

## Basic Training Lesson 4.3

### The New Life

*2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

1. Introduction
1. **[Lessons]** On Sunday, we studied the New Testament new birth experience, calling it, *Look for the Keys*.
2. We examined how Peter used the keys Jesus gave him to open the door of salvation to Jews, Samaritans, and Gentiles, through one gospel message: faith in the gospel that leads to repenting from our sins, being baptized in Jesus' name, and being filled with the Spirit.
3. After that happens to you, you may get asked by close friends or family, "What has happened to you? You've changed."

4. You should take that as a complement because that is early evidence of this truth: you have found a new life.
5. That is the start of a new walk with God that prepares you to enter heaven.
6. Jesus said a person must be born again to go to heaven:  
*John 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be **born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*
7. Jesus spoke of the “kingdom of God” and the “kingdom of heaven” which are phrases that refer to the church, now and in eternity in heaven.
8. The phrase, “born again” is widely used in religious circles, but what does it mean in the Bible?
9. Jesus answered that important question two verses later:  
*John 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of **water***

*and of the **Spirit**, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

10. As Jesus said, being born again has **two parts [slide]** to it: being born (literally “regenerated”) of
  - a. the water, which refers to something God does inside us when we are baptized in water; and
  - b. of the Spirit, which refers to God putting His Spirit inside us when we receive the Holy Ghost.
11. If you were baptized in water in the name of Jesus, then you have been born of the water. When you took that step of faith, God removed your sins by placing His sacrificial atoning blood on your soul.
12. If you have received the gift of the Holy Ghost and the Spirit spoke through you in other tongues, then you have been born of the Spirit.

13. If you lack either of these two parts, remember, Jesus said both births are part of being born again.
14. If you have been born of water and of the Spirit, then you have been born again according to the scriptures and can enter into the kingdom of God.

II. A new beginning

A. Jesus regenerated you

1. Now that you have been born again, you have been given a new beginning by Jesus Christ.

*2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature [creation, person]: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

2. *Old things passed away* refers to your old worldly ways before the Spirit came into your heart. Your old sinful life died and got buried with Jesus when you repented and were baptized.

3. When the preacher baptized you by putting you under water in the name of Jesus, that physical action also had an invisible spiritual impact.
4. That baptism put your sins (old things) under the blood of Jesus that He gave when He died as a sacrifice (atonement) for sin on the cross. Then when you came out of the water, your sins remained under the blood.

*Rom 6:3-4*

*3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?*

*4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should **walk in newness of life.***

5. That is your new life—clean, forgiven, and free from past sins.

6. And when you were filled with the Spirit, that Spirit walked you right into a newness of life.
7. While the devil and some people may try to drag up your past, you must not forget that Jesus Christ forgave you by dying for you and atoning you.
8. So when the devil does try to remind you what a sinner you were, remind him that he has to go into the blood of Jesus to touch your sins.
9. Something the devil knows that you also need to know, is that he must bow down to Jesus Christ and respect His blood because it conquered him.
10. And when we know that, the good news is that we can stand on that same authority and make the devil flee from us when stand on Jesus' authority:  
*James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

11. Your new birth is a holy thing. Your first birth was a natural birth that will end one day, but when you were born again, that was a supernatural birth, and that life will never end:

*1 Peter 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*

B. Jesus is the new authority

1. It is important to know that as we break away from our old life, that we are no longer controlled by our old sinful habits or the devil.
2. The hold that the devil had on you, “he ain’t got no more.” His dominion ended. Jesus made it clear:  
*Matthew 28:18 ... All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*
3. And he gave some of that power to His born-again children to use over the devil. It

changes the dynamics of how we confront the devil from now on:

*Luke 10:18-19*

*18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.*

*19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.*

4. You no longer are under the command and authority of the devil.
  5. But get this...the devil is now under your authority.
  6. With Jesus as your new boss, when the devil bugs you, you can say it like Jesus did: “Get behind me satan.” Or better yet, “Get out of here satan!”
- c. The Holy Ghost gives a new nature
1. Most of us can look back at our old life and recognize that we were nothing like Jesus—not even close.



