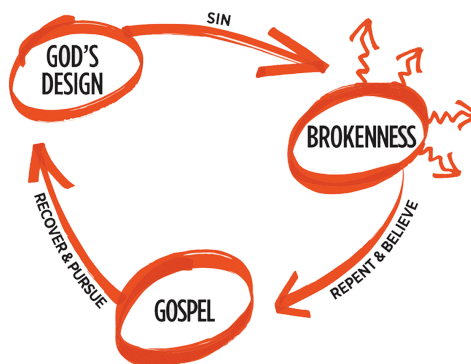


STEPS OF FAITH TO BUILDING A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THROUGH JESUS

The Bible, God's Word, lays out what God desires of us as humans - enjoy an intimate relationship with Him and represent Him by making the name of Jesus famous for all the right reasons. That requires taking certain steps through faith.

The steps of a man are established by the Lord...Ps 37:23
Without faith it is impossible to please God...Hebrews 11:6

WHERE IT BEGINS



SALVATION

- Everything, including humanity, was created by God without flaw. As humans, we were made to be in relationship with God and each other, and live in perfect peace, joy and love and be representatives of His here on earth. That is **God's Design**. Gen 1
- **Sin broke everything**. We are all guilty of sin. Sin separates us from God and His design, it destines us for hell and has left everything broken. We try everything we can to restore relationship with God ourselves only to find that nothing we do works. Romans 3:10, 23
- The only way to restore relationship with God is through **repentance** (change of mind specifically about sin and God and turning away from sin and self) **and belief (faith) in the Gospel of Jesus Christ**. The Gospel is the good news that God the Son came to earth, put on human flesh, lived a sinless life, died on the cross to take the punishment for our sin, but didn't stay dead; He resurrected from the dead conquering sin, death and Satan. John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Romans 6:23, 10:9-10; Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Corinthians 5:21, 15:3-4
- Humbling ourselves before God, repentance and belief in the Gospel as the only way to restore relationship with God, forgives us of sin, transforms us, and frees us to **recover and pursue God's design even in a broken world**. 2 Cor 5:17; Titus 2:11-13

BELIEVER'S BAPTISM

Baptism does not save but it is an outward display of the decision to repent of sin and follow Jesus. It is identifying with Jesus in His life, death, burial and resurrection and announcing to everyone that He is Lord of your life. There is no specified time length in the Bible between being saved and being baptized. The Biblical example we have is that once an individual has repented of their sins and put their faith in Jesus, they were baptized. Romans 6:3-5



For more information and practical tools on Faith Steps, visit fbcstrongsville.com/resources.

STEPS OF

FAITH CONTINUED

TO BUILDING A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THROUGH JESUS

ON-GOING

Relationship with God comes only through repentance and faith in the Gospel. The On-Going items below do not save but flow out of relationship with God.

GATHER

Join a local, Bible believing, Gospel preaching church. Gather faithfully with that body of believers every chance you get ultimately for the purpose of scattering to servangelize. Hebrews 10:24-25

SERVANGELIZE

Change someone's world by loving them through serving them and proclaiming the Gospel to them. Mark 16:15; Galatians 5:13

READ AND MEDITATE ON THE BIBLE DAILY

Know the Bible; study it, meditate (consider deeply) on it, memorize it, stand on the truth of it and apply it. That does not take being a scholar but discipline and a plan. Find a plan at fbcstrongsville.com/resources. 2 Timothy 2:15; Psalm 1:2; Psalm 119:11

PRAY DAILY

It is an incredible thing that we can talk to the creator of the universe. That is the privilege we have in prayer. Matthew 5:43-45, 6:5-15, 21:13, 26:41; Philippians 4:6-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-3

RESIST SIN AND SATAN

We are to train ourselves to resist sin and Satan in the power of the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 9:26-27; Ephesians 4:17-32; Hebrews 5:14; James 4:7

FORGIVE AND SEEK FORGIVENESS

Just as God forgives us and makes our relationship with Him right in Jesus, we are to forgive and seek forgiveness to make our relationships right here on earth. Colossians 3:13; Ephesians 4:32

GIVE FINANCIALLY

Financially giving to the local church, the relief of those in need and world evangelism is investing in eternity and says a lot about where our hope and affections are placed. 1 Cor 9:14, 16:2; 2 Cor 9:7; Galatians 6:6

BE DISCIPLED AND MULTIPLY

Discipleship is intentionally equipping believers with the Word of God through accountable relationships, through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit in order to replicate faithful followers of Christ. Matthew 28:18-20; 2 Timothy 2:2

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