

Walking With
The King

ANNE SKINNER

Copyright © 2014 Anne Skinner

All rights reserved.

<http://hannahhouse2002.org>

INTRODUCTION

May this book help you now that you have just given your life to Jesus Christ.

You are on a NEW JOURNEY and it will be the best that you have ever been on.

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD

WALKING WITH THE KING

SALVATION FIRST

I have decided to write a book to those who have just accepted Christ and want to learn more of their Journey with the Lord.

We hear so many different stories of how one should act, live and talk the Christian way and yet how about us learning how to walk the Christian walk.

First, when you came to Christ your old life was forgiven and you began on a new Journey of Faith. This will be the best trip you have ever taken and the most rewarding.

I was on many journeys and they weren't on faith and they were miserable ones.. Yes, that is so true, most of the journeys that I was on were ones that I had planned and they never brought happiness.

This book will explain your walk with Christ now from the beginning of your conversion to the end. I have named the book "Walking with the King" because Jesus Christ is now your King.

First, let us start with how we feel about our new found faith.

- (1) Happy?
- (2) Interested?
- (3) Relieved?
- (4) Freedom?
- (5) Emotional?
- (6) Worry Free?
- (7) Burden lifted?

Many of these thoughts may cross your mind as you think about your new life now. But, if you were like me you would be saying "OK, I feel pretty good but where do I go from here? What do I do? What is my next move? Will someone tell me."

I remember saying those words many times as I tried to figure out the rest of what was going to take place after I gave my life over to Jesus Christ. I knew my sins were washed away because I felt something different inside of me. My chest felt lighter if you can call it that, but I was still floating around wondering what I should do next.

I think one of the things lacking today is that many want to come to Christ. Many already know that they are sinners and are lost and want a new way of life. They are

tired of their lifestyle and know they need to have change. Many feel too that they are not worthy of such a forgiveness and condemn themselves over and over for the things they have done and the way they have lived. Now when they do make that decision then it just seems to stop for them.

I have known more and more people who have made a commitment to Christ and because they didn't know what to do next fell short and drifted away.

It seems those who are already Christians are excited the moment a sinner repents, many in the body of Christ are happy that someone has turned their life around, the newly saved person gets patted on the back handed a little booklet to read and then nothing. Now, don't get me wrong, not all Christians do this but from some of my experiences I have seen a lot that do. The new Christian is left in limbo not knowing what to do next.

This book will help you to understand your walk with the Lord as a new Christian or if you have been with the Lord for a while it will open your eyes to see the needs of a New Christian and what our responsibility is to help them.

Let's begin our Journey with the first step..
SALVATION.. Romans Chapter 5 explains about this but in my own words it goes like this.

We all have been born into SIN... "What?" you say "I have never sinned in my life" ha ha try another one. You have been BORN in sin, therefore if you want to make it into heaven you have to do something.. OK what do you have to do? REPENT... That is telling the Lord that you are sorry for the things that you know you have done and accept Him into your heart. Believe by FAITH that He died on the cross, shed His blood so that you may have eternal life. You did that? Cool now we move on.

Your name after doing that has been written in the book of LIFE... Did I ever tell you about a dream I had many years ago? NO? cool cause I am going to tell you know... This may help you understand the book of Life better.

About 14 years ago when I first started in the Ministry I had this dream. I was standing in a real large place. To the right hand side was the throne of GOD. Now I knew God

was sitting up there but it was all hazy and I couldn't see clearly, like a fog was around it, but I could see movement.

I was standing and the place was packed. I heard someone call for me "Anne, Anne" as I looked over the crowd I saw a man that I had known years before .. he went on to say "See you in Heaven" I smiled and shook my head in agreement. Then his name was called. There were large Angels standing on each side of the throne. To the left was an Angel in front of this big book. Now this Angel had to be about 10 feet tall and was standing quietly before this book. In the mist I saw God's head turn to the Angel and nod, when this happened the Angel's hand and finger started to scroll down the page of the book, it turned the page and kept doing it. But, then the Angel looked back at God and shook his head from side to side saying "NO" there were other Angels around and the man who was a friend of mine started to panic... BUT, BUT, BUT, my name must be written in that book. I have been good all my life. I have never done anything to hurt anyone. Please keep looking. God signaled to the Angel again to look.. as the Angel was looking my friend kept saying. I went to church, I paid my tithes, I am a good person. But the Angel again after looking

