

7 Things to Keep You on Track as a Christian

How to Use This Guide

This self-study guide is a companion document to the video course “7 Things to Keep You on Track as a Christian.” This guide will help you to reflect on key learning from the video as well as deepen your understanding of behaviors that strengthen your walk with God as discussed in the video. Learning about salvation is just the first step in your lifelong journey with Jesus. Now that you are saved, you want to be able to develop key habits as Christian in your life daily. This guide is designed to help you walk out your salvation in Christ Jesus so that you receive the fullness of who you are in Him.

Each Glory to Glory Study guide is organized around five areas of learning:

1. **Synopsis of Key Learning** - The synopsis will provide summaries of key points from the video that are important for you to understand and serve as foundational knowledge for the next course in the learning series.
2. **Important Vocabulary and Concepts** - This study guide will provide explanation of important words or ideas that are critical to understanding biblical truth.
3. **Deeper Learning** - The more you know and understand about who God is and how He works, the deeper in love you fall. God wants to have a deep and abiding relationship with you. He desires for you to know Him. This section of guide will give you additional insights into the teaching from the video for you to study on your own. If you have questions, there will be mentoring moments in the online school for you to get your questions answered.
4. **Life Application** - God calls for us to not just be a hearer of His word, but a doer also. (James 1:22). This means that God expects for us to apply what we learn about Him in our everyday lives. This section of the study is to help you think about the ways to apply what you learn from the course to your everyday life.
5. **Memory Scriptures** - Scriptures that support key concepts in the course will be highlighted. We encourage you to memorize these scriptures by meditating on them until they are hidden in your heart. When you hide God's word in your heart, it makes it hard for the enemy to deceive you. In this way, you are less likely to sin against God. (Psalm 119:11)

Introduction to Course Two

During your Christian walk, you will experience good seasons and bad seasons; ups and downs. Course Two will walk you through seven habits to keep you in relationship with God. It can be easy to give up when things get hard, but God says we must NOT respond to a temporary affliction as if it is eternal. Keep pressing forward. The thing to remember is that in life we have seasons (moments in time) and those moments of struggle will not always be. **Please watch the video - [7 Things to Keep You on Track as a Christian](#).**

Course Two is an overview of seven habits that help you to grow and sustain your relationship with God, so you can keep press forward during difficult seasons. This study guide is a synopsis of the video for your reference and is not a substitute for watching the video. The video gives important details not captured in the synopsis and explains each of the scripture references in relationship to the habit. The course will explain why different bible translations are used throughout this guide.

Additionally, the synopsis for this course is an after course reference to help you reflect on each habit discussed in the video as well as give additional references for consideration. The next several courses will take you through each of the seven habits one by one for deeper understanding and application.

7 Things to Keep You on Track as a Christian

Synopsis

1. **Read your bible.** The bible tells us about God and who He is. His character. If you want to know who God is, you have to read His word. Reading the bible also helps you to know who you are in God. You are going to be bombarded with a lot of information from different sources. The only way to know the truth of what you hear is to know God's word. Proverbs 2:6-7 (NLT), Romans 15:4 (Voice)
2. **Stay repentant.** As you go through life, you will find that you will do things that are associated with your old life. Sin will continue to happen. It is important for you to acknowledge when you have done something wrong. It is not like the original time you asked for forgiveness when you came to the Lord. This repentance is for when you sin as you are going through life. The more mature you become in the Lord, you will sin less and less. You will start to understand where your pitfalls are and what triggers you. You will stay away from those things. Until you get to this place, just stay in a place of repentance. John 13:4-10 (NKV), Psalm 66:18-20 (Passion)

	<p>3. Pray. Come as you are and have a simple conversation with the Lord like you have when talking with another person. Prayer is communication with God. Come with a heart that is speaking truth; the good, the bad, the ugly. There is no pretending with God. Luke 11:9-13 (Passion)</p> <p>4. Love God and love others. We have the 10 commandments and Jesus said there are really only two. All of the rest fall within these two commandments. When you love someone, what is important to them is important to you. When you love God, you want to keep His commandments. Matthew 22:37-39 (NKJV)</p> <p>5. Be authentic. It is important to be authentically you. You were made as a unique person for God to work through you. Your personality, everything about you is a part of who God created you to be. There are certain people that only God can reach through you – being who you are. When you mature in Christ, your authentic personality in the way God intended shines brighter. Romans 8:29 (NKJV), Psalm 139:14-18 (NKJV)</p> <p>6. To Write It Down. Write down everything that God is saying to you. By journaling or writing things down, you will begin to discover the way that God is speaking to you and only you. God has a unique way that He speaks to each individual person. Habakkuk 2:2-3 (NLT)</p> <p>7. REMEMBER - You win in the End! Those of you who belong to Christ Jesus win in the end. It doesn't matter what comes at you in different seasons of life. Just remember that you are a winner in Christ Jesus.</p>
<p>Key Vocabulary/ Concepts</p>	<p>Prayer (Definition) - A solemn address to God, consisting of an expression of our sense of God's perfect ways, confession of our sins, petition for mercy and forgiveness, asking for blessings on others, and thanksgiving, or an expression of gratitude to God for his mercies and benefits. A prayer may consist of a single petition, and it may be spontaneous, written or printed. (Hebrew Bible)</p> <p>Prayer (Key Concept) - Without engaging in the act of prayer, it is impossible to be in communion (relationship) with God. It is the primary way that humankind communicates with God. As you read the bible, you will see that prayer was the primary way believers developed and sustained a relationship with God. Even the Son of God - Jesus, spent</p>

