

神的好消息

THE GOOD NEWS FROM GOD

——从一个全新的视角 带您认识基督
教、圣经、教会与生命

A Fresh Perspective on The Bible,
Christianity, Church and Life

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Introduction

There are 2 groups of people for whom this book was written —those who are looking for answers to basic questions about the Bible, Christianity, church, and the abundant life, and those who already have answers, but are looking for, perhaps, a better way to share that knowledge with others.

The first group is made up of people who are ready to learn: some who now have small children at home and feel a need for direction, and a change in lifestyle, to properly raise those children; some who have experienced one or more difficult, life-changing events, such as a divorce, the loss of a job, radical health issues or the death of a loved one; and it has awakened them to the need to find God. For whatever reason, they are just ready to make a change and are seeking guidance.

The second group is made up of good-hearted Christian people who want to share the Gospel, but are uncomfortable doing so. It may be that, though they understand the Bible well enough for themselves, they feel inadequate in their ability to teach others.

引言

本书较适合于两种人群——一种是正在寻找有关圣经、基督教、教会以及丰盛的生命等问题之答案的人们；另一种是已经知道答案但希望找到更佳的方式与他人分享这些信息的人们。

前者由一些乐意学习的人组成：他们中间有些刚刚为人父母，感觉自己需要得到指引并且改变以往的生活方式，以便合宜地养育儿女；或者有些人刚经历过生命中的一个或多个转折点，比如离婚、失业、身患重病或者失去至亲；这些经历唤醒了他们内心对于神的渴求与找寻。尽管他们渴望学习的动因不尽相同，但是他们都迫切希望改变现状，并且正在寻求指引。

后者由一些好心的基督徒组成：他们希望与人分享福音，但却感觉不自在。这或许是因为他们虽然自身谙熟圣经，但是总觉得自己能力欠缺不足以去教导他人。

They may be hesitant to intrude into someone's life for fear that they may cause offense. They don't want to be pests and create a rift in personal or professional relationships, but would like to share God's good message with those who are lost.

This book was created to fill a need by putting all the key information into one, easy-to-follow, easy-to-understand, and easy-to-share format.

With this book, the person seeking a better way will not only find clear, concise answers to their questions about how it all fits together, but will receive guidance on the best way to move forward after he or she has received that basic information.

With this book, the more knowledgeable believer will no longer have to worry about what to say. By making this book available to others, perhaps just by leaving it on a table or giving it as a gift, the seed will automatically make its way to the good soil that has been prepared to receive it — without creating offense.

他们可能会因为想到要介入别人的生活而倍感踌躇，担心这样做会冒犯他人。他们一方面不想招人讨厌，或者与朋友或同事产生隔阂，但另一方面又希望与迷失的人们分享神的好消息。

本书的编写恰是为了契合这两种人群的需要，它将所有关键信息以简明、易懂、便于分享的方式呈现给读者。

对于那些正在找寻更佳生活方式的人们而言，本书提供的基本信息不仅可以为他们生活的整合提供简洁明了的答案，而且还可以为他们指明方向，促使他们朝着最好的方向迈步。

对于了解圣经的信徒而言，有了这本书他们便不必再担心该说些什么。他们可以向身边的人提供接触这本书的机会，比如将此书搁在桌上，或者作为礼物送人。书中的信息对于那些预备好要接受它的人们而言，不仅不会引发争议，反而会像种子一样扎根在他们肥沃的心田里。

So, whether you are someone who is ready to learn about godly things for the first time, or a knowledgeable Christian looking for an effective way to share the good news, this book is for you. May it bless your life abundantly.

总之，无论出于何种原因——因为乐意接触并学习有关神的事情，或者因为自身已经了解圣经但还希望找到一种有效的方式分享福音——这本书就是为您而写的。愿本书能为您的生命带去丰盛的赐福。

1 Everlasting Life

What is possibly the most quoted scripture in the Bible says, "*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life*" (John 3:16).

“Everlasting life!” We like the sound of that—especially when we consider that it will take place in heaven where there will be no sorrow or pain. “No more suffering.” That sounds very appealing.

In the end, our goal as Christians is to have that everlasting life and to help as many other people as we can to have it too. But our goal is not *just* about “in the end.”

It is also about “in the mean time,” and “right now.” Jesus addressed that as well. He told us in John’s gospel that he *came that we may have life, and that we may have it abundantly* (John 10:10).

1 永生

圣经中最常被人引用的一段经文可能要数约翰福音3:16：“神爱世人，甚至将他的独生子赐给他们，叫一切信他的，不至灭亡，反得永生。”

“永生！”这是个多么美妙的词语！每当想到天堂中的永生，想到那里没有痛苦悲伤，我们是何等的欢喜。“苦痛不再有”，这是多么令人向往的事啊。

基督徒有着一个共同的目标，就是希望最终能得着永恒的生命，并且尽可能帮助更多的人得着永生。但是这一目标不仅仅关系到“最终”的生命而已。

它也让我们关注“眼前”和“当下”的生命。对此，耶稣曾有过教导。他藉着《约翰福音》告诉我们，他“来了，是要叫人得生命，并且得的更丰盛”（约翰福音10:10）。

He was talking about having the abundant life now; a life of joy and peace and love, in spite of the problems we face on a daily basis; not just after we pass on to the next level.

So how does one sign up for this abundant life and salvation? Before we get to that, we need to lay a little ground work. Hopefully we can put it in a way that will make it clear.

First, let's look at a few things about the Bible, because it is through this wonderful book that we can learn the answers to so many questions, including those about life and salvation.

耶稣是在告诉我们，现在就可以得着丰盛的生命；尽管我们每天都会遇到各种问题，但我们依旧可以享有充满喜乐、平安与仁爱的生命；我们不需要等到“下辈子”才拥有这样的生命。

那么，人们该如何才能得着救赎，获得这丰盛的生命呢？在查看答案之前，我们有必要先了解一些基本的信息。希望接下来的内容能让您读起来感觉清楚易懂。

首先，让我们来看看关于圣经的一些事情。在这本奇妙的书中，我们可以了解到许多问题的答案，其中就包括生命与救赎。

2 The Bible

Putting it plainly, the Bible is the inspired word of God. This means that, ultimately, God is the author, though he did use the pens of men to write it.

Though the Bible looks like one big book, it is actually a collection of sixty-six smaller books pulled together into one collection. These books contain a variety of styles, or genres. They generally fall into categories like history, prophecy, poetry, wisdom, literature or epistles (which means “letters”), just to name a few.

The Bible was written over a period of about 1500 years in three different languages (Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic). It was written on three different continents (Africa, Asia and Europe) by about forty different authors.

