



# ABIDE

## LESSON TWO: AMBASSADOR

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Lesson 1 provides recorded proof of how greatly Jesus changed the trajectory of a life through His interaction, teaching, and healing. The Bible records the evidence of how He healed someone and how that person's life was changed forever. Now that you have accepted Jesus into your life, He is offering you the same care and healing for the struggles you wrestle with as He did for those you learned about because becoming a believer does not make your challenges disappear overnight.

Perhaps you are a new believer. Maybe you accepted Him when you were younger and are returning to Him. Perhaps you have tried to live your life "your way" and have realized you need to live your life "His way."

Stop traveling and just come home.

One of the most common questions people have after accepting Jesus or returning to Him is, "Now what?" Paul answers all these questions in the Book of Titus. In it he explains how believers are to conduct themselves from youth to old age and warns how to become aware of and combat the teachings of false teachers. Sadly, the church on the island of Crete had become corrupt and was well known for its sinfulness. Titus, Paul's Gentile companion, was sent to restore the house churches there back to order and replace the false teachers with godly ones. Just as Titus was sent to restore and right the house churches and to kick out the false teachers, so the Holy Spirit has set up house in you. With your cooperation He will do the same in you as Titus did in Crete.

Accepting Jesus will require you to make some changes in your life. It may be hard, but keep in mind you have done hard things before successfully. What is important to remember is that Jesus will be there every day to help you. When you accepted Him into your life, you were sent a Helper, the Holy Spirit, who will provide you with discernment and help as you continue to move forward in your faith. And you will, move forward. Remember that you are learning a new way, His way and it will be worth it.

Several years ago, I decided to take up running after coming to a difficult juncture in my life. To say it was hard is an understatement, but I was determined. Five days a week I planned out my run. At first my run comprised of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile walk and  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile run. This went on for several weeks, but I was making progress. Then I felt like I could run  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a mile and walk  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a mile. This went on for a while until I was ready to run  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile and walk the remaining  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile. Eventually I was able to run a full mile without any walking! How did I achieve my dream of becoming a runner? With intentionality, a plan, and patience. Were there days when I wanted to skip the run? Yes. Were there days when I was too tired to run? Yes. Were there days when I had to shorten the distance of my run? Yes. But I intentionally planned my runs, I kept the promise I made to myself, and I did not give up.

