jesus gave His life is so that we may have a close relationship with Him! Can you imagine how your life would change if you actually, authentically connected to God? The very fact that you are reading this means that something amazing has sparked in your life, and God is drawing you closer to Him! You may not know for sure how your life is going to change, but you can be assured that it will change if you connect, and remain connected, to Jesus.

Go to **<u>victoryatl.com/day1</u>** to view today's video.

TODAY'S CHALLENGE:

Write out some things that you hope, pray and expect to change as a result of your new connection to Jesus. Put that list somewhere that you will see it daily. What's possible for the God of creation to accomplish in you over the next 7 days?

TALKING

TALKING TO GOD

In any great relationship, there is great conversation! It should not surprise you that your relationship with God is no different. God is your Heavenly Father who loves you and wants to talk to you and for you to talk to Him. You may be asking yourself, "What do I say to GOD?" It probably sounds a bit intimidating to talk to this big God you cannot see. However, don't let it intimidate you and don't overcomplicate it. All you need to do is talk to God in your own words in the sincerest way possible. **Talking to God is simply known as prayer**, and prayer is absolutely vital to stay connected to Jesus!

Hebrews 4:16 NIV

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Prayer is not a religious act; it is a sincere conversation with God. Every time you talk to God you readily acknowledge that He exists and that He is real and alive in the moment! And not only does He hear our prayers, but He also responds to our prayers.

Hebrews 11:6 NCV

... Anyone who comes to God must believe that he is real and that he rewards those who truly want to find him.

HOW SHOULD I PRAY?

There is no magical formula for prayer. No matter how you are feeling, whether you are happy or hurting, you can talk to God about any and everything. No question is too big for Him, and He's not afraid of our doubts or our concerns. Talking to God is a great source of peace as we grow in relationship with Him and face the challenges of life.

A good place to start to learn "how to pray" is **Luke 11:2** NKJV. One day, Jesus' disciples asked Him how to pray and He responded, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

This is simply saying that when you pray, thank God that He is your Father ("Our Father in heaven"). Tell God that He is holy, or different, than anything else ("Hallowed be your name"). Tell God that you want what He wants to happen here on earth ("Your Kingdom come"). Thank God for giving you what you need ("daily bread"). Thank God for for-giveness, and take a moment to forgive others who have wronged you ("forgive us our sins"). Ask God for protection from sin and from the enemy ("do not lead...but deliver").

Philippians 4:6-7 NLT

Don't worry about anything; instead, **pray about everything**. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. **Then you will experience God's peace**, **which exceeds anything we can understand**. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

There is no specific place, time of day or amount of time that you should talk to God. Find the best time and place that works for you. You can start by finding a quiet place to talk to God every morning before you start your day, but don't stop there. You can pray wherever you want, whenever you want, and as often as you want.

WHY SHOULD I PRAY?

1. Jesus told us to pray.

Jesus gave the disciples the best example to follow. We read of Jesus taking time to pray in many passages throughout the Bible. Also, on a number of occasions, He told them to pray.

Luke 11:2 NKJV

So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name ..."

2. Prayer reveals things.

Prayer also helps us get spiritual insight into our lives. It is through prayer that we get a Heavenly perspective. As we pray, God reveals things to us. There are things about our own lives that will be revealed to us through prayer.

Jeremiah 33:3 NLT

"Ask me and I will tell you remarkable secrets you do not know about things to come."

3. Prayer changes things.

God hears our prayers and He responds. He sometimes responds in extraordinary ways, but oftentimes He responds in ordinary ways. However, in every way, prayer changes things in more ways than we can comprehend.

1 Timothy 2:1-4 NLT

I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.

THE KEY TO PRAYER

You may have wondered why Christians say, "...in Jesus' name" at the end of every prayer. We do this because Jesus told His disciples that whenever they asked Father God for anything to ask for it in His name.

John 16:23 ESV

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father IN MY NAME, he will give it to you."

Go to victoryatl.com/day2 to view today's video.

TODAY'S CHALLENGE:

Pause right now and talk to God for 5 minutes. Ask Him those questions you've had. Put your requests before Him and pray through Luke 11 as we referenced above. Make the decision that you're going to pray for 5 minutes every day over the next week.

LISTENING TO GOD

LISTENING TO GOD

Imagine not hearing from someone you love for a long time, and then one day you receive a letter in the mail from them. Think about the excitement of opening the letter in order to read what they have said! The Bible is a compilation of God's letters to us, and it is the primary way in which He speaks to us. When we read the Bible, we are reading God's words and God's Truth. We can learn to hear God by reading the Bible.

