



# NEXT STEPS

EXCEL  
CHURCH

So you made a decision to follow Jesus?

What next?

Excel Church, Wolverhampton Street, Bilston, WV14 0LT  
(01902) 402273 [www.excelchurch.org.uk](http://www.excelchurch.org.uk) [info@excelchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@excelchurch.org.uk)

# NEXT STEPS

Making the decision to follow Jesus is the most important choice you will make in your life! Following Jesus is a journey which you have just started, but it's important that you start to take the first few steps on that journey right away.

# 1

## GET READING

Picking up a Bible might seem pretty daunting, but if you're serious about this new journey it's something you really need to do (and actually isn't that scary). Reading the Bible will help you in so many ways including helping you discover more about God and the amazing plans that he has for your life.

### WHERE CAN I GET A BIBLE?

We would be glad to give you a bible for free, just ask one of the church leaders. However, if you want something a bit more special there are loads of options on Amazon (or other online retailers). We would recommend getting one in the NIV translation to begin with. It's accurate, but also very readable. The great thing is that nowadays you can get every translation you could ever want on your phone by downloading the **YouVersion** Bible app. It also has some brilliant reading plans and notes to help you on your way! Need more help? Just let us know.



The Bible isn't the kind of book you read from cover to cover instead you can dip in and out as you please. Try and set aside 10 minutes each day to read a small portion. Pray before reading and ask God to speak to you. We recommend you start with one of the gospels like the book of Mark. Then maybe read Genesis or some of the Psalms. Reading notes can really help you understand what you read. Some Bibles have notes, or you can find them in the **YouVersion** app.

### WHERE DO I START?

## GET PRAYING

### WHAT IS PRAYER?

Simply put, prayer is talking to God. The way to build any relationship is to talk! Your relationship with God is no different. Start talking to him today about anything and everything.



"If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!" Matthew 7:11

know as **The Lord's Prayer**. You can find it in Matthew 6v5-13. Another simple pattern to use is TSP:



**Thank you** Take some time to thank God for the blessings in your life.

**Sorry** Reflect and confess the things you may have said, thought or done that have offended God and even the things you have failed to do, but should have done.

**Please** Bring your requests before God and the needs of others in your world and even across the globe.

### WILL GOD ANSWER?

"For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks the door will be opened" (Matthew 7:8).

While God always answers prayers, we must remember there are things like disobedience and unforgiveness that can hinder our prayers and He doesn't always answer as we expect. Sometimes the answer is yes, sometimes it's no and sometimes it's 'wait'. The thing to remember is that God knows best.

# 2

# 3

## GET INVOLVED



Spending time with other believers is essential if you want to grow in your faith. Just like a hot coal that is taken out of a fire will soon go out, your faith will soon fade if you're not doing life with other Christians. Stay in the fire.

### 3 MAIN WAYS

we would encourage you to get involved here at **EXCEL CHURCH**

#### SUNDAYS

Sunday services are a great place to meet people and learn more about prayer and the Bible. Our services are lively and relevant to life in today's world. We would love you to join us at one or more of our Sunday Services. You can find out more at:

[excelchurch.org.uk/sundays](http://excelchurch.org.uk/sundays)

#### CONNECT

Our Connect Groups are small meetings in people's homes and they are a great way to get to know people better within the church. There is plenty of opportunity to ask questions and share prayer requests. Groups meet on various days and times. You can find out more and sign up for a group here:

[excelchurch.org.uk/connect](http://excelchurch.org.uk/connect)

#### SERVE

The best way to make strong connections is to find a place to serve at church. There are loads of opportunities here at Excel on Sundays, but also at other times. We also run a course called **Excelerate** which is designed to help you find where you are best suited to serve. Let us know if you're interested! In the meantime have a look how you can get involved here:

[excelchurch.org.uk/serve](http://excelchurch.org.uk/serve)

## WATER BAPTISM

We would encourage any new believer to get baptised in obedience to Jesus' command (Matthew 28:19). We have opportunities throughout the year and we have produced a booklet which will explain everything. Speak to one of the church leaders for more information.

**TRUST** in the Lord with **ALL** your **HEART** and **LEAN NOT** on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge **HIM** and he will make your paths **STRAIGHT**.



Proverbs 3v5-6



You can find out more about prayer, reading the bible, getting involved in church life, our next steps course, signing up to get baptised, and lots of other useful links by scanning this QR code.

[excelchurch.org.uk/nextsteps](http://excelchurch.org.uk/nextsteps)