turned to God and shook his head "NO". God signaled to the other two Angels standing near the throne to come. It seemed like every Angel knew exactly what to do and they both came and stood on each side of my friend. Now my friend was about 6 feet tall and these Angels just showered above him. Each Angel grabbed an arm and started to take him away from the throne of GOD. He looked and they were taking him to a large gate that said across the top "HELL". My friend started to scream and say "No, No, Please" but they kept pulling him towards that gate. THEN, my friend looked at me and said "YOU WERE MY FRIEND and didn't tell me that I had to accept Christ, Anne, we did so many things together but you never told me about JESUS and that I had to have my name written in the book of Life and now I AM GOING TO HELL...and I have never seen a man's face so distraught in my whole life. The torment I saw on his face was terrible and I awoke shaking. You may say that it was only a dream, but to me that dream was real. You see one day I will be standing in that same room and seeing many of my friends there and now I will know that I have told them about Jesus, I have told them they need to repent and ask Christ into their life and that they need to have their name written in the Lambs book of Life. See, I

know I had that dream for a reason, it wasn't cause I ate too much the night before but it was the Lord who gave me that dream so I could tell others about Him.

Many years ago I used to attend "The Salvation Army" William Booth had two SS on the lapels of each Salvationist shirt or jacket. I often wondered what they meant. Well, curious as I as I found out... S - Saved to S - Serve. What a wonderful life we are now going to have. See, real joy comes in Serving Others... and you will find that out as you move forward in your journey.

TAKING BABY STEPS

Have you ever watched a new born baby? They are totally dependent on their mother or caregiver. They eat, cry, need changed and then sleep. Get rocked by mom as they are sleeping, cradled in her tender arms and then wake, cry, eat and the whole routine starts over again.

This is just the same with a person who has accepted Christ. They have made the commitment. They have been born of the Spirit. They now have Christ living inside of them but they don't know a lot yet about anything. Just like a new born baby. Now they have to learn and it is our job to teach them the right way and help them, cradle them, give them the bottle so to speak and love them.

Many questions they will have and many times they will let us know that they are not real happy because they don't understand. Just like the new born baby will cry when their diaper is wet. They don't understand the uncomfortable feeling so they let mommy know that something is wrong.

I picked the title of the book to be "Walking with the King" because we will cover many areas of the Christian walk. These are just the first few moments of being in the new Family of GOD and experiencing the new feelings you will have and the new desires you will have and how to cope with it all.

Just as a new born baby starts his or her journey in life we start a new journey too and we must take baby steps. You will never see a month old baby out shoveling snow or washing dishes, they just can't do that and the same with a new Christian they have to learn how to Walk with the King.

JESUS CHRIST is now KING of your life. HE has taken home inside of you and His Holy Spirit will help you every day from now on to keep moving forward. BUT, we have to be listening to that small still voice inside, because now it is alive in us and it is up to us to keep it growing, thereby making us grow in the Christian walk.

I can hear some say now, "OH NO" it is not up to us to do that, the Holy Spirit will do it for us... Well, I used to think a lot like that myself but then I realized that I had to do my part. "What is that part?" you say..

Well, now we have to get into our Bible and learn what our new Father is all about. See you have just been born into the Kingdom of God and you are beginning the best life that you could ever have. You may at times look back and wonder why you had ever made a move in this direction and I have known some that did look back and even ended up going back but years later they realized that a lot of years had been wasted and they finally came back to Christ and started over again.

Yeah, you are talking to one... It was me... I used to try and try to serve God and I always failed.. never knew why.

I know now though, I used to look to other people who I knew had been in church a long time, some even were preachers and ushers and some even sang in the choir. I used to watch them and see how they lived their life and saw so much garbage going on that it made me sick. But, I never knew that it was up to me to read my Bible and pray. Sure, I did a lot of praying, every time I got in a mess that was the first thing I did... "Lord, I promise I will never do this again if you will only get me out of this mess that I am in" same old prayer each time.. Now I am not going to tell you the mess that I always got

in but believe me it was a crazy lifestyle I led.

