

What to Know After Accepting Jesus as Lord

Giving your life to Jesus is not the end of the journey. It is the beginning. You were not saved just to escape hell. You were saved to know Him, walk with Him, become more like Him, and represent Him on the earth. Salvation is the doorway into relationship with God.

Jesus said:

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." — John 15:5 (ESV)

After accepting Christ, it is so important that you stay connected to the Vine. Spend time with Him daily. Read your Bible. Pray. Worship. Stay planted in a healthy church community. Seek His presence. Talk with Him throughout your day.

As you walk with Jesus, you will go through a pruning process. Pruning can be uncomfortable. God may begin dealing with old habits, old mindsets, unhealthy relationships, pride, bitterness, compromise, and areas of disobedience. But pruning is not rejection. Pruning is proof that God is still working on you.

Jesus said:

"Every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit." — John 15:2 (ESV)
God prunes the branches He has not given up on. He corrects the ones He loves. He desires growth, maturity, and fruitfulness in your life.

If Jesus is truly our Lord and not just our Savior, then we will follow His ways. Many people want salvation, but not surrender. Yet Jesus calls us to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Him daily. A true believer allows God to refine and purify them.

We begin consecrating our lives to Him. Consecration means being set apart for God. It means we no longer live however we want. We surrender our lives, our desires, our choices, and our plans to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

The Bible says:

"But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct." — 1 Peter 1:15 (ESV)
Righteousness and holiness are not exactly the same thing.

Righteousness is received through salvation in Jesus Christ. We are made right with God because of what Jesus did on the cross, not because of our own works.

"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." — 2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

Holiness, however, is something we pursue and strive for as believers. We will never attain complete holiness in these earthly bodies because only God is perfectly holy. But we should still pursue holiness because we are representatives of Christ on the earth.

People should be able to look at our lives and see evidence that Jesus changed us. This does not mean we will never make mistakes. We are still growing. We are still being refined. But when we fall, we do not run from God. We run to Him.

The Bible says:

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." — 1 John 1:9 (ESV)

Repentance is powerful. Repentance restores fellowship with God. When we genuinely repent, He forgives, cleanses, restores, and helps us continue walking forward.

Do not give up during the process. Stay close to Jesus. Stay connected to the Vine. Allow Him to refine you.

Allow Him to transform you. Keep surrendering. Keep repenting. Keep growing. He who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it.