



**WHAT IT MEANS TO
BE
BORN
AGAIN**



On this day

I _____

repented of my sins and accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Saviour.

Today I vow to serve Him all the days of my life and promise to tell at least one person about Jesus.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE BORN AGAIN

Our desire is that this book will help you in your new walk with God.

Jesus is the only One who can give you eternal life. Jesus is the One who gives purpose and meaning to your life.

CHAPTER 1

The new birth

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

This is not a religion, this is a new life in God. It is a relationship with Jesus, not a set of rules or formulas. Belonging to a church does not make you born again, or a child of God. Just because you belong to a church does not make you a Christian. Unless you are born again of the Spirit of God, you are not a Christian, a child of God.

*Ephesians 2:1-2 And you He made alive,
who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2
in which you once walked according to
the course of this world, according to the
prince of the power of the air, the spirit
who now works in the sons of
disobedience,*

You were dead in your sin and trespasses. When you become born again, Jesus makes you alive. You will not perish because you are now born again, you have now come alive. Churches are filled with people, but many of them are not born again. They have never had a new birth experience.

They have never come to the foot of the cross. They may have stood in a line and said, "Jesus, I confess You as my Lord and Saviour." But they have never had a change of heart.

The new birth is not external. Salvation or to be born again is not something you can understand with your mind. Salvation is of the heart, and when you come with the heart and accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, you are born again. You are changed. You become a new creature in Christ Jesus. That is the exciting thing about the new birth.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Not, I think I am a new creature, not maybe I'm a new creature.

You **ARE** a new creature. When you are born again, old things have passed away. When you are born again you are changed, you become new. Your old life and nature is gone and your new nature is alive, you are no longer dead in your trespasses and sin **YOU** are now alive.

People who think they can be born again and live just the way they always did walking in sin are just fooling themselves.

Their hearts are not right with God, they have never come to the place of repentance.

It doesn't matter if you are the head elder, or your father is a pastor or if your family is wealthy or poor. When you are born again, you are changed. You become new, you become a child of God.

God didn't owe us anything. He didn't have to die for us. The main point to understand is that God reached down to a lost and dying world. He came down to restore man back to Himself because of what Adam lost in the Garden of Eden. God the Father sent Jesus Christ to restore mankind back to their rightful place. But God didn't have to do it but He wanted to, that's how much He loves mankind.

He could have let us go to hell. But because of His love extended toward us while we were yet sinners, the bible says Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

He knew who you were and what you were doing. Many people are praying a prayer with their mind. Saying the right words does not cause the new birth to take place. Something must happen inside. You must mean what you say when you pray and give your life to Jesus. There must come a time when you walk away from sin and there is a change inside of you. There must be a change.

You were once lost and now you are found. You were once blind but now you see. You were once in darkness but now you are in the light.

Colossians 1:13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

You once belonged in the family of the wicked one, now you are in the family of God. There is a transition. It is like leaving one province and going to another. That means I no longer am walking in the old ways.

It is important to recognise this because many mentally say yes, and accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour but they go out and continue to live the life of a sinner.

They say yes for they want to please someone older than them or they want to give Christianity a try. There is no change in their lives. They continue to speak the same way. They commit the same sins. They have just become part of a club. They have never had a true new birth experience.

1 John 3:9 Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

When you practice sin as a way of life how can you be born again?

If you sin and you know you've done wrong, immediately you can feel it in your heart.

Jesus needs to become real to you.

I am so glad when Jesus hung on the cross He didn't say, I'm quitting. I am so glad in the Garden of Gethsemane He didn't say, "That's it, Father. Enough it's too much." The bible says He could have called 10,000 angels to rescue Him away. He looked down and saw you and me. He said, "I will pay the price. I will buy them back. I will shed My blood for their redemption."

Jesus became sin for you and me because we were sinners, He became sin that you and I could be born again into the family of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

You might be thinking I need to change my life first, to be better or to work more on myself, before I come to Him.

NO!

You come just as you are. God wants you just as you are. He knows you can't do it without His help.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

You say, but you don't know what I've done. It doesn't matter who you are or what you have done, God wants you as you are. He'll take a prostitute, a drug addict, a criminal, a homosexual, all who are full of sin and He will transform that person in a moment. He will change you and He will wash you in the blood of Jesus. He will cleanse you and you'll be like a brand new little baby that has just been born.

That is what the new birth is. Some Christians have forgotten why they were saved. God wants to restore you.

CHAPTER 2

Your name is written down

My name is written down in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Luke 10:17-20 Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."

And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

I'm part of the family of God. I've been bought with a price. I've been brought out of darkness into light. We don't serve a dead, deaf or blind God. We serve a God that has power and is the God of the miraculous.

Too much importance has been placed on what church you belong to. It doesn't matter what church you belong to. It matters what family you belong to.

You are either in one of two families, either the family of the devil or you are in the family of God. It matters that your name is written in heaven.

