

Open Beginning

- Up your Bible reading by choosing a devotional from the You Version app. Increase your personal time with God 5 minutes per month until you reach 30 minutes.
- Increase where you are hearing and being encouraged to grow in Christ. As you become more open to what Jesus says, add one or more of the following:
 - a small group
 - Bible Study
 - accountability relationship
- Find a way to remember the special times with God by keeping memories either electronically or in a written journal. These will help you when you need a reminder of how much God has worked in your life.
- Start a prayer list that includes not just your prayers, but prayers for others as well.
- Start praying for people right away when they have a need so you don't forget.
- Spend a moment when a part of what you read peaks your interests and sit silently with it for a moment to see what God may be saying to you
- Find a person to grow with you in the faith. They should be
 - A person of the same gender
 - ideally not a spouse (we don't always get the most objective analysis from those who know us that well 😊)
 - Someone you can share openly with - Someone who will speak truth, even when it is not popular with you
 - Someone who you trust wants God's very best for you
 - Someone you can offer the same things to them
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- Once we decide to follow Jesus, we need to learn the path to discipleship. The Journey is an intentional plan for discipleship that provides a purposeful process for maturing in Christ.
- Hide God's word in your heart. Start with memorizing this verse.
John 14:6 *Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*