2. Early in our walk with God, it is not uncommon to ask, “How can I change? How can I be different? How can I be, look, and act more like a Christian?”
3. One of the added benefits of having the Holy Ghost is also having power to be different:  
*Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me [my witness] both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*
4. Your life may have been a witness of wickedness, immorality and iniquity, but because you now have the Holy Ghost, the Holy Ghost power in you a witness of Jesus—in other words, you begin to look and act more like Jesus.
5. As we mentioned, your new power-filled life will cause people to say, “Hey, what’s

changed about you? You look different somehow.”

6. You can joyfully answer, “Jesus has entered my life and began changing me from the inside out.”
7. You will be a witness unto Him, showing how God’s power works through you.
8. The power that God put inside of you is literally making you into something different than you were—you are becoming God’s child.

*John 1:12 But as many as **received him**, to them **gave he power** to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*

9. So rather than driven by the pursuit of one empty thrill after another, the Spirit in you is working to lead you:

*Romans 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*

### III. Three Basic Nutrients

1. Now that you are in a new family as a child of God, you will see miraculous change in you over time as you give room for the Spirit to work in you.
2. But that miracle also requires your participation.
3. You don't want to slip back into your old routines and lose what you have gained. You need the strength of the Spirit to learn how to live in victory.
4. To get and keep that strength, there are three basic nutrients [**slide-three basic nutrients**] that you must have in your spiritual diet. Those things are: **daily prayer; daily Bible reading, and consistent church attendance.**
  - A. Daily Prayer
    1. A simple definition of prayer is that it is communication with God.
    2. For any relationship to be successful there must be regular communication.

3. If you want to have a happy marriage, you must learn to communicate on a regular basis. A marriage without communication is doomed to failure.
4. The success of your new relationship with God also depends on regular communication.
5. If you don't know how to pray, we have a prayer guide available that can help you get started that is based on a pattern for prayer that Jesus provided in Matthew 6:9-13.
6. People call it the Lord's prayer but it is really a guide for how we are to pray.

*Matthew 6:9-13*

*9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.*

*10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.*

*11 Give us this day our daily bread.*

*12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

*13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.*

7. Notice that Jesus didn't say to recite these words, but to pray after this manner. That means, use it as a pattern.
8. But if you are just starting out, don't get bogged down by a pattern. Prayer is talking to God. You don't need a pattern for that. Just speak out loud to Jesus about whatever concerns you. Jesus is listening.
9. Whether you use a prayer guide or not, and whatever time you do it, just be faithful to do it daily.
10. The prayer times you will feel are the best times in prayer, are those times when you feel that you connected to God. The secret to effective praying is two words: "do it." Or perhaps three words, "do it often."
11. Start with 5 minutes, then move to 10. Move it on up as you learn how to open

your heart to God. You can talk with your best friend for an hour and you wonder where the time went. And that is what Jesus wants with you.

B. Daily Bible reading

1. The Bible is the Word of God and is the food that our soul requires to survive. Sunday morning's Basic Training we begin a few lessons on the importance of the Bible, so be her Sunday.
2. You may never hear God's audible voice speak with you, and that is OK.
3. But because you have received the Holy Ghost, and because the Holy Ghost is the author of the Bible, the Spirit will make the Bible new to you.
4. When you open up the Bible to read, God will make this several thousand year old Book come alive as if it were a text message from God written to you this morning about what you will face today.

5. This Book is your key to your spiritual success and a pure life:  
*Psalms 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way [maintain a pure life]? by taking heed thereto [guarding it] according to [by obeying] thy word.*
6. We can find a clear path and find godly direction through the Word of God.
7. When we read, meditate on, and memorize the Word, we are putting it in our heart so that contributes to our success as a new Christian:  
*Psalms 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.*
8. Bible reading charts are available to help you get on a schedule and to track your Bible reading progress. If you have a smartphone, you can download the **YouVersion Bible app [slide]** that puts the Word on the phone and you can start a reading plan and can have it read out loud to you.