All the time my heart was crying out to God. See, when we come to Christ the Holy Spirit moves in and we become part of a Family. The Family of God and then we start to grow. Some never grow because they don't have many around them that will help them. Believe me you have to make certain decisions about your life too...

One, leave your old lifestyle. I know you like the old friends but they don't want you serving God, they want to drag you down with them so they will encourage you to come back into their way of thinking. You have to be strong.

How can you be strong? Here is how it happens. OPEN THE BIBLE and start to read it. It may seem hard at the beginning but go to St. John and start to learn about your new family. Who is Jesus Christ? Why did He give His life for you? Why did He care so much about you? Who was His mother? Who was the man who raised Jesus on earth? What was his role as a step father? I could go on and on but you have to start and you have to learn these things. This will give you strength because you will be learning about a

new way of life, a new family and a new direction that will bring happiness and joy to your life.

So many times I thought if I really dedicate my life to Christ I will have to give up so much and it kept me back from really letting go and letting God, but I was wrong. See, it is like a little child holding a ragged old doll. That is the only doll this little girl has so she is not going to give it up for anyone .. She holds it close to her. Have you ever tried to take a toy out of a kids hands.. haha it is real hard they hold on to that toy and won't let go. BUT, if you come along with a brand new baby doll and hand it to the child what do you think she will do.. You are right she will drop the old one and grab for the new one.

things in your life because they are familiar to you, you can't see beyond them and therefore you don't want to let go.

But Christ comes to you and offers you something better and when you see that it is better you drop that old garbage that has been hanging around you and you go for the new and beautiful.

Just picture this Journey that you are on as a long road, you can't see what is around the corner but you do know that the road leads somewhere. Also picture your new family on the road with you. There is GOD, right behind you and there is JESUS right beside you and in front leading the way is the HOLY SPIRIT... WOW, what a journey this is going to be. Now picture many people on this road with you they are family too.. Some may drive you crazy but they are family, some may help and encourage you, they are family and some may pretend to be your family and they are not of the same family as you. They do not know JESUS CHRIST and they have never committed their life to Him. They are just put on the road with you to help you realize that no matter what happens to you or how much they try to discourage and cause problems that JESUS is there to bring you through. God has your back, Holy Spirit has the lead and JESUS is right there to pick you up when you trip and fall.

The day you accept Christ you are "Walking with the KING" that's right you are now a member of the Royal Family and you got to hold your head up high. Not too high where you begin to think that you have done

something to get into this family but high enough to be proud of the new family you are now a part of.

Your life has just taken on new meaning and your journey has begun.

When I was 13 years old I began my new journey, but like I said I looked to people to give me the right way to live and when they fell I would fall too and many times didn't pick myself back up for years. See, no one told me that JESUS was alive and that HE would walk beside me every moment of every day and that the Holy Spirit would be my guide and that God had my back. Sure, I would hear them talk.. "Anne what is wrong with you, you are a Christian now, you can't do that" I always wondered why I couldn't do some of the things that I did and no one took time to explain things to me. When I made a mistake and fell, I didn't know that I could just ask Christ to pick me up again. I thought I had let Him down and failed Him and then lay around in my guilt for periods of time. Sometimes years would go by and I felt so guilty that I had sinned. My heart always loved the Lord and inside I would pray and ask the Lord to help me but I didn't know how He would do it. I didn't know that I had to get into His word and read and pray and

then He would draw closer to me.

Many times I would cry and knowing I had done something wrong felt that maybe He was mad at me for doing it and wanted to punish me. Sure, we will do wrong things, but the secret is to move forward and keep on going. Satan wants you to think that you are no good, he wants to kill, steal and destroy you. These thoughts that come into your mind telling you bad things and reminding you of what you used to do are not from God they are from the devil. When you read the Bible you will see that the devil bothered Jesus too.. What did Jesus say to him..." Get behind me satan" satan only can do what we allow him to do to us. Usually he starts in the mind. Our mind is a real funny thing. A thought will come into our minds. If it is a bad thought we have to get rid of it right away, if we entertain that thought it will lead us right into trouble. How do I know? Because I have experienced it myself. Ever seen someone good looking and your head turns a few times to take a good look at them. Does your mind ever wander.. truthfully now.. sure it could .. the thoughts that may come in your mind will ruin your marriage your life and everything you have worked for. It all starts with one thought, then another and before you know it sin has

happened and you are so full of guilt that you don't know what to do. The grass that you thought was greener still has weeds and lumps of dirt in it too. Been there, done that.

