



NEW CHRISTIAN FOLLOW UP

New Christian Follow Up

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.

—2 Corinthians 5:17–18

Similar to parents of newborn babies, we have the responsibility as spiritual parents to help care for spiritual “newborns” and help them adjust to the world. Just as Jesus tells Peter to feed and care for the flock that He will entrust to Peter, we ought to also prepare ourselves to be able to care for those who God will entrust us with (John 21).

The follow-up process includes a combination of giving direction and affection. We not only

need to help them understand the gospel and the plans God has for them but we also need to care for them in the same way as Paul guides and cares for the Thessalonians (1 Thessalonians 2:7–8).

It’s important that we take the lead in helping shape their values and convictions as Christ-followers. Below are a general list of topics to discuss with new Christians.

First 24 Hours

Help them believe:

This new life that Christ has given them as a result of their faith in His work on the cross is something to rejoice in! Rejoice with them!

Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 5:21; John 5:24

Do with them:

- *Rehearse the gospel.* Slowly, go over the gospel together, point by point.
- *Pray together for their new life in Christ.*
- *Share a meal together.* Show him that they are loved and accepted.

First Week

Help them believe:

- *About God:* He is our loving, just Creator.
- *About Self:* We are hopeless sinners who have rebelled against a holy God.
- *About Salvation:* Our only hope for salvation is Jesus taking our penalty for our guilt and giving us His perfect record.

Romans 3:19–26, 5:6–11

Do with them:

- *Share their testimony:* Go with your friend to explain what has happened in their life to their friends. This will help them make a definite break with their old lifestyle and will set them up to explain later in more detail what Christ has done in their life.
- *Spend time with God.* Teach them how to pray and read the Bible.
- *Share a meal together.* Introduce them to some of your Christian friends.
- *Encourage them to get in a small group with believers who will push them to grow.* You may need to create one for them.

First Month

Help them believe:

- *About God:* He is sovereign and good.
- *About Self:* We are sons and daughters of God through our union with Christ.
- *About Salvation:* In the same way that our salvation initially wasn't based on our works, neither is our remaining in Christ. We will make mistakes but we are secure because Christ's record never changes.

Psalm 115:3, 145:7; Galatians 3:1-6, 4:4-7

Do with them:

- *Think evangelistically.* Begin praying for lost friends and together attempt to share the gospel with them.
- *Make Lordship decisions.* Begin helping your friend understand what it looks like when Jesus is King of someone's life.
- *Help them see what God's Word says about baptism.* Additionally, encourage them to join a local church.