

*You decided to
follow Jesus!*

WHAT'S NEXT?

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Congratulations!

If you are holding this guide, it means you have made the life-changing decision to follow Jesus—and we could not be more thankful to walk alongside you in this journey.

Choosing to follow Christ is an incredible step. You may be wondering: *What comes next?*

First, know that you are not alone. You have a community of pastors, leaders, and friends who are here to encourage you, celebrate with you, and support you as you grow in your faith.

Second, we want you to reflect on and remember this moment. Understanding the significance of your decision will help you stay grounded as you continue to follow Jesus. The questions provided here will guide you in capturing your thoughts and experiences.

Finally, we want to help you take your next steps with Jesus. There are many ways to get connected, deepen your understanding of your faith, and actively live it out. We are here to walk with you, pray with and for you, and cheer you on every step of the way.

We're honored to be part of your journey.

The Willow Staff



Need a Bible?

If you don't have a Bible, we'd love to give you one. Just let us know! You can download the YouVersion Bible app to get a digital Bible and devotionals.

We also have a reading plan to help you know where to start reading in the Bible, as well as other resources to help you grow in your faith alongside the messages shared in our Sunday services.

Visit willowcreek.org/faith for links, resources, and next steps.

Your Decision

The following pages include Bible passages and questions to help you reflect on the Good News of Jesus. We sum this up in five words: God, Sin, Jesus, Gift, and Restore.



God

We were all created in God's image to live in relationship with Him, and He declared His creation to be good (Genesis 1:27, 1:31).

REFLECTION: As you think about yourself as a new creation—redeemed, loved, and adopted by God—which of these truths speaks to your heart the most right now?

Sin

Because of sin, our relationship with God was broken. Sin is any choice, attitude, or action that separates us from God and His plan for our lives (Romans 3:23; Romans 5:12).

REFLECTION: What is something in your life, past or present, that is keeping you from God's healing and transformation?

Jesus

Jesus Christ died on the cross and rose from the grave to pay the price for our sins and restore humanity's relationship with God (John 3:16; 1 John 4:9-10).

REFLECTION: Have you chosen to receive the forgiveness and new life that Jesus offers? If so, how does this restored relationship with God impact you today?

Gift

Forgiveness and eternal life are gifts freely offered by Jesus. This grace is not something we can earn through our own efforts (Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9).

REFLECTION: How does knowing you are loved and forgiven without having to earn it shape your view of God and yourself?

Restore

Jesus' work continues today, and He invites us to join Him in His mission to bring restoration to the world (Matthew 28:18-20).

REFLECTION: Where do you sense God actively at work in your life and in the world around you?



Starting Your Journey with Jesus

Walking with Jesus is a life-long journey. But what does it look like in the day-to-day? Below are some common questions and practical ways you can continue to grow in your faith.

Now that I have accepted Christ, does that mean I have to be perfect and never sin again? Do I need to “re-accept” Jesus every time I fail?

No. We are all imperfect people. While we seek to follow God’s plan for our lives, His grace and forgiveness remain when we fall short. Your decision to follow Jesus is not temporary—it marks the beginning of a permanent relationship with Him.

What is the Bible? Why is it important?

The Bible is God’s Word, telling the story of His work in the world and among His people—including us. Through it, we come to know who God is, what He is like, and what it means to live as His followers. We have multiple articles available on willowcreek.org/faith that unpack how the Bible is composed and how to read it!

Are God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit the same?

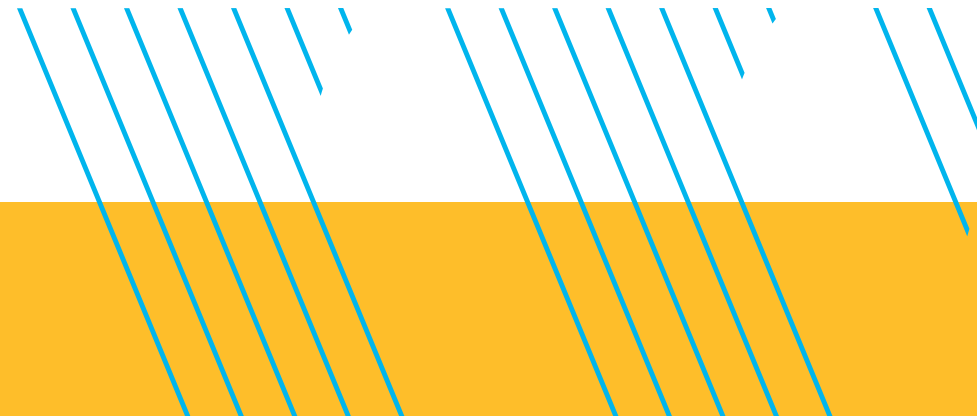
Yes. God exists as the Trinity: God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit lives within believers, guiding, teaching, and shaping us to become more like Christ.

How can I continue to grow in my relationship with Jesus?

READ THE BIBLE: Begin with the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) which tell the story of Jesus’ life, teachings, and ministry.

JOIN A FAITH COMMUNITY: Rooted is a great first step. Rooted is a 10-week group discipleship experience, offered three times a year, where you’ll learn and practice spiritual rhythms. You can also join another group or serving team. Regardless of the step you choose, surround yourself with people who will encourage you and walk alongside you in your spiritual growth.

PRAY: Prayer is a direct conversation with God. Through prayer, we invite Him into our daily lives, seek His guidance, and bring our needs before Him.



What's Next?

There are a number of next steps you can take on your journey. Here are a few:

JOIN A GROUP

At Willow, groups are about loving God, loving people, and changing the world in community. They're a place to connect over a shared interest, passion, or vision as you practice the rhythms of faith together. And hopefully, you'll experience transformation and find new ways to live out your God-given gifts to make a difference in our world! Whatever stage of life you find yourself in, from young adults to retirement and beyond, we have groups for you.

willowcreek.org/groups

GET BAPTIZED

Baptism is an opportunity to share with your community about the decision you've made to place your faith in Jesus. Our hope for you is that once you've understood what it means to be a Jesus follower, you can follow that up with the personal decision of Baptism.

willowcreek.org/baptism

JOIN A SERVING TEAM

Serving is an opportunity to give back, make a difference, and use the gifts and talents God has given you to step into your purpose. We have plenty of opportunities based on your passions, skill, and talents.

willowcreek.org/serve

ATTEND DISCOVER WILLOW

Whether you're new to Willow or have been around but are feeling disconnected, this experience is for you. Over lunch, you'll get to meet our pastors, learn practical ways to grow closer to Jesus, and hear firsthand stories of how God is working in and through our church.

willowcreek.org/discover

Meet with Someone!

We'd love to connect with you and keep the conversation going!

Name: _____

Contact info: _____



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