

Means of Grace to Know Christ, and Grow in Christ Once Born Again
(Matthew 11:25-30; II Peter 1:1-12; Philippians 2:12-13)

To be saved and to grow after Christ births us into His Kingdom, ALL we must do is to Believe the Person of Christ and Trust the Person of Christ to do what He promises!!! He will do everything He has promised in His Holy Word if we personally truly Believe His Person and truly Trust His Person to do so (Hebrews 11:6); because, being God, He cannot lie. In order to Believe and Trust Christ Alone, Who Alone is the answer to ALL of our problems, we MUST "Learn of Him" (Matthew 11:29) AND "Diligently Seek HIM, with our WHOLE HEART, to know Him,". Proverbs 8:17 "I love those who love me; And those who diligently seek me WILL FIND ME (diligently also means fervently and surely implies with the whole heart. David said to Solomon his son in I Chronicles 28:9 "As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a whole heart and a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever.") The ONLY place you and I will FIND Christ, to Know Him and then be enabled by Him to Trust Him, is the Bible; the 66 books of both the Old and New Testament (Every Word that Proceeds from the Mouth of God, and that includes every word the Holy Spirit speaks to our hearts, as Jesus Christ clearly said in Matthew 4:4, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'"). Jesus Christ also said so clearly in John 8:31-32, "If you CONTINUE in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the TRUTH (The Person, Jesus Christ Himself) will make you free." And also in John 5:39, "You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me; ...".

The ONLY ACTION you and I can take and MUST DO is to "learn of HIM" (John 17:3). Once He reveals Himself to you through the Bible, because you wait on Him until He acts on your behalf; and that is only

because you "diligently seek to know Him"; then, in His time, as you wait on Him until He reveals Himself to you, He does in/to/for/through you each and everything you CANNOT DO FOR YOURSELF, by giving to you HIMSELF = HIS ABUNDANT LIFE (He cannot lie so that you "WILL FIND (CHRIST) ME"). Hold fast your confidence in the Living JESUS CHRIST firm until the end while waiting on Him to faithfully act, while growing in Faith, through your seeking, that He will do what He says (Hebrews 3:14)!!!

[Read all Scripture listed]

To Know Christ and to accomplish our growth, OUR PART (action) is to willfully & deliberately apply ourselves to the means of Grace by Faith (added below). God WILL NOT do our part. We MUST diligently and actively pursue the means of grace in obedience to Christ and not give into our feelings; and God will do the rest through our faith and trust in His Person (His Promises) and the powerful transforming mercy and grace of the Holy Spirit living in us!!! AMEN & AMEN!!!

Means of Grace to Know Christ and to Grow in Christ:

1. Read and Prayerfully Study the Scripture (John 6:48-58; 8:31-32). Stay under the preaching and teaching of the Word of God (Obey the fourth commandment God spoke audibly and wrote on tablets of stone with His fingers, Deuteronomy 5:22). Pray, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you into all the truth as you listen, read and study (John 16:13-16). Read and Study the Scriptures to know Christ!!! Seek after Christ, Philippians 3:1-14).

1 Peter 1:23-2:6 "for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God. For, "ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS, AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS, AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF, BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER." And this is the word which was

preached to you therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the WORD, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord. And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For this is contained in Scripture: "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER STONE, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."

John 17:17 "**Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.**"

2Timothy 3:16-17 "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."

Psalms 119 (Whole Psalm - great prayer for the believer).

2. Develop a strong prayer life and worship God privately and corporately with fellow believers (John 4:21-24)! Depend on the Holy Spirit in you to help you to pray and worship. Read and follow our Lord's instructions for prayer and for the controlling power of the Holy Spirit in your life - Luke 11:1-13. Remember that God the Father is your Father now through the regenerating and renewing work of the Holy Spirit at your new birth in/by Christ, and you are His adopted child in Christ. In Christ we have the spirit of sonship (Romans 8:15-17; Galatians 3:24-29; Ephesians 1:1-14). Learn to Pray like a SON!!!
3. Stay in close fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ (Hebrews 10:23-25). Regularly attend and become active as a member of a church that preaches Christ, that He is Fully God and Fully man; that you must be born again by the work of the Holy

Spirit alone to enter heaven; that, after the new birth, we must be conformed to Christ's image (Hebrews 12:14); and, that their beliefs & doctrines are consistent with the whole of Scripture [Obey the fourth commandment to keep Holy the Sabbath which God spoke audibly to Israel (all men are included, Romans 1:18-20) and wrote on tablets of stone with His fingers, Deuteronomy 5:22]. Ask for their prayers and pray for them. Love and support them and accept their support and love for you (Hebrews 3:12-14, 10:23-39).

4. Witness and share Christ with others. Share what Christ has done in your life and that He can do the same in theirs. (Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Peter 3:15).
5. Receive the sacraments - Baptism once, when you are born again (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:38-41; Acts 9:17-18), and Communion often with the brethren in church (Matthew 26:26-29; I Corinthians 11:23-30)!