

day 4 | Your New Life in Christ

Don't Get the Cart Before the Horse

Don't attempt to be *revived* if you have never been "vived" in the first place. Second Corinthians 5:17 says that if any of us "is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (NIV) Have you found that new life in Christ? Have you had a conversion experience? Have you been "vived"? Don't get the cart before the horse. There is no point in pursuing re-vival if you have never been "vived."

❶ Can you tell a story like this?

There was a time in my life when I was going the wrong way, and the Lord reached out and brought me to the cross. By faith I experienced the forgiveness of sin that Jesus died and rose again to provide. At that time my eyes were opened, my heart was gripped, my life was captured by the grace of God, and I have never been the same since.

Yes No

If your answer is yes because you have new life in Christ, jump down to "Replicate" below. If you have never experienced this new life in Jesus Christ, keep reading. The story above is the real-life testimony for every person who has been given life in Christ. You can be come to new life here in this moment if you pray this prayer to God from your heart:"

Lord, I know that I am a sinner and that on my own I am not prepared to meet God. I believe that Jesus died to pay the penalty for my sin. I believe that He rose from the dead. Right now in this moment I turn from my sin, and I embrace Jesus Christ by faith. Come into my life and forgive my sins. Change me. Make me the man (or woman) You want me to be. I give my life to You today. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

❷ If you prayed this prayer because you were ready to repent and turn to Christ for salvation and life, tell somebody in your family and in your small group. Let them rejoice with you in this decision.

Replicate: Remembering the Joy of Your Salvation

We're focusing in this study on personal revival—a bringing back to life after indifference or decline. No matter how long it's been since you've come to Jesus as your Savior, think back to the joy of your salvation.

❸ Want to really fire up your passion for God? Prepare to share with your small group a brief testimony of how you came to Christ for salvation. Though you may or may not have a dramatic testimony, remember that every transformed life is a miracle. Keep your time focused on your point of crisis as the prompting for your initial decision to trust Christ.

➤ Spend time in prayer thanking God for His great salvation. ↑