Remember now you are on a road with the KING.. KING JESUS is walking with you. What a day you are going to have. The SON is shining you are happy inside, you may be thinking of where your journey will take and you are glad that you have made this decision to come into this new family. This Royal Family. This Royal family that has accepted you just the way you were, there was no stipulations about what you had to do to be accepted, just to come as your were. WOW, now here we go on our new Journey together..

Me, You, JESUS at our side, God has our back and the Holy Spirit is up ahead making the way for us. What more could we ask for. Everything seem great.

I am going to walk this road with you today to help you to understand a little about your new family and your new Journey. Hope you don't mind that I tag along. You really don't need me but I would love to join you, after all I am part of your family too.

So many people feel lonely, lost and just don't seem to know what to do with themselves.

Many have been abandoned as children, or orphaned, or just plain had rotten parents that have molested them, beat them, and never loved them. My parents were good parents and loved me, I was blessed to have this but I have spoken to many who were always being treated with so much hate and disrespect that they knew they weren't wanted or loved. Some were abused by fathers, or friends and mom always turned her back and acted like it never happened knowing that it was taking place all along.

BUT, now you have a new family. Everything in the past is over. Sure you have bad memories but I will show you how to get rid of them too. It is not easy but can be done. First though you have to think about your new family and this family is a Royal Family. The Family of God.

You say you never had a mother. Well, I have news for you, you do now. Mary is your new mom. That's right Jesus' mother is now your mother. Remember at the Cross when Jesus was hanging there he turned to John,

his favorite friend and said John behold your mother, and to Mary His mother He said .. Mother behold your son. In other words Christ was saying that John was to look after His new mom.. Mary. For so many years I never even heard much about Mary accept at Christmas. Any other time of the year he name was not to be mentioned and I never knew why. Think of this, if you are dating someone don't you want to know who your new MOTHER IN LAW may be or how she acts, well it is the same with our new Royal Family. Who was the mother of JESUS? Why was she chosen to be Jesus' mother? Some say we shouldn't talk about her but I want to know her, after all we are family now and I think I should.

Can you imagine what she went through knowing she was carrying JESUS CHRIST in her for nine months and not being married. WOW, she must have went through some real hard times. The ridicule, the laughter, the hatred and the evil people who just love to gossip. That lady took a lot and probably cried a lot that we know nothing about because she was chosen to carry our Savior. So, why not talk about her. I will and can't wait to meet her in heaven too and give her a big hug. After all she was the mother of JESUS. Now, part of our Family too.

You are probably wondering why I am talking so much about family, well I want you to grasp the meaning of belonging to someone, and being part of that joy of belonging. Everyone wants to belong. Years ago I used to find it amazing when the drug man would let you stay at his house if you needed a place to sleep but the people who called themselves Christians wouldn't. Now this is me being honest OK, so don't take offence. It is true, years ago I could call a sinner and ask for help and get it quicker than I could from a person who went to church, sang in the choir and took up the offering. I never could understand why back then that a thing like that could happen but I know now. See, many people who are in our family just have never moved forward, they are still in the cradle as you would say. They don't know what it is like to walk along the road with JESUS, GOD and the HOLY SPIRIT, because they are still waiting for mommy to feed them and sadly they think they have made it to the end of the road. It makes me sad sometimes to meet people like this because I can see how much joy and fun they are actually missing. So lets keep people like that on our prayer list as we move down the road.

We are taking Baby Steps now and enjoying it. We are reading our Bible, Praying and staying close to our good friends who are walking on this road with us . But, most of all we have JESUS by our side and God at the rear and the Holy Spirit leading the way.

Hey, is that a turn in the road up ahead?

Hmmmmm wonder what that means? This road has been so smooth so far but I feel the little rocks under my feet and sometimes I think I may lose my balance but still moving forward, honestly though I am concerned about that turn ... Wonder what lies up ahead.

