

# Foundations in Jesus, Part 2 (G101B)

## “A New Culture”

- ✦ When you meet Jesus, you begin a new life. The Bible tells us, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” (2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)). Simply allowing Jesus into your life and beginning to walk with him, initiates a process of radical and amazing change. Some things will change immediately in your life, while other things will change over time.
- ✦ Today, we are going to cover some of the most important practices and habits you can begin to implement in your life, in order to facilitate the work of God and begin living the born-again life. The difference in how your life looks one year from today, as compared to how it looks today, will be primarily due to the power of God at work within you, in conjunction with the habits and the disciplines that you implement.

## Part 1 - Learning about God

1. We can only know about God inasmuch as He \_\_\_\_\_ Himself to us.
2. The good news is that God wants us to know \_\_\_\_\_ Him and He wants us to \_\_\_\_\_!
3. There are many ways in which God reveals Himself to us, including:
  - a. Through \_\_\_\_\_.
    - i. *“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.” (Psalm 19:1–4, NIV)*
  - b. Through \_\_\_\_\_.
    - i. There is no identified purpose for the beauty of inanimate and lifeless objects, yet since it is present in the fabric of the universe itself, it attests to the Glory of God.
    - ii. *“One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.” (Psalm 27:4, NIV)*
  - c. By Acting in \_\_\_\_\_.
    - i. *“LORD, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, LORD. Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy.” (Habakkuk 3:2, NIV)*
  - d. Through His \_\_\_\_\_.
    - i. *“In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.” (Hebrews 1:1–2, NIV)*

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- e. Through His \_\_\_\_\_.
  - i. *“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—” (John 14:16, NIV)*
  
- f. Through His \_\_\_\_\_.
  - i. *“Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.” (Psalm 119:105, NIV)*
  - ii. *“The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.” (Psalm 119:130, NIV)*

### Part 2 - The Word of God

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ is God’s will and His character \_\_\_\_\_ to us in written form.
  - a. To know God better and to know about God, we get to read and learn about Him in the pages of the Bible.
  
2. Reading the Bible is kind of like \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. *“Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”” (Matthew 4:4, NIV)*
  - b. Everybody needs to eat and drink, in order to grow!
  
3. Here are some Essential Steps to Growing in Jesus through His Word:
  - a. Regularly \_\_\_\_\_ God to help you get to know Him better through the Bible.
    - i. Do this each time prior to reading the Bible.
  
  - b. Read the Bible on a \_\_\_\_\_ basis.
    - i. Begin to read the Bible more than any other books. There are many great books in this world, and there are many not-so-great books as well! But there is no book like the Bible, and the better we know it, the better off we are.
    - ii. Just like \_\_\_\_\_ food, we need to “eat God’s Word” on a regular basis in order to be healthy, strong and well-fed.
  
  - c. Read for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ about who God is, how He works, and how he wants to shape your life.
  
  - d. Start \_\_\_\_\_ the Bible to your life, right away!
  
  - e. Begin a \_\_\_\_\_.
    - i. This is extremely helpful for writing down notes about what you are learning, and also questions that you might have.
  
  - f. Connect with a \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ to help you be faithful in this area and share what you learn.

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## Moving on...

- ✦ Okay, so now we've Established that the Bible is essential for our new life in Jesus, and that we must read it on a regular and consistent basis, in order to grow. What else do I need to know?
- ✦ One of the most important ways to connect with God is through the discipline of prayer. We can think of prayer as being the best way of communicating with God. In its simplest definition, Prayer is communication with God. But that's not all! Prayer is powerful, ... so powerful that it has the ability to shake heaven and earth, to change weather patterns, and to change our very lives. All of these things, in fact, have happened many times over in history! So be excited about what can happen through prayer, and let's learn together.

## Part 3 - Prayer

- 1. Prayer is a way of intimately \_\_\_\_\_ with God.**
  - a. Some modern forms of communicating with somebody include emailing, texting, telephone calls, instant messaging, voicemail, letters, and the like.
  - b. What, would you say, is the best way of communicating with a friend?
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. Much more than a text message or a written note, prayer is \_\_\_\_\_ with God.
- 2. Prayer doesn't have to be \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - a. *““And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.” (Matthew 6:5, NIV)*
  - b. It can be very simple. Just bring your heart before God!
- 3. Jesus prayed \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - a. *“But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.” (Luke 5:16, NIV)*
- 4. Prayer activates the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of God.**
  - a. *“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.” (Ephesians 1:18–21, NIV)*
- 5. Prayer changes our \_\_\_\_\_, our \_\_\_\_\_, and our \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - a. *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28, NIV)*

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### 6. Pray \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. *“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.”*  
(Ephesians 6:18–20, NIV)

### 7. Pray \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. *“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.”*  
(James 5:16–18, NIV)

### 8. Pray with \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. *“Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.”* (Luke 18:1, NIV)
- b. Giving up is one of the primary reasons we don’t see prayers answered.

### 9. Pray with \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. *“But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do. Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position.”* (James 1:6–9, NIV)

## Part 4 - Worship

### 1. Worship is a \_\_\_\_\_!

### 2. One of the ways we worship God is through \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. God created music, giving us voices and musical talents and abilities!

### 3. Why Worship God by Singing?

- a. God \_\_\_\_\_ to be worshipped.
- b. God truly \_\_\_\_\_ in our worship.
- c. God draws \_\_\_\_\_ to us when we draw near to Him.
- d. There is \_\_\_\_\_ in our worship.