As you can imagine, these authors came from a variety of backgrounds. There were shepherds, kings, prophets, fishermen, doctors, and others. Most of them never knew one another personally.

Amazingly, this collection of books share a common storyline about the creation, the fall and the redemption of God’s people.

2 圣经

简单地讲，圣经就是神所默示的话语。因此，虽然圣经是出自蒙神使用之人的笔下，但真正的作者是神。

圣经看起来像是一本大书，但它其实是由六十六卷小书合成的一部文集。这些书卷有着不同的文体风格，大体可分为历史书、先知书、诗歌、智慧文学，以及教牧书信等。

圣经的写作时间跨度大约是1500年，该书使用到了三种语言（希伯来语、希腊语和亚拉姆语），其作者共四十来位，分处于三个大洲（非洲、亚洲和欧洲）。

可以想象，这些作者的身份是何等的不同。他们中有牧羊人、君王、先知、渔夫、医生等等。这些人绝大多数都素未谋面。

令人称奇的是，该文集中的各卷书均有着相同的情节主线，比如创造世界、人类的堕落以及神的子民得救赎等。

They also share a common theme, about God’s amazing love for all of humanity; and a common message, about salvation being available to all who repent of their sins and commit to following God with all of their heart.

In addition to sharing these commonalities, these sixty-six books do not contain any historical errors or contradictions.

God’s word truly is an amazing collection of writings. Can you imagine putting sixty-six different books together that were written over a 1500 year time period by so many people from so many backgrounds and having them all fit together without error or contradiction?

It certainly is a masterpiece. It is the work and the word of the *true* master, God.

Two Main Sections

The Bible is divided into two main sections. The first section, called the “Old Testament,” is made up of thirty-nine books. These books deal with God’s relationship to man before the coming of Jesus.

这些书讲述的是同一个主题——神对全人类的奇异仁爱，它们传递着同一个信息——凡悔改自己的罪，并且愿意全心全意委身跟随神的人，都可以得着救赎。

除这些共同点外，这六十六卷书中的文字不存在任何历史性的错误抑或与史实不符。

神的话语真是一本令人叫绝的著作集。您能否想象得到，这部由六十六卷书汇成的文集，是在长达1500年的时间里，由诸多来自不同背景的人所写，而所有这些文字竟然毫无差错，也没有相互冲突的地方！

圣经绝对是一部经典之作。它是神这位*真正*的大师留下的文字和著作。

圣经的两大部分

圣经分为两个部分。第一部分叫作“旧约”，由三十九卷书组成。这些书主要讲述耶稣降生之前人与神的关系。

The second section, the “New Testament,” is made up of twenty-seven books and begins with “the gospels” (which means “the good news”) including **Matthew, Mark, Luke** and **John**.

These tell about Jesus’ life here on earth, from birth to death, and then his resurrection and ascension back into heaven.

After that comes the book of **Acts**. It tells us about the establishment of the church here on earth. This is where you will find the most examples of baptisms.

Next comes the largest group of books, twenty-one in all, called “**the epistles**.” These were actually letters written to the various churches, or individuals in the churches, to help them better understand how to serve God and how to treat one another in a Godly way.

The final book is called **The Revelation**. It talks about the end times and heaven.

As Christians, we study the scriptures, sometimes daily, to try to better understand how God, our creator, wants us, the created, to live. We know that he loves us and wants the very best for us. And it is here, in “the word,” that we seek his answers to guide us.

圣经的第二部分叫作“新约”，由二十七卷书组成。其中首先是“福音书”（福音即有福的音讯，意指“好消息”）包括《马太福音》、《马可福音》、《路加福音》以及《约翰福音》。

这四卷书讲述的是耶稣在世期间（即他从降世到死亡及至复活并升回到天上）的生平事迹。

福音书之后是《使徒行传》。这卷书告诉了我们，教会诞生于世的过程。在这卷书里，我们将看到大量关于受浸的事例。

接下来的二十一卷书形成了圣经中阵容最为庞大的一组书卷，它们被称为“**教牧书信**”。这些书实际上是写给不同教会或教会里的个人的书信，目的是为了帮助他们更好地理解应该如何服侍神，如何虔敬地对待彼此。

最后一卷书是《启示录》。它讲述了末日以及天堂的景象。

作为基督徒，我们会研习圣经，甚至天天如此。我们努力去更好地理解，神我们的造物主希望我们这些被造之物如何去生活。我们知道，祂爱我们，祂给我们的预备总是最好的。我们要在圣经中，在“神的话语”中，寻找祂给予我们的答案和指引。

Now, let's get back to the life and salvation issues—according to the Bible.

Please note: A significant portion of the description of the Bible in the first half of this chapter was derived from an article found at <http://www.christianministriesintl.org/articles/Bible-the-Inspired-Word-of-God.php>. Used with Permission.

现在我们可以回到生命与救赎的问题了。这一次我们要从圣经中寻找答案。

注：本章节前半部分有关圣经的描述相当一部分节选自某网站刊登的一篇文章，经得同意允许使用。该网址如下：
<http://www.christianministriesintl.org/articles/Bible-the-Inspired-Word-of-God.php>.

3 In the Beginning

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. He also created man, starting with Adam and Eve. You can read all about this in the book of Genesis, the first book in the Bible.

At first, God's relationship with Adam and Eve was perfect, because they trusted him totally and they obeyed him in every way.

He placed them in the Garden of Eden, which was awesome! It was full of all kinds of beautiful trees that were loaded with delicious fruit. Adam's only job in the Garden was to tend it and keep it.

God gave him, and Eve, a lot of freedom, and only one restriction. They were not allowed to eat the fruit from one special tree in the middle of the garden—the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Satan (the devil) didn't really like this happy arrangement between God and man. From early on he made it his mission to destroy that relationship. When he tempted Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit, she gave in and even convinced Adam to go along with her.

3 起初

起初，神创造了天地，也创造了人类的始祖亚当和夏娃。有关这些事情的记载可以在圣经的第一卷书《创世记》中找到。

一开始，神与亚当和夏娃的关系甚是完美，因为二人完全信靠着神，并且凡事都顺服神。

神将他们安置在伊甸园里，那里简直妙极了！园子里到处都是漂亮的树木，树上结满了可口的果实。亚当唯一要完成的工作就是打理和看管这个园子。

神赐予亚当和夏娃诸多的自由，同时也给了他们唯一的一条禁令。园子当中有一棵特别的树，树上的果子是他们不能吃的，这棵树就是分辨善恶的树。

可是，撒但（魔鬼）着实不喜欢神与人之间的这种美好约定。他很早就把破坏人与神的关系作为自己的使命。因此，他诱惑夏娃去吃禁果，而夏娃果真从了他，并且还说服亚当同她一起吃。

As a result, God's relationship with man changed. A rift, caused by disobedience, had occurred.