WHY THE BIBLE?

The Bible is divided into two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament takes place from the beginning of creation up until 400 years before the birth of Jesus Christ. The New Testament begins with the birth of Jesus and covers His life in the four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John), the beginning of the church (Acts), and early letters to Christian churches in cities across the Middle East. The Bible is made up of 66 different books that were written over 1,600 years. The Old Testament has 39 books (the books of Genesis through Malachi), and the New Testament has 27 books (the books of Matthew through Revelation). The Bible was written by more than 40 individuals as they were inspired by God. Yet, miraculously, the Bible doesn't contradict itself and has one theme from beginning to end: God loves us and has a plan to redeem us through Jesus.

2 Timothy 3:16 NLT

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

We all understand there are many opinions about who God is, what He has said, and what He has not said. Some of these opinions are accurate, and some of them are just plain lies. We are so glad God has not left us alone to decipher through all of people's opinions. The Bible helps us to distinguish God's voice from all other voices in the world. The world is full of theories, philosophies and opinions, but God's Word is TRUTH!

Jesus said in **Matthew 4:4** NLT, "'People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

The same way our bodies need natural food to grow, our spirits need to be fed with spiritual food in order for us to grow. Reading the Bible is like eating spiritual food. Therefore, in the same way that we eat food, we should consume the Bible every day.

Oftentimes we hear questions like, "When I am reading the Bible, how do I know that I am listening well?" This is a great question that many people ask. Here are three things you can keep in mind as you read the Bible. If you do these things you will be able to assure yourself that you are a good listener.

- 1. Acknowledge that God wants to talk to you.
- **2.** Allow God's words to draw you to His heart, help you turn away from sin and grow your faith.

3. Apply everything you learn.

THERE ARE MANY BIBLE VERSIONS. WHICH VERSION SHOULD I READ?

The original languages of the Bible are Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic (not English), so that means scholars throughout the years had to translate it. We call these translations "versions" of the Bible. There's only one Bible but numerous translations because of the complexity of language. There are many great versions of the Bible to read, but for the sake of time we recommend the New International Version (NIV), New Living Translation (NLT) and the New King James Version (NKJV). As a new believer in Jesus, it is important for you to hear the Bible in modern day English in order to understand the Truth of God more easily. A great way to read various Bible versions is by downloading the YouVersion Bible app for Android or iPhone.

Also, sometimes the Bible can be difficult to grasp when you are just beginning. You may want to consider investing in a commentary, which gives insight on what the Bible is saying as you read through it. We recommend the "Life Application Study Bible," which is a combination Bible/commentary.

THE BIBLE IS A BIG BOOK. WHERE SHOULD I BEGIN TO READ?

There are many fantastic books of the Bible: Genesis, Proverbs, Romans and Colossians to name a few. But perhaps the best place for you to begin today is reading the Gospel of Mark. In some Bible versions, the Gospel of Mark is referred to simply as Mark. The Gospel of Mark tells the story of Jesus.

Go to victoryatl.com/day3 to view today's video.

TODAY'S CHALLENGE:

Make the decision to stay connected to Jesus by beginning to add 5 minutes per day of reading the Bible to your 5 minutes of prayer. You can always spend more time than that, but make the decision to give at least 5 minutes of your day to hearing God speak through His letters to us. Let's start by reading chapter one of Mark together.

Mark 1 NIV

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way"—"a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty

days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him. When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him. They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are-the Holy One of God!" "Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him." News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee. As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. The whole town gathered at the door, and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was. Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons. A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." Jesus was indignant. He reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cleansed. Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: "See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them." Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.

| GATHERING | BIG

GATHERING BIG

When you decided to follow Jesus, you became a part of God's great, big family. The local church is the gathering of God's family and has been called the hope of the world! The church is not man's idea, but God's idea. As God's family, we are supposed to gather together on a consistent basis. We do this to encourage, grow and motivate each other to love God and love others for Jesus. Gathering with other believers in a church setting is one of the best ways to stay connected to Jesus.

Hebrews 10:24-25 NLT

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

We know we live in a very "online" world right now, but we couldn't encourage you enough to make actually walking through the doors of a church a priority in your life. When you attend a local church, there are a few things you should expect. You'll hear a pastor teach from the Bible, there will be worship (which involves people singing and lifting their hands toward Heaven), and there should be a lot of happy, joyful people! It brings God joy when we gather together at church, learn how to follow Jesus more faithfully, and join with one united voice to sing and worship together.

Psalm 133:1 NIV

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

Ephesians 5:19 NLT

... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts.

