

YOU'VE CHOSEN
TO FOLLOW CHRIST.

WHAT'S
YOUR
NEXT
STEP?





CONGRATU- LATIONS!

In the Bible Jesus said, “...I have come that they may have life and have it abundantly.” That abundant life began the moment you stepped over the line of faith and into a relationship with Christ. But that is just the beginning.

You’ve taken the first step; now what?

You probably still have questions about your decision. You may even have doubts. That’s ok! But don’t let those questions or doubts stop you from moving forward. Doubt your doubts and feed your faith by working through the things in this book. **And continue to experience the abundant life - one step at a time!**

About this book

This book contains 9 key steps that Crossroads can help you take over the coming months. It provides a map based on what the Bible, God’s Word, says about how to grow in Christ.

9 growth steps

- FOLLOW CHRIST
- BAPTISM
- SERVING
- GROUPS
- NEXT STEPS
- GENEROSITY
- SHARE
- BELONG
- LEAD

FOLLOW CHRIST

MAN

GOD

GOD LOVES YOU and has a plan for your life.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11

GOD SENT JESUS CHRIST to die on the cross.

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. - Romans 5:8

MAN

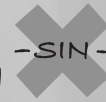
GOD

YOUR SIN CAUSES A COSMIC CHASM between you and God.

But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. - Isaiah 59:2

MAN

GOD



IT'S YOUR CHOICE to receive the gift or not.

...if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

- Romans 10:9-10

MAN

GOD

• FOLLOW CHRIST

DON'T FORGET

to tell someone about the decision you've made! (See Page 16)

STEP TWO

BAPTISM

After making the commitment to surrender to Jesus, the next step in your spiritual journey is to be baptized. While following Jesus is an *internal* commitment followed by living a new life with Him,

Baptism is an *outward* and public celebration of your commitment to follow Jesus!

It is an act of obedience by following Jesus' instruction (Matthew 28:19) and example (Matthew 3:13-17).

It also acknowledges our belief that Jesus died on a cross, was buried, and then walked out of the grave fully alive so that we could have eternal life.

IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE!



What to expect

Most baptisms occur during a weekend service where a mentor, key family member, or pastor dips you into a tank of water and raises you back out while everyone celebrates. This is symbolic of our old self dying, being buried, and then being raised back to new life in Christ.

To schedule your baptism, contact: (765) 453-4626 or info@ecrossroads.org.



STEP THREE

SERVING

Serving with other people is a great way to make friends and help Crossroads feel more like home. There are many areas to serve in at Crossroads and the best way to find out about them is to take part in our VolunTour.

VolunTour happens on the first weekend of each month immediately following each worship service. During the 20-minute tour, you will get a behind the scenes look at all the different serving opportunities at Crossroads. You will also hear about ministries you can take part in outside of the weekend worship services.



You don't need to sign up ahead of time.

Just look for the VolunTour sign at the Next Steps area on the first weekend of the month and join us for the tour!

For more information about VolunTour, contact:
(765) 453-4626 or info@ecrossroads.org.



GROUPS

STEP FOUR

We Become More Like Jesus Together.

That means we are intentional about joining with other, non-perfect people just like us so we can grow in Christ together.

To find a group, attend a **Crossroads in Six** session after any service and a Guide will help you find the right fit. You can also check out:

groups.ecrossroads.org

WE BECOME MORE LIKE
JESUS TOGETHER



5 FLAVORS:

Interest Groups

These groups are based on common interests and vary from crocheting to food enthusiasts to ultimate frisbee!

Care Groups

These groups meet people where they are in life's hurts, habits, and hangups. Examples include Celebrate Recovery, Divorce Care, Grief Share, and much more...

Serve Groups

These groups are designed around serving others both in and outside the walls of Crossroads.

Short-Term Groups

These groups meet for a few weeks at a time and often study a video series from RightNow Media. When they're over, you can sign back on for another term, change groups, or continue by forming a long-term Life group.

Life Groups

These long-term groups "do life together" by intentionally growing and helping each other through life's successes and tragedies over a longer period of time.