As a consequence, God put Adam and Eve out of the garden and would not let them return. This not only meant that their living quarters had dropped off a notch, but it also meant that they could no longer eat of that other tree that God had also placed in the garden—the tree of life. From that time forward, their days would be numbered.

God also caused Adam (and mankind in general) to have to work hard in the fields to feed himself and his family. From that point on, thorns and thistles sprang forth from the ground, adding to the difficulties man would experience.

God also made it so that childbearing would be very painful for Eve and the mothers to follow.

The harmony was gone. There was separation from God. There was pain and suffering. It was, truly, "Paradise Lost."

But God's love for Adam and Eve was still there. It did not change. And he loved their descendants. He longed to restore the broken relationship between himself and man. He longed to restore eternal life to his earthly children.

结果，神与人的关系就此发生改变。人的不顺服致使人神之间的关系出现破裂。

最终，神将亚当和夏娃逐出了伊甸园，并且不许他们回来。这不仅仅表示他们生活的环境会变差，同时也意味着，他们再也无法吃到神在园子里所种的另一棵树——生命树上的果子了。从那以后，他们的寿数开始一天一天减少。

神使亚当（以及整个人类）不得不在田里辛勤耕作才能喂饱自己和家人。从那一刻起，土地里长出了荆棘和蒺藜，使得人的劳作变得更为艰苦。

此外，神使得夏娃以及所有母亲在分娩的时候都必受痛楚。

人神之间的和谐已不再有。从此，人与神相互隔绝。世上有了痛苦和磨难。真可谓是“失乐园”啊！

尽管如此，神对亚当和夏娃的爱一如往昔。这爱未曾改变。神也爱他们的子孙。神渴望修复祂与人之间的破碎关系。祂渴望将永生再次交给祂在世上的儿女们。

But being totally just (as in “justice”), he couldn’t do that without someone having to pay the price for their sins.

Over time, Adam and Eve and their descendants populated the earth. You can read about a lot of these descendants in the first two books of the Bible, Genesis and Exodus.

然而，由于神是全然公义的神，祂不能眼见人类因犯罪而欠下罪债却任其不了了之。

随着时间的推移，亚当和夏娃以及他们后代在世上不断繁衍，生养众多。您可以在圣经的第一、二卷书——《创世记》和《出埃及记》中读到许多关于这些后代的记载。

4 After the Fall

Abraham

Though there were several key figures in those early days, one of the main ones was a man named Abraham. He was very special because of his faith. He trusted God greatly in spite of very difficult situations.

Because of his great faith, God promised to Abraham that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the heavens and that, through his seed, all the nations of the earth would be blessed.

Though Abraham didn't know it at the time, the seed by which all the nations of the earth were going to be blessed was Jesus.

Abraham and his wife Sarah were childless for most of a hundred years. They eventually had a son, Isaac, who later had two sons of his own, Esau and Jacob.

Jacob (and his son, Joseph)

Jacob, whose name God eventually changed to Israel, had twelve sons. One of his youngest sons, Joseph, was his favorite, which made the brothers jealous.

4 堕落之后

亚伯拉罕

虽然在早先的日子里出现过数位重要的人物，但亚伯拉罕显然首屈一指。他之所以非常特别，是因为他的信心。他深深信靠着神，即使遇到非常困难的处境也毫不动摇。

因着亚伯拉罕伟大的信心，神向他许诺，他的子孙必多如天上的繁星，藉着他的后裔，世上的万族都要得福。

当时亚伯拉罕还不明白，这位将要使世上的万族得福的后裔就是耶稣。

亚伯拉罕和他的妻子撒拉结婚近百年来，一直未能得子。后来他们终于有了儿子以撒。以撒婚后有了两个儿子，以扫和雅各。

雅各（和他的儿子约瑟）

雅各（神最终将他的名字改为以色列）有十二个儿子。他们中较小的一个名叫约瑟，是雅各的最爱，这也引来了其他弟兄的嫉妒。

When they had the chance, the brothers sold Joseph to some slave traders who were passing through on their way to Egypt.

After a series of amazing events in which he was elevated to a position of leadership and power, Joseph predicted, with God's guidance, that there would soon be seven years of plentiful harvests followed by seven years of severe famine.

As a result of this information, Pharaoh (the king) put Joseph in charge of building barns and storing up the grain during the good years to prepare for the lack of grain during the hard times that would follow.

When the famine arrived, Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of distributing the grain to the people. Not only did the Egyptian people need grain, but others from neighboring lands did as well.

When Joseph's father, Jacob, heard of the availability of grain in Egypt, he sent his sons to buy some for his large and growing clan.

一天，这些弟兄遇到了几个前往埃及去的奴隶商贩，便趁机把约瑟卖给了他们。

在历经了一系列奇异的事件之后，约瑟的地位得到抬升，有了领导的大权。他在神的指引下预言，在七个丰收年之后，将出现七年的严重饥荒。

得知这一信息后，法老（国王）便指派约瑟负责修建粮仓，并在丰收之年囤积谷物，以应对接下来的艰难时期将会出现的粮食短缺问题。

当灾荒发生时，法老派约瑟负责将粮食分发给百姓。而此时，不仅埃及百姓需要粮食，周边国家的人们也同样需要。

约瑟的父亲雅各听到埃及有粮食的消息，便打发他的儿子们去购粮，以便供养他日益庞大的家族。

When the brothers got to Egypt and saw Joseph, they didn't recognize him as their brother. Joseph did recognize them, however, but he harbored no bitterness toward them. He understood that it had all happened for God's good purpose.

Joseph eventually revealed himself to his brothers and was soon joyfully reunited with his father. Since the famine was far from over, Joseph convinced his father to move the whole clan to Egypt where their needs could be met.

After Joseph and the brothers had passed away, the descendents of Jacob, these "children of Israel," grew very numerous. In fact there were hundreds of thousands of them, or more.

This rapidly growing population began to worry the Egyptian rulers. Out of fear of being overrun by these children of Israel, the Egyptians decided to enslave them to keep them under control.

So, the Israelites became slaves and remained that way for four hundred years. When the Egyptians became very oppressive, the children of Israel cried out to God for help. He heard their cry and responded by sending Moses to tell Pharaoh to "Let my people go!"

