

STAYING ON COURSE WITH JESUS

Colossians 2:6-7

Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, ⁷having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with thankfulness.
Colossians 2:6-7 (New American Standard Bible)

This passage reveals four important truths about our walk with Christ.

➤ MAKE CERTAIN THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED HIM.

So then, just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, . . . Colossians 2:6 (New International Version)

- The first step in this transformation is accepting the truth about Jesus Christ.
- “Continue” – imperative verb indicating a command
- In Christ, we have not only eternal life, but an abundant life now!

I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows). John 10:10b (Amplified Bible)

- “In Him” equals being in union with Him.

➤ MAKE CERTAIN THAT YOU STAY ROOTED IN CHRIST.

We do not root ourselves – we **have been** rooted.

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God . . . Ephesians 2:8 (NASB)

Our spiritual growth is an intentional and lifelong process. It’s about a relationship.

“I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.” John 15:5 (NASB)

- We stay on course by nutrition, not addition.

➤ BE STRENGTHENED AND BUILT UP IN YOUR FAITH.

. . . and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, . . . Colossians 2:7b (NASB)

- “Built up” – an architectural term – the process of putting up a building
- This process begins from the moment we come to Christ.

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NASB)

- He is the one who does the building – through the Holy Spirit.

If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Galatians 5:25 (NASB)

How do we stay on course with Jesus?

1. Come to discover the Truth in His Word.
2. Respond to that Truth.

To grow in Christ means to be strengthened in our informed faith

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. ⁶But he must ask in faith without doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.
James 1:5-6 (NASB)

➤ LIVE WITH AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE TOWARD CHRIST.

Gratitude is a continual active response to what God has done for us:

Through Him (Jesus) then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. Hebrews 13:15 (NASB)

It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, ²to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night, . . . Psalm 92:1-2 (NIV)

➤ APPLICATION

- Grow downward by being rooted in Him.
- Grow upward by being built up by Him.
- Grow inward – being strengthened in our faith.
- Grow outward as we overflow with gratitude.