STEP FIVE

DISCOVER YOUR

NEXT STEP

WITH CHRIST

Every single person on the planet has a next step to take with Christ. From the oldest saint who has run their race well to the person that some might say is the furthest away from God... Everybody has at least one more, specific step Christ wants them to take towards Him.

What's your next step?

The following inventory is a general tool meant to help you identify growth areas that are specific to you. Warning! This can be difficult: resist the urge to feel judgement or shame. That's the last thing we want, and it's why we encourage you to walk through this with a trusted friend or discipler so you can talk about it in the context of your personal journey.

Answer each statement based on the following scale.

2 = if the statement is true most or all of the time

1 = if the statement is true occasionally

0 = if the statement is never true

NA = does not apply to your circumstance

Worshipping God is a big deal

- ___ I spend 5-10 minutes daily in prayer and Bible reading.
- ___ I memorize Scripture verses.
- ___ I study God's word.
- ___ I pray for others by name.
- ___ I pray for my church.
- ___ I attend church 2-3 (or more) times per month.
- ___ I participate during the worship services.
- ___ I prioritize worshipping God outside of the weekend service.

All people matter to God

- ___ I am aware of and understand my spiritual gift.
Have you taken the spiritual gifts test? Yes / No
- ___ I serve at my church.
What ministry _____
How often _____
- ___ I pray for the salvation of someone.
Who? _____
- ___ I intentionally invest in someone for the purpose of leading them to Christ.
- ___ I volunteer in a ministry to the hurting.
(Examples: Servant Ministries, Care Network, Special Needs, Rescue Mission, Urban Outreach, etc.)
- ___ I do something to help a stranger to me know that God loves and values them.

(Continue on next page)

It's OK to not be OK

- ___ I overcome any hurts, hang-ups, or habits that keep me from growing in Christ.
- ___ I intentionally and regularly remind myself of who I am in Christ.
- ___ I successfully fight temptation regarding my particular personal sins.
- ___ I share with someone regarding personal issues and struggles in my life.
- ___ I pray or fast regarding a particular personal struggle.
- ___ I take an additional step to address that struggle
examples: Care Network, Intensive Bible Study, seeing a counselor, etc.

We are blessed to bless

- ___ I give intentionally and systematically to my church.
- ___ I give spontaneously to the needs of someone else.
- ___ I spend time in prayer thanking God for my blessings.
- ___ I tithe to my church
tithe = giving 10% or more of my income
- ___ I determine a budget, and live within that budget, so I can give to others.
- ___ I verbally bless someone I do not know.
- ___ I give beyond my tithe to support a need in my church, community, or world.

We become more like Jesus together

- ___ I attend my small group.
- ___ I spend intentional social time with other believers
examples: go out to dinner, have people over to your home, go camping together, etc.
- ___ I participate in larger group activities.
examples: Huddle, Psalms, Blush, Great Banquet, etc.
- ___ I evaluate whether I feel closer to Christ today than I did a few months ago.
- ___ I find my heart broken by a burden from God.
- ___ I take steps to intentionally address a conflict with someone.
- ___ I have forgiven someone of an offence against me.

We build faith at home

- ___ I date my spouse or significant other.
- ___ I relate to my spouse or significant other in their love language.
Have you and those under your roof discovered your love language? Yes / No
- ___ I intentionally invest time in my kids, grandkids, & family.
- ___ I pray daily with and for those under my roof.
- ___ I talk about matters of faith at least weekly with those under my roof.
- ___ I serve together monthly with those under my roof.

With a trusted friend or discipler, review each item marked with a 0 or 1. Prayerfully determine one or two next steps to focus on in the coming months.

MY NEXT STEP IS...

CHECK OUT...

growth.ecrossroads.org
to find resources for taking your next step.

GENEROSITY

**“For God so loved the world,
that He gave...”**

– John 3:16 –

Out of His love for you, God gave. He could have done anything He wanted to establish a relationship with you, and yet He gave His very best. Out of His love for you, He gave His most valuable offering. He gave His Son, Jesus. And out of our response to the love God has shown us, we give.