最终，约瑟向兄弟们表明了自己的身份，并且随即与他的父亲欢喜团聚。由于饥荒还远没有结束，所以约瑟说服父亲带领整个家族搬迁至埃及，以便满足他们的饮食之需。

约瑟和他的弟兄们去世后，雅各的后代——“以色列人的儿女”生养众多。事实上，他们的人数已达到几十万，甚至更多。

如此迅猛增长的人口使得埃及首领开始担心。埃及人害怕这些以色列人繁多强盛胜过他们，于是决定奴役他们，对其进行辖制。

就这样，以色列人成了奴隶，并且此状况持续了四百年。在埃及人沉重的压迫下，以色列儿女大声向神呼救。神垂听了他们的呼求，差派摩西去告知法老“放我的子民走！”

起初，法老并不愿意放他们走，但是在神给埃及人降下“十灾”后，法老改变了主意。可是在以色列人得释放后，法老再次变卦，他派军队前去抓他们回来。

Pharaoh did not want to let them go at first, but changed his mind after God sent ten plagues onto Egyptian people. He changed his mind again after they had been released, and he sent his army after them to bring them back.

To help his children out, God parted the Red Sea so they could cross over on dry land to the other side. When the Egyptian army followed, God let the water return to its normal state and the Egyptian soldiers all drowned.

You can read all about this amazing event in the book of Exodus.

10 Commandments

It was while these liberated children of Israel were wandering around in the desert that God gave to Moses the stone tablets upon which he had written the Ten Commandments.

God also told Moses about many other laws, memorial feasts, sacrifices and rituals that the children of Israel were to obey and to perform during this time.

起初，法老并不愿意放他们走，但是在神给埃及人降下“十灾”后，法老改变了主意。可是在以色列人得释放后，法老再次变卦，他派军队前去抓他们回来。

为了帮助祂的儿女离开埃及，神将红海分开，以便他们能穿过干地走到对岸。当埃及军队赶来时，神又让海水恢复原状，淹没了所有埃及士兵。

有关这些奇异事件的记载，详见《出埃及记》。

十诫

当这些获得自由的以色列儿女们在旷野中徘徊时，神把十条诫命写在石板上，将它们交给了摩西。

与此同时，神还将许多其他的律法以及有关纪念性的节期、祭祀及礼节方面的要求都告诉给摩西，叫所有以色列人在此期间遵照而行。

However, they did not always obey the laws perfectly—they were, after all, people just as we are! Offering sacrifices was the way that God had instructed them to seek his forgiveness, though the sacrifice of animals was not able to take away their sins.

These children of Israel in their tribes were eventually given their own land on which to settle. This became the Kingdom of Israel. Some years later there was a major split in the family.

The Kingdom of Judah

The ten northern tribes split off from the two southern tribes of Judah and Benjamin. This southern union became known as the Kingdom of Judah.* It was in this kingdom that the city of Jerusalem was located. It was also from the Kingdom of Judah, the “Jews,” that Jesus eventually descended.

*Another of the tribes, the tribe of Levi, whose people were known as the Levites, did not receive its own land because its tribesmen were the priests who offered the sacrifices for all of the people. To do that, they were necessarily scattered throughout all of the other tribes. In time, these very religious people became most associated with and present in the kingdom of Judah.

但是，他们并非总是完全依照律法行事——毕竟他们和我们一样，都是凡人。神指示他们以献祭的方式寻求神的宽恕，尽管以动物为祭的做法并不能洗去他们的罪恶。

这些以色列人最终按照所属的支派分得土地安顿下来。这些土地最终成为了以色列国的疆土。若干年后，这个大家族遭遇了一次巨大的分裂。

犹大国

北方的十个支派与南方的犹大、便雅悯支派分裂开来。南方的两个支派相互联合，形成了我们所知的犹大国*。耶路撒冷城就位于该国境内。此外，耶稣就是经由这个犹大国里的“犹太”血脉，最终降生于世的。

* 在这些支派中，有一个名叫利未的支派，他们被称作利未人。这些人并没有分得土地，他们都是祭司，专为所有的百姓向神献祭。因着这个缘故，他们必须散居在各个支派中。随着时间的推移，这些极为虔诚的人们多次出现在犹大国里，并且与之有着频繁的联系。

Through the years God's people basically abandoned him and began worshiping foreign gods and idols. Therefore he allowed the Babylonians to carry them off into captivity and to destroy the Temple.

After seventy years in Babylon, (some of) the Jews returned to the Holy Land—to Jerusalem, to the rebuilding of the Temple and the city—with a renewed appreciation for obedience.

As a result, they no longer worshipped foreign gods and idols, but adhered strictly to the Law, intent on the mindset of not getting it wrong. Over time they became fanatical rule-keepers.

In fact they became so fanatical and strict that they began missing the whole point. Their lack of understanding caused them to eventually clash—even with Jesus, God's own son.

多少年来，神的子民几乎完全背弃于神，他们开始膜拜外国的神明和偶像。为此，神准许巴比伦人把他们强掳回国去，并且摧毁了神的殿。

在被掳去巴比伦七十年后，（部分）犹太人回到了圣地耶路撒冷，开始重建圣殿以及整座城市——此时的他们心意已得更新，满心顺服于神。

后来，他们不再膜拜外国的神明和偶像。他们严格遵守律法，生怕出任何差错。时日一久，他们便成了狂热恪守规条的人们。

事实上，他们的狂热和刻板使得他们完全忘了这样做的初衷。由于缺乏对律法正确的理解，他们甚至与耶稣——神的儿子，起了冲突。

5 Jesus

When the time was right, Jesus was born of a virgin, Mary. The Holy Spirit, who is also God, was his true father. So, in reality, Jesus was the son of God and, at the same time, the son of “man.”

Though he amazed the biblical scholars with his knowledge and understanding when he was only twelve years old, Jesus didn't officially begin his ministry until he reached the age of thirty. That's when he began the quest to once again reconcile, that is to restore, the relationship of man to God.

Even though the Old Testament had prophesied of a savior, a messiah, who was to come, the religious leaders of Jesus' day refused to recognize the fact that Jesus was that messiah.

They viewed him as a troublemaker who was continually challenging and disrupting their long-held religious beliefs. In their eyes he was a disruptive force that needed to be stopped— at all costs.

In one way their view of him was right. He *was* a troublemaker for those who were more interested in keeping a set of religious rules and regulations than in showing love to God and to their fellow man.

