

# Truths and Guidelines

When you have accepted the promise of John 1 verse 12 you know that, according to this promise you are a child of God. This is a precious privilege. The following Guidelines and Truths will help you to grow spiritually.

## 1. ETERNAL LIFE

When you commit your life to Christ you receive the assurance from the Bible that you have now inherited eternal life. A spiritual birth has taken place in your life which is the start of a new life called eternal life. (*John 3 verse 36*)

## 2. WITNESS with a TESTIMONY

Share your experience of becoming a child of God with someone as soon as possible (*Romans 10 verse 9 and 10*)

## 3. CONVERSION AND RESTITUTION

Conversion has two meanings: Firstly a renewing of your mind (*Romans 12 verse 2*). Thus an internal change.

Secondly conversion, which means 'to turn 180 degrees around'. (*John 21 verse 20 and Acts 9 verse 35*) - an external change. The internal and external change are different sides of the same coin. The one is impossible without the other. Go and put it right where you have wronged against someone. (*James 5 verse 16*) Zacchaeus' life was changed by Jesus and he declared 'if I have wrongfully exacted aught of any man, I restore fourfold' (*Luke 19 verse 8*).

## 4. LIBERATED FROM THE JUDGEMENT

You have been declared innocent by Jesus (*Romans 8 verse 1; John 5 verse 24*)

## 5. SECURITY OF FAITH

Once a child of God, always a child of God (*John 10 verse 28*). Jesus declared your eternal protection as guarantee and a promise.

## 6. THE PRESENCE OF JESUS

Imagine: Jesus is present in your life from now onwards by his Spirit, the Holy Spirit (*Galatians 4 verse 6*). Everywhere you go He is with you.

#### 7. A POWERFUL LIFE

Jesus provides you with his power that equips you to attain the impossible (*Philippians 4 verse 13*). That includes victory over previous sins which caused humiliation.

#### 8. DAILY COMMITMENT

Daily recommit your life to Jesus Christ as you did for the first time (*Romans 6 verse 13; Romans 12 verse 1*)

#### 9. THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

You have to bear the fruit of the Spirit in your life (*Matthew 3 verse 8*). 'Do those things that will show that you have turned from your sins.'

It is of paramount importance that you bear the fruit of the Spirit in your life by your words and your deeds (*Galatians 5 verse 22*)

#### 10. NOT WITHOUT SIN

Life never ceases to be a struggle (*Galatians 5 verse 17*). Whenever you fall, get up and repent your sins to Jesus and continue to walk in his grace.

#### 11. DAILY BIBLE STUDY / READING

It is very important to spend time to read or study your bible. (*1 Peter 2 verse 2*). Get into the habit of rising early to spend time with the Lord. Also, In the evening before you go to sleep, make time for the Lord to speak to you through the bible.

#### 12. A REGULAR PRAYER LIFE

It is a great privilege to meet Jesus in prayer and quiet time and to share your heart, knowing that He listens to you. (*Matthew 6 verse 6*). Talk to Him as you talk to a friend. Also, consider to join a prayer group where you can pray with other Christians.

#### 13. MUTUAL SUPPORT OF OTHER CHRISTIANS

Make a sincere effort to connect with other believers. Join them regularly for worship and fellowship. (*Hebrews 10 verse 25*). Spiritual growth in Christ often takes place in conjunction with other followers of Christ.

#### 14. A NEW GOAL IN LIFE

Whatever you do or speak, do it to the glory of God (*1 Corinthians 10 verse 31*).

#### 15. EXPECT OPPOSITION

The testimony a follower of Christ Jesus always brings reaction from people. They might criticise you, laugh at you, mock you, and tease

you. (*Acts 2 verse 13*). Do not hesitate or retreat when that happens. Stand firm in your faith in Christ Jesus and persevere. Do not allow yourself to be demoralised by anyone.

#### 16. FEELINGS

The emotions and feelings of followers of Christ are precious entities, but the devil will try to mislead a christian especially in this field as he did with Jesus. At certain stages he will try to point out that your feelings have changed - that you don't experience the same feelings as you had on the day you accepted Christ. This is one big hoax. Do not trust your feelings, do not believe the devil!. You received assurance of faith, not assurance of feelings! You trusted Jesus according to his promise to make you his child according to *John 1 verse 12*. The peace and positive feelings you probably experienced when you surrendered your life to Christ were based on faith. Therefore, do not make feelings your base. Stand in faith on the Lord's promise.

May the Lord bless you on his journey with you. May you be a blessing to many other people!

*Ernesto*