What is a tithe?

Malachi 3 instructs us to “tithe,” which is 10% of our income. And, this is the only place in the Bible that gives us permission to “test God” with our giving. The Bible talks more about the promises of giving than the command of giving.

**Titling is not the finish line
of giving, but the starting line
of generosity.**

2 Corinthians 9:11 says, “*You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.*”

As you give out of your response to God’s love, your giving directly translates to people praising God!

Your generous giving helps us to reach students and adults in our community and around the world. This investment into His Kingdom is how your generosity “*results in thanksgiving to God.*”

How to give:

Send a text to **77977** and follow the links to the Crossroads Pushpay App to set up your account today.

Search for ‘Crossroads Kokomo’ in the Google Play or Apple App store to use the **GIVE BUTTON** in our Crossroads App.

Place a check or cash in an **ENVELOPE** during our weekend services.

STEP SEVEN

SHARE

A key step in growing as a Christian is learning to tell your story. It's easy to write off a church or religion, but there is something uncommonly powerful about a person with a genuine story to tell about what Jesus has done in their life..

...they triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony..."

- Revelation 12:1

Use the following guide to write down key events, people, themes, or "ah ha" moments in your faith journey.

Nervous? Stuck?
reach out to a friend
or contact us for help

info@ecrossroads.org

MY 5-MINUTE FAITH STORY:

MY LIFE BEFORE ACCEPTING CHRIST



HOW I CAME TO ACCEPT CHRIST



MY LIFE AFTER ACCEPTING CHRIST

WHO I WANT TO TELL:

FRIENDS

FAMILY

WORK / SCHOOL

OTHER

BELONG

STEP EIGHT

We want Crossroads to be more than a place you attend, more than a place where you serve, more than a place that serves you.

We want it to be a place where you belong...

A place that you call home.

What is membership?

Church membership is an intentional step of commitment and involvement. It enables those who call Crossroads home to submit to each other and hold each other accountable in the kind of community that meets people where they are and helps them take their next step with Christ.

Why would an attender want to become a member?

To make an intentional statement of commitment and identification to yourself and others.

To position yourself for consideration for ministry leadership.

To become better informed regarding the ministries of Crossroads.

To have a say on membership-level church decisions.

The requirements for membership are simple:

Be a follower of Jesus Christ who has repented of their sins, accepted Christ and His forgiveness by faith, and made that reality known by being baptized.

Be willing to grow by pursuing involvement in a group, using your gifts by serving, sharing your faith with others, and daily bible reading and prayer.

Align yourself with your church by making worship attendance a priority, giving systematically and generously, and maintaining unity with the mission and values of Crossroads.

Crossroads in 60

Membership is offered 3-4 times a year at a setting called **Crossroads in 60**.

For more information contact:

(765) 453-4626 or info@ecrossroads.org.

LEAD

STEP NINE

One of the final commands that Jesus gave his followers is found in Matthew 28:19:

“go and make disciples”

This is accomplished best when we encourage others to grow up in Christ just as we are doing.

Each leader at Crossroads has someone who is following in their footsteps just as Hebrews 13:7 says, *“Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith.”*

There are a number of leadership opportunities at Crossroads:

- Group leaders
- Missions team
- Finance team
- Elders
- Deacons

All of these people strive to lead and set the example of faith for others to follow.

We view this step as a culmination of all the previous steps you have taken or are involved in. Our leaders have:

- accepted Christ
- been baptized
- serve in an area of ministry
- participate in a group
- know their next step with Christ
- said yes to membership
- tithe on their income
- tell others about what Christ has done for them

If you are interested in being a leader at Crossroads contact: (765) 453-4626 or info@ecrossroads.org.



All leaders have a group of followers who are growing as they are.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

12-DAY READING PLAN

Reading your Bible is part of how God speaks to you and shapes you into becoming more like Jesus. As you read the passages listed below, prayerfully ask these questions:

- What did I learn about Jesus?
- What is God telling me to do differently in my life?
- What do I need to pray for?