5 耶稣

当时机成熟时，耶稣便藉由童女马利亚降生于世。圣灵（同样也是神）是他真正的父亲。所以，事实上，耶稣是神的儿子，同时，也是“人”的儿子。

虽然耶稣在十二岁时，对圣经的知识和理解已经令经学家们大为惊叹，但是他直等到快三十岁才正式开始传道。至此，他踏上了使人与神和好，重建人神关系的旅程。

尽管旧约已经预言了救世主弥赛亚的到来，但是耶稣那个时期的宗教首领们都拒绝承认耶稣是弥赛亚的事实。

他们将耶稣视作滋事之人，因为耶稣常常质疑并且扰乱他们长久持守的宗教信仰。在他们眼里，耶稣是个破坏分子，必须不惜代价将其铲除。

对于所有自恃清高，自以为义，居高临下对待他人，对他人既不鼓励也无安慰，对他人的生活起不到任何积极影响的人而言，耶稣确实是个滋事之人。

He *was* a troublemaker for anyone who was more into feeling superior and self-righteous and in lording it over people than in encouraging, comforting and making a positive difference in their lives.

Jesus' life — His message — was so radically different from anything that had ever been lived or taught that he changed the world.

Instead of teaching “an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth” he taught, *If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also* (Matthew 5:39).

Instead of teaching, “Love your neighbor and hate your enemy,” he taught, *Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you* (Matthew 5:44).

Instead of parading his righteousness in front of people, Jesus taught, *He who wants to become great among you must be your servant* (Matthew 20:26).

He believed and taught what has come to be known as the golden rule, that is, *Do unto others as you would have them do unto you* (Matthew 7:12).

对于所有自恃清高，自以为义，居高临下对待他人，对他人既不鼓励也无安慰，对他人的生活起不到任何积极影响的人而言，耶稣确实是个滋事之人。

耶稣的生命——祂的信息——与人们曾经的教导和经历是那么的~~不同~~，他甚至改变了世界。

世人教导“以眼还眼，以牙还牙。”耶稣教导的是，“有人打你的右脸，连左脸也转过来由他打”（马太福音 5:39）。

世人教导，“当爱你的邻舍，恨你的仇敌”，耶稣教导的是，“要爱你们的仇敌，为那逼迫你们的祷告”（马太福音 5:44）。

他从不在人面前炫耀自己的仁义，他教导说，“你们中间谁愿为大，就必作你们的用人”（马太福音 20:26）。

他相信并且教导人们遵循一条“黄金法则”，“你们愿意人怎样待你们，你们也要怎样待人”（马太福音 7:12）。

Jesus was humble and taught his disciples to be humble. He taught them to not show favorites but to treat poor people with just as much respect and love as they did the rich people (James 2:3).

He was willing to serve others and taught his disciples to not think more highly of themselves than they ought, but to consider others better than themselves (Romans 12:3; Philippians 2:3).

Jesus never practiced his religion with an attitude of trying to impress others about how righteous he was. His whole purpose was to seek and save the lost and to bring glory and honor to his father in heaven (Matthew 6:1; Luke 19:10; John 14:13).

Jesus came and showed, by his life and teachings, that God wants more from someone than just a willingness to keep a set of rules. He wants our hearts. He wants our love—for him and for our fellow man. Only then can we live a fulfilling life.

Eventually, as also had been prophesied, when he was thirty-three years old, the religious people of his day crucified him—they nailed him to a cross. To make sure he was dead, they pierced his side with a spear. He bled while hanging on the cross.

耶稣为人谦卑，并且也教他的门徒作谦卑之人。他告诉他们，爱人不可偏倚，对待穷人和富人都应该同样恭敬(雅各书 2:3)。

他乐意服侍他人，并且教导门徒“不要把自己看得过高”，而应该“看别人比自己强”(罗马书 12:3；腓立比书 2:3)。

耶稣的虔诚之举从来不是因为他想向人显耀自己有多么仁义，以博取他人的敬佩。他所有的目的是为了寻找并且拯救迷失的人，将尊贵与荣耀归给他在天上的父(马太福音 6:1；路加福音 19:10；约翰福音 14:13)。

耶稣来到世间，藉着自己的生命与教导让人们明白，神对人的希望不仅仅是看到他们有谨守一系列规条的意愿而已。祂想要得到的是我们的真心，我们的爱——对神的爱，对同胞的爱。这是我们获得充实人生的唯一路径。

后来，正如先知所预言的那样，耶稣三十三岁时遭到宗教人士的迫害，接受十字架的刑罚——他被人们用钉子钉在了十字架上。人们为了确保他已断气，甚至用长矛戳他的肋旁。血水顺着他那被悬挂在十字架上的身体流了下来。

Just think about that. They, the most religious people of his day, the ones who were supposedly looking for the messiah—they were the ones who wound up crucifying him.

It just goes to show that just because someone is religious doesn't mean that he or she is Godly or right. Never forget that. It's still true today.

After his death, Jesus was wrapped in burial clothes and laid in the tomb. But the story didn't end there. Three days later Jesus rose from the dead. He then appeared to his disciples and to more than five hundred people.

Then, after forty days, Jesus ascended back into heaven to prepare a place for those who would believe in him.

请就此思考片刻。这些就当时而言在信仰上最为虔诚的人们，这些本应该意识到弥赛亚已经到来的人们，竟然最终将耶稣送上了十字架。

由此可见，一个人的虔诚并不意味着他一定正确，或者一定蒙神悦纳。请永远记住这一点。这个道理在今天也是如此。

耶稣死后，他的身体被人用裹尸布包好，安放在坟墓中。但事情并未就此完结。三天后，耶稣从死里复活，并且在门徒和其他五百多人面前显现。

在那之后，又过了四十天，耶稣升回了天上，为要给那些信他的人们预备将来的住处

6 Salvation

Before going back into heaven, Jesus spoke with his apostles. These were men he had specially selected to carry on his work after his ascension back into heaven. He instructed them to go to Jerusalem and wait.

It was while they were there that the Holy Spirit came upon them and gave them power to do miracles and to speak in languages they had never studied and to preach the word about Jesus and his church.

It was during this momentous occasion that Peter, one of the apostles, told the crowd about everything that had just happened and about how this Jesus, who was actually the son of God, was the one they had just crucified.

The Bible tells us what happened next. It says that Peter told the crowd,

Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”
When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” Peter replied, “Repent

6 救赎

在回到天上之前，耶稣与他的门徒有过一番谈话。这些人都是经他特别挑选的人，他们要在他升天之后，继续完成他的事工。耶稣指示他们前往耶路撒冷，并在那里等候。

他们在耶城等候期间，圣灵降到他们身上，赐予他们能力，使他们行神迹，并且用他们从未学过的各种语言向人们传讲耶稣及其教会的信息。

在此重大场合之下，耶稣的一位使徒——彼得向众人讲述了此前发生的所有事情，并让人们明白耶稣真的是神的儿子，而人却将其钉死在十字架上。

从圣经中我们看到了接下来发生的事情。经上说，彼得告诉众人，

故此，以色列全家当确实的知道，你们钉在十字架上的这位耶稣，神已经立他为主，为基督了。”众人听见这话，觉得扎心，就对彼得和其余的使徒说：“弟兄们，我们当怎样行？”彼得说：“你们各人要

and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off — for all whom the Lord our God will call.” With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day (Acts 2:36-41).