There is so much meaning when we gather together. This sets the stage for God to do amazing things in our lives. The church began as a gathering of believers in one room, worshiping and praying. What was true then is still true today: God's presence and power are experienced when we gather as the local church.

Go to victoryatl.com/day4 to view today's video.

TODAY'S CHALLENGE:

Commit to being at a church service this upcoming weekend. If you are close to one of our Victory campuses, we would absolutely LOVE to have you join us as we become disciples of Jesus together. If you are not close to a Victory campus, we encourage you to find a life-giving church close to you. In the meantime, you can join us via online streaming at **live.victoryatl.com.**

GATHERING SMALL

GATHERING SMALL

One of the greatest things we can learn about from the life of Jesus is the power of spending life with a small group of people. Jesus spent time with the masses, but He had 12 disciples that He poured His life into. At the beginning of our journeys, we have many questions that require answers. Gathering with a small group of other believers who can answer your questions, speak into your life, help with direction and wisdom, and pray with you and for you is vital. This will help you stay connected to Jesus and grow as a disciple.

Being a part of a small group can bring much fulfillment and purpose to our lives. Along with connecting to Jesus, there are other benefits to gathering with a small group of believers.

4 BENEFITS OF SMALL GROUP COMMUNITY

1. Building healthy spiritual relationships – Being a part of a large church gathering is essential in a believer's life, but sometimes it's hard to find real connections in a room with a bunch of other people. Being a part of a small group will enable you to build those healthy relationships you were made for. Healthy relationships lead to healthy living.

Proverbs 13:20 NIV

Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.

2. Being accountable to each other – You become part of a new "biblical community" when you intentionally do life with other Christ followers. In biblical community, believers are accountable to each other. We often experience situations in life where we need people to encourage us, sharpen us and help us walk the Jesus-walk.

Proverbs 27:17 NIV

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

3. Caring for each other – Community does not stop during difficult times. Caring for each other when we face challenges in life is a vital component of community. Our commitment to Jesus is often challenged during hard times, and it is necessary to have help and care from our friends. Close friends who care for each other in tough times is priceless.

Galatians 6:2 NIV

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

4. Sharing with each other – A biblical community is a safe place where a group of people can come together and share stories and experiences. Believers talk about various topics, and conversations can go from work to life in general. This creates an atmosphere where we can be authentic with one other, share our lives, share our resources and share our hearts.

2 Corinthians 8:13-14 NIV

Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need.

WHERE CAN I FIND BIBLICAL COMMUNITY?

There are many areas of Victory where you may find biblical community and "gather small." You may simply meet someone in the seat next to you on the weekend and develop a friendship that spills over into the week ahead. You may spend some time on our social media pages and develop friendships there. We have numerous communities in the church for teenagers, young adults and over-50-year-olds. Perhaps you will find community by joining one of our weekend serving or outreach teams. The BEST way that the people of Victory World Church find real, biblical community is through our small groups. You can find a group that meets near you at **victoryatl.com/smallgroups**.

Go to victoryatl.com/day5 to view today's video.

TODAY'S CHALLENGE:

Even if you have just become a Christian, you may already know other Christians. Intentionally email, text, call, message on social media, or grab coffee with a Christian this week. Ask how he/she became a Christian and what Jesus has done in his/her life. Start developing the habit of having conversations about Jesus.

SHARING GOD WITH OTHERS

SHARING GOD WITH OTHERS

Now that you have experienced the love of Jesus, don't keep it to yourself. Share it! Share this great love with others who need to experience His love. Sharing God with others really is simple. Just tell your story of how you came to receive Him into your life. There is nothing more convincing than sharing your personal encounter with Jesus Christ.

Jesus' final words to His followers here on earth are found in **Acts 1:8** NIV. "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my **witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

The keyword there is "witnesses." What is a witness? A witness is someone who tells of what they've seen and heard. A witness doesn't make things up. Witnesses give their own personal experience. If you saw a car accident and the police asked you to be a witness, what would you say? You wouldn't make things up. You would simply tell them what you saw and heard. That's the same thing we're called to do as Christians. Tell people what Jesus has done in your life. People can try to argue with scriptures, but they can't argue with your experience.

SHARE WITH YOUR WORDS

God wants everyone to come into a relationship with Him, and He gave us the privilege of telling the world. Talking to others about your relationship with God is one of the ways that you share God's love with people who are hurting, lost, hopeless and discouraged. When you share what Jesus has done in your life, your heart is reminded of how great He is, and it helps you stay connected to Jesus. We want everyone to know and experience Jesus' love!

Matthew 5:14-16 NLT

"You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."

