

A LETTER TO NEWBIES IN CHRIST

By: Minister Micah

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Dear Reader,

While some may forget, many of us never forget our first introduction to Christ and the Bible. All faith and religious views aside, I can honestly admit that the Bible is the most beautiful piece of literature I have read in my life and has managed to answer more questions than any scientific or philosophical text I have ever read. As a chemist by trade, that says a lot. Among all the beautiful people you will meet in this walk, I want to be the first to welcome you into a new world, a new view on life, and – most of all – a new state of being. I want to take a moment to offer you some advice as you take your first steps in your new walk with God.

The first piece of advice I will give is to never forget how it started and where God brought you from. As you grow in your walk with God, you will find yourself reflecting increasingly on where it all started. And, as you grow and begin teaching, leading, and mentoring others in their discipleship, you will find yourself retelling your story repeatedly and giving more God glory each time. In the first commandment, God told the Israelites, “I Am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.” Because it is what gives God glory, never forget your Egypt. Remember it without reliving it. The second piece of advice I will give you is to never be afraid of questioning what you are reading. Questions lead to answers. It is all part of the growth. And whether those answers come today, tomorrow, next week, or next year, I can assure you: They will come.

The final piece of advice I will give you is this: This journey is fulfilled through love, not by law or “rule following.” My mentor tells me all the time, “Love is always in season.” It is the reason for all that we do for God and all that He does for us. It is the reason He found you. It is the reason this man named Jesus Christ died for you. In your walk with God, you will learn about this entity of God called His Holy Spirit that He sends down to His people for insight, revelation, mentorship, and guidance. Love is the reason God sends His Spirit down to guide us. Love is what keeps Him present and will keep you hungry to honor Him. Our love for anything makes doing it easier; Discipleship is no exception.

I am excited for you, and – believe me when I say – I am getting emotional even writing this letter to you. I am getting emotional because we, the Disciples, know what you are about to go through – the growth, the joy, the peace, the revelation, the healing, the comfort, and the persecution and criticism that will follow it all from people who do not understand. They will not understand how you could reread the same Book for years and still get excited about it, how you can so easily forgive your father after what he did to you, or how the same song can repeatedly bring you to tears. They will not understand how you can just suddenly “not want” the same things you used to want. They will not understand how you could have such a rough story and not “look like what you have been through.” But through all the things that they do not understand, they will not understand Who you stand under. But, at the end of everything – at the end of your life, your year, your day, and your trials and tribulations – God reminds you that it is all worth it. It was worth it yesterday, it was worth it today, and it will be worth it tomorrow. Here is to the grace and peace that will cover you! Welcome to salvation!

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