The Beginning of the Church

This was actually the beginning of the church, when God added these three thousand people into his book of life.

And, in the bigger scope of things, this is when man was reconciled (made right) with God.

Though not one of us who is alive today was there when Eve and Adam were separated from God, and though none of us were physically there when Jesus was crucified, the truth is that when we sin today, we are just as guilty of causing our own separation from God as they were back then.

悔改，奉耶稣基督的名受洗，叫你们的罪得赦，就必领受所赐的圣灵；因为这应许是给你们和你们的儿女，并一切在远方的人，就是主我们的神所召来的。”彼得还用许多话作见证，劝勉他们说：“你们当救自己脱离这弯曲的世代。”于是领受他话的人就受了洗。那一天，门徒约添了三千人（使徒行传 2:36-41）。

教会的诞生

当神将这三千人添加进祂的生命册时，教会便诞生了。

而且，从更为宏观的角度来看，这一天也是人与神和好（有着合宜的关系）的日子。

虽然今天在所有活着的人中，无人亲历亚当、夏娃与神的分离，无人身处其境亲手将耶稣钉在十字架上，但是，有一点事实我们必须明白：如今我们若有过犯，就和当初那些人一样，都会因犯下的罪恶而与神相分离。

The Bible confirms that we are all sinners, every one of us. But the Bible also confirms that every one of us can be reconciled, restored back to God, as well. We can do this by becoming Christians—children of God.

How to Become a Christian

To do so we must truly believe and confess that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God; we must repent of, which means to turn away from, our sins, and be baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit for the remission (forgiveness) of our sins. At that point we will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and God adds us to his church. It's that simple. It's that basic.

When to Become a Christian

Some people hesitate to become Christians because they feel like they don't know enough about what the Bible teaches. They think they need to wait until they know a lot of scripture first.

圣经明确地告诉我们，我们都是罪人，无一例外。但是圣经也明确地指出，每个人都可以修复与神的关系，重新与神和好。要实现这一点，我们就必须成为基督徒，作神的儿女。

如何成为一名基督徒

我们若要成为一名基督徒，就必须真正相信并且承认耶稣是基督，是神的儿子；必须悔改（或者说转身远离）我们的罪，奉父、子、圣灵的名受浸，以便我们的罪得到赦免（宽恕）。至此，我们就会领受神所赐的圣灵，并且蒙神将我们添加给祂的教会。整个过程就这么简单，基本的要求也就如此。

何时成为一名基督徒

有些人对于是否该成为基督徒感到犹豫不定。他们觉得自己对圣经的教导还不甚了解。他们认为需要等到自己知道许多经文后再作考虑。

But the truth is that most baptisms in the Bible took place after very little teaching—usually after one sermon. And the Bible refers to new Christians as *newborn babes* and tells them to *desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby* (1 Peter 2:2).

Just as with newborn babies, most of the learning and growing takes place after the birth/baptism, not before. You just need to know and believe the very basic principles about Jesus as stated in the paragraphs above.

Some people hesitate to become Christians because they don't feel like they are good enough yet. They want to wait until they've got their life under better control before they take that giant step.

These are noble thoughts, but they miss the point. The truth is that you will never be good enough—no matter how hard you try. You will be waiting for the impossible, because you can never, ever, in a million years, be good enough, on your own, to deserve to be saved or to go to heaven. It can happen only by God's grace.

但事实上，圣经中记载的绝大多数受浸的事例都是在当事人接受了少许教导之后——通常是在讲道之后，便随即发生的事情。圣经将初信的基督徒比作初生的婴孩，并且告诉他们“要爱慕那纯净的灵奶，像才生的婴孩爱慕奶一样，叫你们因此渐长，以致得救”（彼得前书 2:2）。

对于一个新生的婴孩而言，绝大多数的学习与成长发生在出生/受浸“之后”，而不是“之前”。在成为基督徒之前，您只需要知道并且相信的就是上文中陈述的有关耶稣的基本信息。

有些人之所以对于成为基督徒有所迟疑，是因为他们觉得自己还不够好。他们希望等到自己对生活有了更好的掌控之后，再迈出这巨大的一步。

这些人的想法是高尚的，但是他们没能把握问题的关键。事实上，人无论如何努力，永远都不可能达到“足够好”。人们等待的是一种不可能发生的事，因为不管是在以前，或是现在，再或者一百万年之后，都不会有人靠着自己的力量做到足够好，好到配得救赎，配得进入天堂。人只有藉着神的恩典才能做到足够好。

The whole point is that Jesus loved you so much that he was willing to come and to die in your place. When you believe, repent, confess and are baptized, your sins become his sins and his purity becomes your purity.

Your baptism — going down into the water and being raised up again — is an expression of faith which symbolizes the death to your old *evil* self, the burial of your old *evil* self, and the resurrection of your new, pure self.

You are made clean by the blood of Jesus and from that day forward his blood/sacrifice continually washes away your sins.

We talked about God's grace a moment ago. A little more needs to be said about that and about God's mercy, as well. They are both very important.

整个问题的关键在于，耶稣非常爱您，所以他甚至愿意来到这个世界为您舍命。当您相信、悔改、承认、受浸之后，您的罪将成为他的罪，而他的洁净将成为您的洁净。

您的受浸——身体没入水中然后从水中起来——是信心的表达，洗礼象征着您向着罪恶的旧我死去，并将这罪恶的旧我加以埋葬，然后您从死里复活，得着全新而清洁的生命。

您藉着耶稣的血得着洁净，并且从此以后他的血（献祭）将不断洗去您的罪。

我们刚才谈到了神的恩典。现在我们需要进一步了解神的恩典，以及神的怜悯。二者皆为重要。

7 Grace and Mercy

Grace

Grace means “unmerited favor.” It means that God gives us a gift (of eternal life) that we don’t deserve and that we cannot earn. It is a free gift that he gives to those who choose to believe in him.

Since we can’t earn it and since it is a gift from God, we must always and continually give the glory to God for our salvation.

It’s not that he needs the glory or the praise. He’s God! It’s that, as our creator, he knows that our most fulfilling, peaceful, loving, abundant life can be lived only if we are humble and grateful to him for our blessings.

