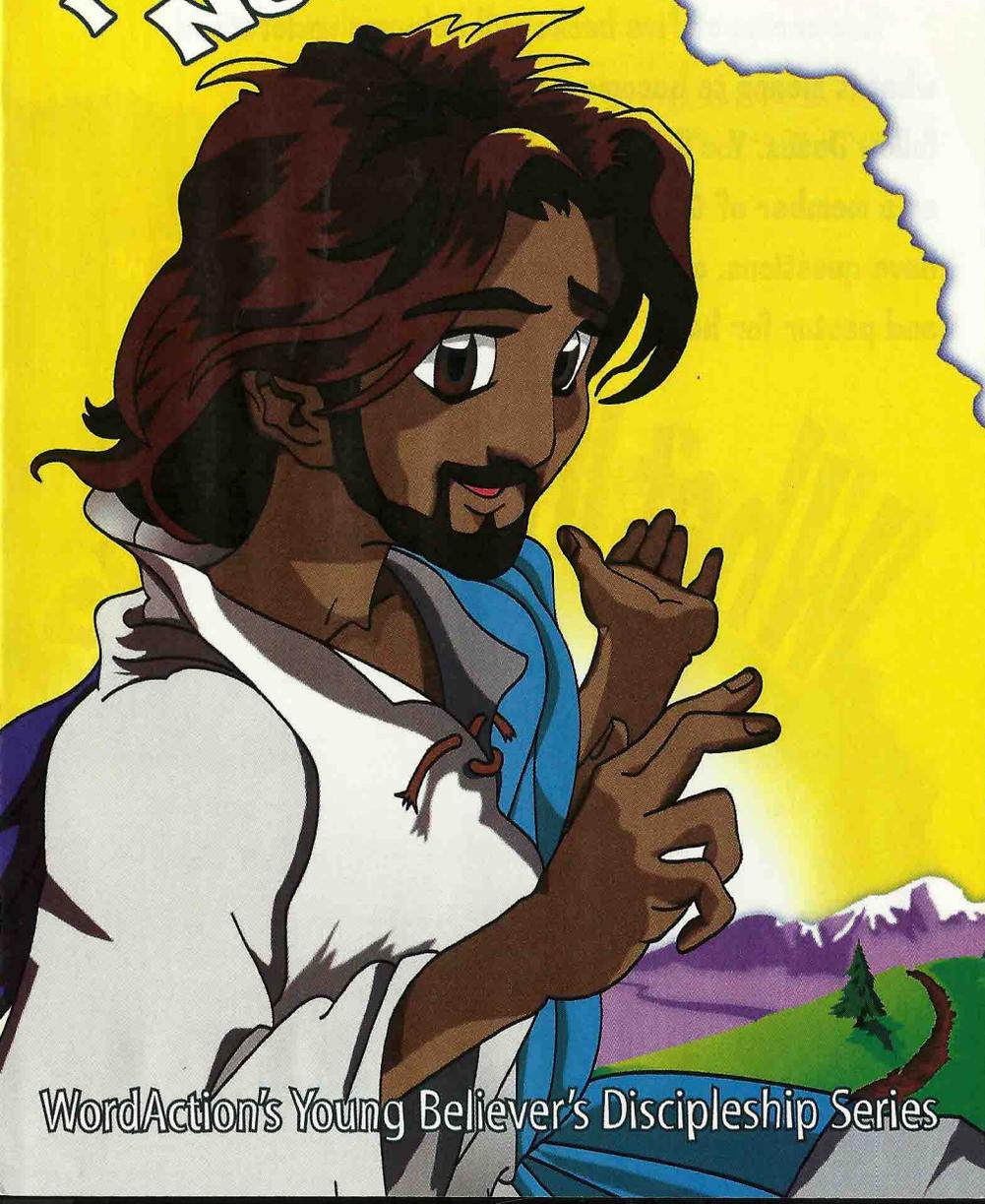


So... You Want to Follow
Jesus?
Book 1

I Believe in Jesus, Now What?



WordAction's Young Believer's Discipleship Series

So... You Want to Follow Jesus?

You may have questions, like . . .

What happened?

What do I do now?

What does it mean to be a Christian?

This series of five books will help you understand what it means to become a Christian and to follow Jesus. You'll discover how to live as a member of God's family. If you have questions, ask your parents and pastor for help.



Look for this logo to discover words to help you in your Christian walk. These are called Faith Words.

What Happened?

Several important things took place when you made the decision to follow Jesus. The following list will help you understand about becoming a Christian.

1. God loves you! God is the Creator of the world. God made people in His likeness, so they are special to Him. He loves everyone. God has designed people to have a relationship with Him.

2. Everyone has disobeyed God. The Bible calls this disobedience sin. **Sin** is doing something God said not to do or not doing something God said to do. Sin damages our friendship with God.
3. There is nothing we can do to erase our sins. God, our Creator, is the only One who can take away sin. He is the only One who can re-establish our friendship with Him.
4. There is really good news! God did something about the problem of sin. He loves us so much He sent His only Son, Jesus, to die on a cross for our sins. Jesus came to earth to be our Savior! A **Savior** rescues someone from difficulty, danger, or harm. Jesus rescues us from the harm and punishment of sin.