	<p>a consistent and significant portion of His time in prayer.</p> <p>Bible (Definition) - The inspired word of God, is without error, and does not misrepresent the facts. It is entirely trustworthy and is the final authority on everything it teaches. The Bible records the drama of redemption in the history of Israel and the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. (Christianity.com)</p> <p>Bible (Key Concept) - The bible reveals to us who God is. It also shows us who we are in Him. Not only does it give us identity in God, but it is a manual for life. It answers every question, gives solutions to every problem we are faced with. It is the living word of God, which means that it is relevant to our lives today just as much as it was thousands of years ago. When you start to experience this concept for yourself, you will be in awe (smiley face).</p> <p>Repentance (Definition) - The activity of reviewing one’s actions and feelings of regret for doing wrong, which is accompanied by the commitment to and actual actions that show and prove a change for the better. (Oxford English Dictionary)</p> <p>Repentance (Key Concept) - Staying in daily repentance (when done with a sincere heart) is the equivalent of washing your feet. The washing of feet was symbolic of purifying yourself from the inevitable toxic ways of the world. Although we live in the world, we are not of it. But even still, we can be impacted by it. Repentance helps to keep us pure before the Lord and in communion with Him.</p> <p>Commandment (Definition) – Something that must be obeyed; a command or edict. The act of commanding; exercise of authority. A law. (American Heritage Dictionary)</p> <p>Commandment (Key Concept) - It is impossible to keep the law without being in communion with the Godhead.</p>
<p>Deeper Learning</p>	<p>Rules Without Relationship Equals Rebellion – Course Two gives you an overview of habits that help you to <i>develop and sustain</i> a relationship with God. These habits are important, because salvation is just the first step in re-establishing the connection with God that was lost when sin entered into the world. It is only through a loving relationship with the Godhead that mankind has the power to keep God’s commandments. Let’s unpack how that works:</p> <p>God the Father God created humans in His image, so that He could have a loving relationship with them. When man sinned, he suffered a spiritual</p>

death, which was a consequence of sin. (See definition for spiritual death from course one study guide.)

God cannot be in communion with sin. He wanted to fix His broken relationship with humans, so He made a way for humans to be cleansed from their sins through repentance. Initially, humans were required to sacrifice sheep and other animals to cleanse them of their sins as an act of repentance. They were also given 10 commandments (or laws) to help keep them from sinning. The laws, however, didn't help humankind. Man kept sinning and turning away from God. They could not keep the law on their own. This made God sad, so He decided to send His only begotten Son to save humankind once and for all.

The Son of God

Jesus came into the earth as a physical representation of God in the flesh, so that He could reconcile humankind into a loving relationship with God the Father. He lived a sin free life by staying in close communion with God the Father and Holy Spirit through prayer. Jesus modeled for humankind how to fulfil the requirements of the law. He essentially did this by condensing God's commands into two basic principles; love God and love others as yourself (Matthew 22:40) Everything can be accomplished when we love, for love covers a multitude of sin. (1 Peter 4:8) Still, Jesus understood man's weaknesses in their sin nature, so He promised to send a helper after He fulfilled the laws that humans could not fulfil on their own.

The Holy Spirit

After the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, the Holy Spirit was sent as a helper to all those who believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit helps to communicate to you when you are on track and when you are off track. He also strengthens you, when you are weak. This guidance from the Holy Spirit is personalized for every believer, because He guides you based on your uniqueness - the authentic you that God created you to be.

In Summary

When we do not sustain our relationship with the Godhead through these 7 Things to Keep You on Track as a Christian, it can be very difficult to meet the commandments of God. Because each person is uniquely made, the Holy Spirit is able to give individualized guidance on what to do. It is through a relationship with God that He makes a way for you to live your best life in Him. And, the Seven Things to Keep You on Track as a Christian is a practical roadmap to getting to know God as a new believer.

Life Application	<p>Action Step – Watch the next 7 Videos that will provide deeper learning as a follow-up to course two.</p> <p>Salvation does not protect you from the consequences of sin. Nor, does it eliminate our responsibility from keeping the commandments of God. God understands that when people are focused on keeping the laws only, their hearts can be empty and hard. People can be unloving and unkind to each other even when keeping His 10 commandments. That is not who God is and we were made in His image. God emphasizes having a loving relationship with Him. We desire to please those we love. By following the 7 Things to Keep You on Track as a Christian, you will develop and sustain a fruitful and loving relationship with the Godhead. (See fruit of the spirit in the study guide for course one) If you feel overwhelmed with all seven, prioritize talking to God (prayer) and reading the bible everyday. Once these two habits are in place, the rest will be a piece of cake. :-)</p>
Memory Scriptures	<p>Matthew 7:12 – In everything, then, do to others as you would have them do to you for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. (NIV)</p>

Prayer of Salvation

Father God,

Thank You that You had a plan for when man had fallen and chose to sin. You still had a plan for us because of Your unfailing love and I thank You for it. Father God, I come before You and confess that I am a sinner. I repent for all of my sins. I repent for all of the ways that I have fallen short of Your perfect standard.

I ask now, Lord, that You would forgive me of my sins. I ask You now Lord, to receive me as Your child. I receive Jesus as my Lord and Savior.

Today, I confess with my mouth and I believe with my heart that Jesus is Lord and He died for my sins. I ask now Lord that You give me Your Holy Spirit. Bring me back into communion with You. Give me that experience of face to face, where I get to know You more.

I thank You for the free gift of salvation. And, I believe that today, and for the rest of my life that it will be the best of my life. I thank You for my salvation.

In Jesus name.

Amen.