If we are so arrogant because of how great we are personally, we undermine the things that would bring us true joy.

7 恩典与怜悯

恩典

恩典是指“本不配得到的恩宠”。其含义是指，神赐予了我们一件我们本不配得到，也无法自己挣得的礼物（即永生）。神将这礼物白白赐给那些*选择相信祂*的人们。

既然这礼物来自于神，而且是我们无法靠自己挣得的，那么，我们就必须常常地、不住地为我们得着的救赎荣耀赞美神。

这并不是说，神对这份荣耀或赞美有所需求。*祂是神！*事实上，我们之所以应该如此行，是因为作为我们的造物主，神知道只有当我们因受到的赐福向他献上感恩，并且为人谦卑时，我们的生命才能真正变得充实、平安、仁爱、丰盛。

如果我们因为个人有何能耐而变得自大，那么我们就是在破坏那些本可以给我们真正快乐的事物。

Mercy

The other side of that grace coin is mercy. Grace means we get something we don't deserve, and mercy means that God does not give us what we do deserve—eternal condemnation.

When Jesus died for us, he took on our sins and in fact became sin for us. He took on what he did not deserve, so we wouldn't have to. And when he was raised from the dead, he overcame the devil for good. He became victorious forever.

We now have been given the opportunity to join him in that victory if we will just believe in him, confess his name, be buried with him in baptism and be raised again in newness of life.

Included in that “we” is “you.” You have been given the opportunity to be a child of God. Don't pass up this great blessing.

He really did die for you. And he really does love you—just as you are. Accept his grace and mercy and become a new creature in him.

If you are ready and willing to take this important step, contact someone to make it happen. Don't put it off. It's too important.

怜悯

与恩典相对的是怜悯。恩典是指我们得到了不配得的事物，而怜悯是指神不让我们得着本应得的事物——永刑。

耶稣为我们舍命，将我们的罪背负在他的身上，事实上，为了我们，他成为了罪。他背负的是他本不应得的罪债，而这罪债本是我们欠下的。当从死里复活时，他就永远地战胜了魔鬼。他从此将永远得胜。

如今，只要我们信耶稣，承认他的名，在洗礼中与他一同被埋葬，然后复活得着新生；我们就可以与耶稣相联合，一同得胜。

这里所说的“我们”也包括您。神已经赐下机会让您成为祂的儿女。请千万不要错过这美好的赐福。

神真的为您舍弃过自己的生命。祂真的很爱您——爱您本人。请接受祂的恩典与怜悯吧，成为在祂里面新造的人。

如果您已经做好准备并且愿意迈出这重要的一步，敬请联系相关人员帮您完成接下来应该做的事情。请不要再耽搁。此事事关重大！

8 After Baptism

Then what? What happens after baptism? That's a good question! We're glad you asked.

As newborn babes, we need nurturing. We need family. We need love. All of those things are necessary to help us to grow into mature, spiritually minded children of God. And that is a lifelong process.

And it is next to impossible to do it without assembling with other Christians who are farther down the road of Christian maturity than we or any new Christian would be. We need nurturers. And that's where "church" comes into play.

8 受浸之后

然后呢？受浸之后又该如何呢？问得好！真高兴您能提出这个问题。

作为初生的婴孩，我们需要供养，需要家庭，需要爱。所有这些都是助我们成长的必要元素，促使我们成为灵命成熟的神的儿女。而这种成长是我们终生必修的功课。

对于我们或者任何初信的基督徒而言，若不能与那些比自己在信仰道路上有过更多经历，更为成熟的基督徒一同聚会，那么，想要有所长进几乎是办不到的。我们的成长需要供养。而这也正是“教会”的功用所在。

9 Church

The word “church” roughly means the assembled, those called out for a specific purpose. It’s used in the broadest sense in that there is really only one church — the one that the Lord adds you to when you are baptized.

In a more specific sense, we also use the word “church” to talk about a smaller group of believers, a congregation of disciples, who meet in a local place to encourage one another and to study about God and how to live the Christian life.

People sometimes use the word “church” to designate a building, but that’s not really the church. That’s a “church building.” The real church is the people, the disciples, the Christians.

Finding the “Right Church”

As a new Christian, it is so important to find a Godly church — a church with the right heart and spirit. There are a couple of things to keep in mind in that regard.

9 教会

粗略地讲，“教会”的原文字义是指因某种特殊的目的被召集在一起的群体。因此，教会，就其广义而言，只有一个。也就是当人们受洗后主将之添加进的那“一个”教会。

从更为具体的层面讲，“教会”也指信徒组成的较小群体，或者在某一地区，为了相互鼓励、了解神、学习如何过好基督徒之生活而聚在一起的门徒。

有时，当人们听到“教会”这个词，联想到的是一座建筑物，但事实上那并不是教会，而只是“教堂”。真正的教会指的是人，是门徒，是基督徒。

找到“合宜的教会”

对一个初获新生的基督徒而言，非常有必要找到一个属神的教会——一个有着合宜心志与灵魂的教会。对此，有几件事需要我们牢记在心。

First, remember what we talked about before. Just because someone is religious doesn't mean he or she is right. This will always be a fact of life. Keep it in mind.

Second, just as there are dysfunctional families raising babies to be dysfunctional adults, there are dysfunctional “spiritual” church families raising their “spiritual” babies to be dysfunctional as well. Avoid these families at all costs.

Instead, find a spiritually healthy church — one that is loving and caring and causes you to want to be more like Christ every week; one that recharges your batteries, not drains them.

This is not to say that you will find a church with zero problems. There are positive and negative things about every group of people. And there are wonderful loving people in most churches. So look for what most fills your needs.

So how do you find that Godly church? Let's look in the Bible for the answer.

第一，请记得我们之前谈过的问题。一个人的虔诚与他的对错没有直接的关系。这是生活中一个持久不变的事实。敬请牢记！

第二，正如一些功能失调的家庭会将他们的孩子教养成为功能失调的成人一样，有些在“灵命上”功能失调的教会大家庭也会将他们中初生的信徒调教得功能失调。因此所有的家庭都应该不惜一切代价避免这一现象的发生。

我们应该寻找灵命健康的教会——那里应该充满爱心与关怀，使你每周都渴望更加努力效法基督；那里应该能够为您提供能量，而非耗尽您的热情。

当然，这也不是说您要找的是一个不存在任何问题的教会。每个群体都会有其积极与消极的一面。并且，在绝大多数教会里，我们都能找到非常可爱的人们。因此您主要应该考虑的是，自己的需求能否在该教会得到满足。

如何才能找到属神的教会呢？让我们来看看圣经给出的答案吧。

Love

The Bible says, *By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another* (John 13:35). In another place Jesus said that the greatest commandment is to *love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.*

And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:37-40). Based on these verses, the first thing to look for in a church is the believers' love for God and for one another (including you).