SHARE WITH YOUR LIFE

We not only share God with our words, but we also share God through the evidence of a changed life. When others begin to see that your faith in Jesus has affected the way that you live, it provides further proof that God is indeed real. God desires that we begin to reflect a lifestyle of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control toward others. We can demonstrate our faith by showing acts of kindness and giving our resources for the sake of others.

James 2:14-16 NLT

What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? There are many misconceptions about being qualified to share Jesus with others. Here are a few of these false misconceptions:

FALSE	TRUE
It is the pastor/minister's job to share God with others.	It is the job of every disciple to share God with others.
You have to know the Bible and be able to quote it.	You have to know Jesus and share your story.
Your life has to be free from struggles, mistakes or sin. In other words, you have to be perfect.	You have to be sincere, authentic and honest about the struggles God is helping you through.
I don't have to talk to others about God; I will just live a good life.	We have to use words to introduce others to Jesus. If you don't tell them, how will they know that He is the One who changed your life?
If people don't respond, then it is useless.	We share our story and we leave the results to God.

Go to view today's video.

TODAY'S CHALLENGE:

Visit <u>victoryatl.com/yourstory</u> and share the story of what God has done in your life, including what He has done over the past six days of this process.

CONNECTING TO VICTORY

CONNECTING TO VICTORY

Wow, here we are on day seven! Over the last six days you have read about the basic tools that will help you keep momentum in staying connected to Jesus. So, don't stop doing the essential things that you have learned so far. Welcome to your new life as a believer in Jesus! Come alongside us on this discipleship path to guide you toward God's plan for your life as you become His committed disciple.

DISCIPLESHIP PATH

WATER BAPTISM

Water baptism is a public demonstration and declaration of an individual's faith in Jesus and his or her desire to follow Him. Baptism is the NEXT STEP in your walk with Jesus. For a better understanding about water baptism and to sign up, visit **victoryatl.com/Baptism**.

FORWARD

No matter who we are or where we are, we all need to move forward. Our Forward class will help you discover how God sees you, and will encourage you to reach the next level in your life and relationship with Him. Class takes place every Sunday at 9am at our Norcross and Hamilton Mill locations. Learn more at **victoryatl.com/Forward**.

10 QUALITIES RESOURCES

Moving people from a believer in Jesus to a disciple of Jesus is at the heart of everything we do at Victory. You can purchase the book, *10: Qualities That Move You From a Believer to a Disciple*, by our Senior Pastor, Dennis Rouse, at **Victory's bookstore** or at **Amazon.com**. There is also a life-changing sermon series we highly recommend you watch at **victoryatl.com/10Qualities**.

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Membership is the starting point to understanding the values and vision of our church. We'll share our story with you—why we do what we do and where we are going. Visit **victoryatl.com/Membership** to register for our next class.

SMALL GROUPS

We all need community. Small groups can help cultivate some of the most important friendships in your life. We have small groups located throughout the metro-Atlanta area. We also have "10" Discipleship Groups that will be ongoing throughout the year and will be filled solely with new believers and those new to Victory. These groups will meet both online and on campus. The topic of study will be the "10" book by our Pastor, Dennis Rouse, so that group members can keep the conversation going and learn more about the heart of Victory. Find a small group at **victoryatl.com/SmallGroups**.

SERVE

We are following the example of Jesus when we serve. There are many opportunities to serve and use your God-given gifts and talents at Victory. Find opportunities and sign up at **victoryatl.com/Serve**.

For other opportunities to connect, visit our website at **<u>victoryatl.com</u>** and explore.

TODAY'S CHALLENGE:

Double down on your decision to come back to church again this weekend! Then browse through the above list, find the one that speaks to you the most (perhaps water baptism) and decide to take the next step in that area.

THE JOURNEY HAS JUST BEGUN

Your first seven days as a follower of Jesus are now in the books. Now what? Your journey is not over. In fact, the journey has just begun! You are a new person, made clean by the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. You have a new relationship with God. You are not who you used to be. You are now a part of the family of God through faith in Jesus. Your life will never be the same! Stay connected to Jesus. Talk to Him. Listen to Him. Prioritize coming to church and gathering in biblical community. Share the Good News of Jesus within your sphere of influence. Then connect to your local church in a way that will help you stay on the right track of following Jesus for the rest of your life.

We're so excited about what God is doing in and through your life. The pastors, staff and your friends at Victory World Church rejoice with you and over you!

If you ever have questions about Victory, your next steps, or about Jesus, contact us at **connections@victoryatl.com**.

Welcome to God's family!

DISCIPLESHIP PATH