Many people say I believe in Jesus, but is He your Lord and Saviour? Some people say, well I believe in Jesus. The devil believes in Jesus. The devil believes in God and trembles.

Some people say well I am a good person. Jesus said, you must be born again.

*John 3:7 Do not marvel that I said to you,
'You must be born again.'*

Each one of us must be born again for ourselves. You can't be born again until you realise your need to be born again. You can't realise your need to be born again until you come face to face with the Lord Jesus.

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

There is a Heaven to gain and a Hell to avoid.

Hell was not made for any man or woman. Hell was made for the devil and his angels. So why would you want to go there?

There is only one way to God.

The new birth is through Jesus Christ.

The grave where they laid the body of the Lord Jesus Christ is empty! He is risen.

That is what makes Christianity different from every other cult and every other religion.

Jesus Christ is alive. He is risen!

Jesus rose and He's coming back again. When He left the earth, the angels said the same Jesus you're seeing go now is coming back.

Acts 1:11 who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

CHAPTER 3

The New birth changes you

John 3:1-4 There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him."

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

If you try to understand the new birth with your mind, you are like Nicodemus who tried to understand how he could be born again a second time.

John 3:5-21 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

*Nicodemus answered and said to Him,
"How can these things be?"*

Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?"

No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

"He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

When you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, something takes place. There is a change made in you. You talk different. Your walk in life is different. You are different. There is something different about you.

When you come in contact with Jesus Christ, something is going to happen in your life. There will be a radical change. People will look at you and see the change. They will see that something is different.

When you meet Jesus your life changes and you become different. Your lifestyle will be affected. Your marriage will be affected. Your finances are affected, your health is affected. There is not one area that will not change when the Lord comes into your heart and cleanses you.

When you have an encounter with God your life is going to change.

1 Peter 1:23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

1 John 3:14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death.

The bible says it is the goodness of God that leads to repentance.

Romans 2:4 Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and long-suffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

When you repent you turn around 180 degrees and don't do that sin again.

John 6:37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

All who come to God He accepts. He will not reject you. He accepts you.

Not like the world if you are not from a certain family, or have money, or have a certain position you are not accepted. No, Jesus accepts everyone.

Romans 10:13 For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”

God says everyone who calls on His name shall be saved. He doesn't cast anyone away.

Sin separates you from God. It causes you to run from God.

Romans 10:8,9 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

God wants you to run to Him, not from Him. If you confess with your mouth, the Lord Jesus Christ, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. That is what gets you born again.

Romans 10:10-15 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.”

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.

“How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

*"How beautiful are the feet of those who
preach the gospel of peace,
Who bring glad tidings of good things!"*

God has a plan for your life. Accept Jesus today, come as you are, and allow Jesus to come into your heart.

*John 1:12 But as many as received Him,
to them He gave the right to become
children of God, to those who believe in
His name:*

Prayer to accept Jesus as Your personal Lord and Saviour;

Pray this prayer right now:

Father, I come to You in the precious name of Jesus. Lord, You said if I confess with my mouth Jesus is Lord and I believe with my heart that God raised Him from the dead, I will be saved.

I make the decision today to surrender every area of my life to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Jesus, come into my heart, take out the stony heart and put in a heart of flesh.

I repent of all my sins. Wash me in Your precious blood and cleanse me of all my sin. I turn my back on the world and on sin. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sin and shedding your blood for me so that I might be forgiven of my sin. Thank you that you rose from the dead and that one day You are coming back for me.

I confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh and that He is my personal Lord and Saviour. Thank you Jesus for saving me. I accept by faith the free gift of salvation. I will serve You from this day onwards. Thank You for changing my life. Amen.

Dear friend,

If you just prayed the prayer, I would like to welcome you into the family of God – your sins are forgiven. This is the good news of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

You are now a child of God and you will live with Him forever. I encourage you to do several things to get to know Him.

- Read your Bible and pray every day (talk to Jesus about everything in your life)

- Find a bible-believing church that believes in the Lordship of Jesus Christ. (we can help you)
- Be around strong believers who will encourage you in your walk with God and lift you up.
- Tell someone around you of your new found faith and joy that only Jesus can bring.

**One thing I want you to
remember is that Jesus loves you
and He is for you.**

Jesus wants to bless you.

Today is the start of a new adventure,
and your life will turn out to be more
than you could ever imagine.



Keep me on your prayer list

Date: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone/Line: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip: _____

Salvation/Recommitment:

Please tear out and give to the usher.



Pastors Kelly and Shireen Dallas are the Pastors of River Church Bangkok. God has called them to reach Thailand and East Asia. Born in South Africa with a heart to see revival in Thailand and Asia. Pastor Kelly and Shireen have a heart to see people saved, healed, and set free from all the work of the enemy. God is pouring out His Spirit on all Nations and people. This is a season of great favour and blessing from the Lord.

To God be the glory.