If they seem distant and unfriendly, or if they seem condescending and controlling, you are definitely in the wrong place. If you don't see and feel the love, keep looking.

Bible Study

Another key to watch for is how much church members study and rely on God's word, the Bible, in determining what they believe. There is much talk in some churches about "The Bible says this" or "The Good Book says that," but they don't ever really show you where it really does say *this* or *that*.

爱

圣经说，“你们若有彼此相爱的心，众人因此就认出你们是我的门徒了”（约翰福音 13:35）。圣经还说，耶稣给我们的最大诫命就是“要尽心、尽性、尽意爱主你的神”。

而第二大诫命与第一条相仿，即“要爱人如己”（马太福音 22:37-40）。依据这些经文的教导，在寻找教会时我们需要查看的第一件事，就是信徒们对神的爱，以及对彼此（也包括对您）的爱。

如果他们看起来彼此冷漠疏远，或者居高临下，盛气凌人，那么，那里一定不是你要找的地方。如果您在那里看不到也感受不到爱，就请继续寻找。

查经

另一个观察的重点是查看该教会的成员在多大程度上通过学习并且倚靠神的话语（即圣经）来决定他们信仰的根基。有些教会经常会说“圣经如是说”，“圣经教导我们”，但是他们却从不告诉人们圣经里何处说过或者教导过这样的话。

Be firm in asking, “Where does the Bible say that? Show me.” And make sure it “smells right” when they give you an answer. If they start backtracking or giving funny answers, it may be a sign that they don’t really look to God’s word for the truth. You might need to keep looking.

Prayer

A third key is to pray fervently for God to show you the way. Prayer is just you talking to God—thanking him for all he has done for you and asking him for guidance.

Ask him to help you find a church that is pleasing to him. Ask him to guide you and to help you grow personally. Ask him for wisdom. He loves it when you ask for wisdom. He has promised to grant that request (James 1:5).

Holy Spirit

Fourth, listen to the Spirit. Remember what Peter said when the first Christians were baptized? He told them (and us) that they would receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. That is to say, the Holy Spirit would be given to them (and us) as a gift.

您需要态度坚定地问他们，“经文出处在哪里？请指给我看。”此外，您还需对他们给你的答案进行分辨。如果他们支支吾吾或者给了些莫名其妙的答案，就很可能意味着，他们并没有从神的话语中去找寻真理。若是如此，您就需要继续寻找教会。

祷告

第三个关键点，您需要向神不断地祷告，祈求祂为您指明道路。祷告就是您与神之间的交谈——因祂为您所做的一切而献上您的感恩，并且祈求祂给予您指引。

您可以求神帮助您找到合祂心意的教会。求祂指引并且帮助您个人的成长。求祂赐予您智慧。神非常愿意听到您向祂祈求智慧。祂曾许诺，人若向祂祈求智慧，就必得着（雅各书1:5）。

圣灵

第四点，倾听圣灵的声音。还记得彼得对最初那些受洗成为基督徒的人们所说的话吗？他告诉他们（我们），他们将领受神所赐的圣灵。也就是说神将圣灵作为礼物赐给了他们（我们）。

The Holy Spirit will be with you, to guide you and comfort you. If you are in a church and it just doesn't feel right, it may be that the Spirit is telling you that this is not the right place.

The right church will not make your stomach tie up in knots. The right church will inspire you to seek God's will and to make a difference in the lives around you. If you don't experience that uplift and encouragement, keep looking. You haven't found the right place yet.

In time, with persistence and prayer, you will find the right situation. And you will know that you are "home."

Find a Mentor

We would also encourage you to find a mentor—someone you trust and respect for the example he or she sets. Pick someone you admire, someone who is loving and kind and is continually striving to grow in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. If you can't think of someone, consider the person who gave you this book, or at least someone he or she would recommend.

圣灵必与您同在，给您指引，带给您安慰。如果您身处某个教会，却感觉不太对劲，这或许也是圣灵在告诉您，此处不是您要找寻的正确地方。

真正的教会不会让您感到内心纠结。真正的教会必激发您寻求神的旨意，使您对周围人的生活产生积极的影响。如果您没有经历到这种振奋与鼓励，就说明您仍然没有找对地方，那就继续寻找吧。

经过不断地找寻，持久的祷告，您必会找到合宜的教会。那时的您就会告诉自己，“我到家了”。

找到一位导师

我们也鼓励您找到一位导师——一个您信任且尊敬的榜样。您可以选择某个令您敬佩的人作为您的导师。比如说，此人仁爱慈祥，总是努力在主的养育与管教下不断成长。如果您想不出这样的人，也可以试着考虑将此书交到您手中的那个人，或者让其向您推荐一位导师。

Modern Technology

You may want to consider using modern technology to facilitate your growth. With the internet, it's easy to stay in touch with believers around the world.

Though there is no substitute for a wonderful group of Christians meeting together, the opportunity to study and learn and get feedback from others online can be a great blessing if used wisely.

And, there are a great many study resources on the web as well. It's something to consider.

Make a Difference

Finally, go out and make a difference in the lives around you. You don't have to wait to start making a difference. Some of the most effective spreaders of the gospel are those who have just recently experienced the joy of having their sins washed away.

Don't hesitate! Share the good news of Jesus Christ with others. Then work toward becoming a mentor to those who are not as far down the road as you. It will be one of the most rewarding and growing experiences of your life.

And always, always, always, give the glory to God. May God bless you abundantly as you strive to do his will.

现代技术

您可能希望运用一些现代科技手段来帮助您的成长。随着互联网的发展，如今我们很容易与世界各地的信徒保持联系。

虽然基督徒在一起的美好聚会是任何事物所取代不了的，但是只要我们理性地使用网络资源，确实也可获得很多学习的机会，并且从他人那里获得信息反馈。

网络上有很多不错的学习资源，它们都可以为您提供学习参考。

让生活变得不同

最后，您需要做的就是走出去，使身边人的生命从此变得不同。您无需为此作任何等待。好些福音传得很棒的人，都是在刚刚经历了罪得洗净的欢喜之后，就开始踏上了传福音的旅程。

请不要犹豫！与他人一同分享耶稣基督的好消息吧！在那之后，您也可以试着作这些初信之人的引路人。这将是您一生中获得的最大回报，也是最美妙的成长经历。

请您切记，随时、随处、凡事都要将荣耀归于神！愿神在您努力行使祂旨意的过程中大大赐福于您！

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