9. But even without a chart, you can start with one of the gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke or John. Then read the Book of Acts which follows those four.
  10. Read at least a chapter every day. Four or five chapters a day will get you through the entire Bible in a year.
  11. How long do you think it takes to read the Bible through? The average reader (about 250 words a minute) can read the Bible cover to cover in about 53 hours. <sup>1</sup>
  12. Set aside time in each day for prayer and Bible reading. You will find yourself receiving much spiritual strength through that time and will feel as though you heard from God.
- c. Consistent Church Attendance
1. The three basic nutrients of a successful Christian are prayer, Bible reading, and third, consistent church attendance.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://thebibleanswer.org/long-take-read-bible-one-sitting/>



2. You won't be successful in your new life if you are a Christian CEO: Christmas and Easter only.
3. You won't be successful as a Christian if you are only a 9-1-1 Christian, meaning you only call on God when in crisis.
4. While some people believe that going to church once a week is ok, I wonder if those same people believe that eating only one meal a week is ok? You would surely grow weak.
5. Being at the house of God at every opportunity that you can will build your spiritual strength.
6. Maybe it's just cleaning day, but you will be blessed in cleaning toilets and vacuuming at the church. If it is Bible study night, you will be blessed to be there. If it is an outreach effort, you will be blessed to be there.
7. In the Old Testament, God told Moses that when they came to the land of promise, there would be a place of gathering for

worship. God commanded the people to gather there for worship:

*Deut 12:5 But unto the place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and **thither thou shalt come:***

8. When the early church had was in its infancy, they were gathering daily (Acts 2:42-47).
9. As the days progress closer and closer to the coming of the Lord, we need to make certain that we are faithful to God's house: *Heb 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*
10. In the church we have opportunities to pray together, to worship together, to hear each other's testimonies, to hear preaching, and to fellowship with one another. And in that, we find comfort and edification:

*1 Thess 5:11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.*

D. Coming together

1. Let us look at some words in that verse.

**[slide]**

2. The word “**comfort**” in that verse comes from two Greek words, para, and kaleo. Literally that means to call near, or come along side, to speak to, to comfort, instruct.
3. The church is called to come alongside one another for the sake of finding comfort.
4. The word “**edify**” is the Greek word oikodomos, which literally means to build a house, as an architect.
5. The phrase, “**yourselves together**” comes from one Greek word, allelon, meaning each other, one another, together.
6. So a literal translation of this verse is:  
gather together, come alongside other

believers for the purpose of comfort, growth, and building up.

7. The word **allelon** shows up **100 times [fast slides]** in the New Testament calling Christians to come together to: love one another, be kindly affectioned to one another, prefer one another, be of the same mind one toward another, edify one another, receive one another, admonish one another, salute one another, greet one another, tarry for one another, care for one another, serve one another, bear one another's burdens, forbearing one another, be kind to one another, submit to one another, pray for one another, have fellowship with one another, use hospitality one to another.
8. How can we do those things together without gathering together?
9. Be faithful to God's house. It is part of your spiritual survival plan.

#### IV. Warning and Help

##### A. Warning

1. We will conclude with a warning.
2. Although the Lord is thrilled you are His child, and it gives Him great pleasure, and the angels and all heaven rejoiced when you repented;
3. And although the church is thrilled about your new life, and your pastor is turning cartwheels inside with joy;
4. Understand that the devil will work hard to stop your forward progress in serving Jesus, because he lost you as a faithful follower.
5. The scripture warns us to on the lookout for his attack:  
*1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*
6. He will likely entice people, like family, friends, or co-workers, to try to discourage

you and even condemn you for becoming “holier than thou”, or a “holy roller,” or a “religious fanatic.”

7. He may attempt to turn up the power on temptations that he sends your way to try to make you stumble into sin and discourage you to the point of wanting to give up on the idea of turning your life to God.
8. Just understand that if you weren't feeling all those things, the devil wouldn't be doing his job.
9. The Bible calls new saints, “babes in Christ”. When babies are learning to walk, they do a lot of stumbling, but eventually they learn to walk because they just keep getting up. Just keep getting up!

B. Help

1. You need to know that you are not alone.

2. There is a group of people who are dedicating prayer hours praying for your success.
3. We care for you and you can call any time. You can call on a church member or your pastor.
4. We are a family. And as such, we care for one another and want to see you succeed. Welcome to the family!