Quick Start!

Here are some things to help you grow in your new life as a Christian:

1. Learn more about God from the Bible.
2. Talk to God often:
 - Thank Him for sending Jesus.
 - Ask God to help you obey Him.
 - Tell Him about your needs and the needs of others.
3. Tell others about your Friend, Jesus.
4. Go to church to meet with other Christians.
5. If you disobey God, ask for forgiveness right away. Keep on living as God's friend.

Follow Me

Jesus wants you to stop trying to do things your own way. He wants you to follow Him instead. Read Luke 5:27-31.

1. What did Jesus say to Levi the tax collector? (v. 27)

2. What did Levi do? (v. 28)

3. Levi left everything behind and followed Jesus. What did you leave behind when you decided to follow Jesus?

4. Jesus said He came to call "sinners to repentance." What do you think the word repentance means? (Hint: After you answer, check the bottom of the page.)

5. Levi planned a great banquet at his house to honor Jesus. Whom did Levi invite? (v. 29)

6. Do your friends know about Jesus? What can you do to help them know God's love and forgiveness?

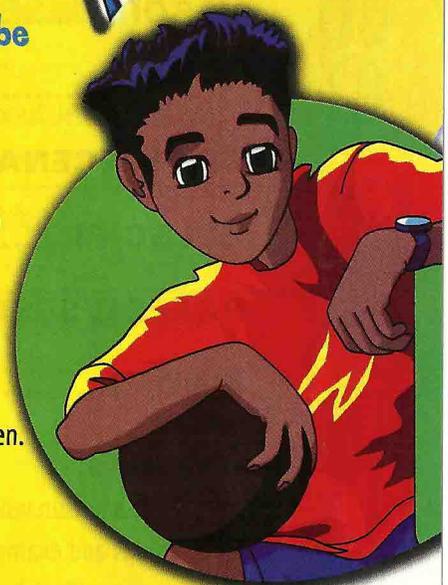
4

Repentance

Repentance means to turn away from sin and turn to God.

A New Identity!

The Bible has a lot of things to say about people who invite Jesus to be their Savior and best friend. Here are some words you might hear from the Bible and from other Christians. These words describe you as a Christian.



Forgiven—

Forgiveness is an act that frees a person from the guilt and blame for doing wrong. When Jesus died on the Cross, He made it possible for everyone to be forgiven of their sins. When you accepted Jesus as your Savior and best friend, your sins were completely forgiven. Hallelujah! Read Acts 10:43.

Follower—

A disciple is a person who follows the teachings and example of another person. Jesus calls you to be a follower of His teachings. Disciples of Jesus live their lives the way Jesus lived His life. Jesus taught that people could have a right relationship with God. Read John 12:26.

Family Member—

You have your earthly family. God also wants you to be part of His family, the Church. God, your Heavenly Father, wants you to worship Him. You do this by talking to Him, listening to Him, and trusting Him. Your local church is a great place to make new friends, get godly advice, and talk with other Christians about your relationship with God. Read John 1:12.

5

Salvation Scramble!

Unscramble the words to reveal the salvation words you learned in this book. Then use the numbers under the boxes to decode the sentence at the bottom of the page.

VASOIR 14 10

NIS 16

RPNTEECENA.....

DELSCIPI 12

RGEFOIVSESN... 8

EINDFR.....

✝ Disciple:

A disciple is a person who follows the teachings and example of another person. Disciples of Jesus live as Jesus lived and taught.

✝ Repentance:

This means to turn away from sin and turn to God.

✝ Forgiveness:

This is an act that frees a person from guilt and blame for doing wrong.

✝ Sin:

Doing something God said not to do or not doing something God said to do.

✝ Savior:

A savior rescues someone from difficulty, danger, or harm. Jesus is our Savior. He rescues us from the harm and punishment of sin.

Friend:

Someone whom you enjoy being with and know well. Jesus becomes our best Friend when we choose to believe in Him.

Jesus is

8 10 12 14 14 10 16

A Time to Remember!

Name _____

Today's Date _____

Tell how you became a Christian.

The first person who told me about Jesus was ...

When I first heard about Jesus, I felt ...

I accepted Jesus as my Savior and best Friend on ...

Day: _____

Time: _____

City or place: _____

If you don't know the exact details, just write about how it took place. You can also use this space to make other notes to remind you about the time you decided to follow Jesus.

Telling Others

Do you have friends or family members who need to accept Jesus as their Savior and best Friend?



List their names below.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

How can you tell these people the story of God's love and forgiveness?

Remember to pray for each person on your list every day.

Congratulations on choosing to accept Jesus as your Savior and best Friend! The next book, "Roadblocks to the Faith," will help you as you continue to learn more about following Jesus.

Note: You may want to keep this book in a special place. As you get older, it will help you remember the special day you decided to follow Jesus!



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