Day 1 – Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-21)

The birth of Jesus fulfilled promises made by God centuries before. It reminds us of the power of God and His strong desire to have a relationship with us.

Day 2 – Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13-17)

Jesus was baptized as a first step in his ministry on earth. When we are baptized, we are following His example, taking our first step in obedience and witness for Him.

Day 3 – Temptation of Jesus (Luke 4:1-13)

Jesus was tempted to sin just like we are. However, he successfully resisted those temptations by relying on the truth of the Bible and the strength of the Holy Spirit within him. Our relationship with God gives us access to those same resources.

Day 4 – Parable of the Sower (Mark 4:1-20)

God speaking to our heart is like a farmer planting good seed. Like the farmer, the condition of the soil (our heart) determines whether growth will happen.

Day 5 – Prayer of Jesus (Luke 11:1-13)

Jesus wants us to pray and gives us an example of how to do so. In your new relationship with God, don't be afraid to share your needs, your concerns, everything in your heart with your Heavenly Father. He cares about you.

Day 6 – Ministry of Jesus (John 4:1-30)

Jesus met a woman with a need and met that need. Again, he set the example for us to follow with the people in our lives. Be willing to share your story and invited others to pursue a relationship with God.

Day 7 – Promise by Jesus (John 14:16-27)

When Jesus was about to be crucified, He promised that the Holy Spirit would come to live inside of us. Your new relationship with God is a fulfillment of that promise. You have the Spirit inside of you as your counselor and teacher.

Day 8 – Example of Jesus (Matthew 20:20-28)

Jesus came as a servant. He wants us to serve as he served. Look to discover how God has gifted you and then look for opportunities to use those gifts to impact others.

Day 9 – Last Supper with Jesus (Matthew 26:17-35)

Jesus celebrated the Jewish Passover with his disciples just hours before he was arrested. He also initiated a new practice called the Lord's Supper (which we today call communion) as a way to celebrate his death for our sins. When you take communion, do so focused on what Jesus has done for you.

Day 10 – Crucifixion of Jesus (Luke 23:26-56)

Jesus died a horrible death for our sins. His sacrifice provided forgiveness for us and made possible a relationship with God.

Day 11 – Resurrection of Jesus (Luke 24:1-49)

The resurrection of Jesus proved that he has authority over everything, including death. That same power of God that raised Jesus from the dead is the power that is at work in you.

Day 12 – Commission by Jesus (Matthew 28:16-20)

The last instructions by Jesus to his followers were simple – go and make disciples. As a follower of Jesus, your job is to go and tell others about Him.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

USEFUL

LINKS & INFO

apps.ecrossroads.org

- My Crossroads Account
- The Crossroads APP
- Right Now Media

growth.ecrossroads.org

- Spiritual gifts test
- Spiritual stage assessment
- Parent Q
- Faith at Home resources
- Tech Savvy Parenting

links.ecrossroads.org

- Celebrate Recovery
- Care Groups
- Heaven's Hands
- Journey of Generosity Retreat
- Preserve Marriages
- Warehouse
(Open every 3rd Saturday @ 9 am)
- Weddings
- Funerals
- Facilities

CROSSROADS NORTH KOKOMO LOCATION

OFFICE: 104 N. MAIN ST. KOKOMO, IN 46901

HOURS: MON. - THUR. 8 TO 5

PHONE: 765-626-3179

CROSSROADS SOUTH KOKOMO LOCATION

OFFICE: 4254 S. 00 E.W. KOKOMO, IN 46902

HOURS: MON. - THUR. 9 TO 4

PHONE: 765-453-4626

ONLINE CAMPUS

ECROSSROADS.TV

THE ONE MISSION

to meet people where they are
& help them take their next step with Christ

THE SIX CORE VALUES

worshiping God is a big deal

all people matter to God

it's OK to not be OK

we are blessed to bless

we become more like Jesus together

we build faith at home