ROUGH ROAD AHEAD BEWARE!

I can't believe this I am reading this sign that says "Rough Road Ahead Beware" now what? No one told me that coming to Christ was going to bring a rough road, I thought that it was easy after all I have JESUS beside me , God at my back and the Holy Spirit to guide me so what can go wrong.

HA HA, are you in for some surprises. Life is just full of surprises and we are just starting to take those first few steps and now a little independence is taking place.

You are feeling pretty good about yourself now and you have been walking this road with the Lord for a few weeks and nothing major has happened. It is coming though and "Why" you say.. because we have to learn that JESUS will hold us up and that GOD really is at our back and that the HOLY SPIRIT is leading the way.

See, walking with JESUS is a good life but we also have to learn that He is a real person and that we do have a personal relationship with HIM. How better a way to learn than

through personal experience.

What did I hear you say, "You may not make it" why would you even think that. I know you feel that way but we do not go by our feelings we go by what the word of God says now about us. The Bible says we can do all things through Christ, so pick yourself up and lets get a move on and see what lies ahead on this road that is getting just a little bit bumpy. Now remember that whatever lies ahead we are not alone, we now have a family who is with us through anything that will come our way.

Any experience that may come your way is going to teach you what to do and how to do it. We have Royal blood flowing though our veins now and we are ready for anything that may happen. Right?

Here is something to think about. Think hard about this now because it is very important.

First, we are not and never will be alone. NEVER AGAIN.

Second, we have a family now, a Royal Family. The Royal blood is flowing through our veins because we have been adopted into this family and made part of this family. We

are Royalty. We don't deserve it, we didn't do anything to receive it, it was given to us when we accepted Christ into our life and we believed by faith that Jesus Christ paid the price by the shedding of His blood at Calvary for our sins.

Third, now we have to learn how to carry ourselves in any situation as Royalty. So get ready for what lies up ahead and remember you will make it because you are Walking with the King.

Years ago I went to Scotland for a visit, being born there I thought it would be great to go back and see the country. I had left as a small child and didn't remember much of anything about Scotland, except through some pictures and the stories that my parents used to tell me.

When I first got off the plane in Scotland everything was so different. I remember riding a bus to Grangemouth where our family members would be meeting us. Being from Canada and landing in another Country was so different for me and I was amazed at what I saw.

This is like when we first come into the Family of God, there are so many different

things that we see. Hopefully all our experiences are good ones and we see the real love of Jesus Christ in other family members.

After a few days, we went to visit Edinburgh Castle. It was mighty. Such a large royal building and there was a presence in each brick, doorway and wall that I looked at. It was a royal building made for the King and Queen and as I walked through each doorway into another chamber I began to feel different inside. It was magnificent.

This is what it should be like when we come to Christ, we start to feel different. We start to feel the Royalty that comes from our Royal Family and we start to walk as our Royal Family.

Sadly, when I came to Christ I didn't feel a lot different, I found that many people didn't encourage me and when I did make mistakes I was condemned for them as if I should have known better, but I didn't. I had to learn how to live all over again and live the right way now instead of living the way I used to in sin.

As a new baby has to learn to walk, talk, eat by themselves we too have to learn this

when we come to Christ.

Many say that they just can't do it and that is a true statement, many can't but with the help of our new Family we can. Remember now we have Jesus beside us, God has our back and the Holy Spirit goes before us to guide us and lead us on this new journey. We also should have the encouragement and help of our brothers and sisters in the Lord too but honestly there may be times that they hurt us the most. When they do always remember that they too are just learning. Some may have been on this journey for years and are still only at the early stages of their Journey. My experience was that many and I say many who have made a decision for Christ have not grown in their walk with the Lord.

WHY? We must read the bible and pray that is what will help us grow, if we neglect to do this we will not go much farther than a baby who crawls and never learns how to walk.

Trials and problems that come into our life help us to grow too. I can see some of your faces,. Ha ha but that is true. My best times were when I had troubles in my life and here is why. I learned that Jesus Christ really did walk with me, I learned that the Holy Spirit

did guide me and I learned that God loved me so much He had my back in every situation. What a joy to really know that we are not alone that our Royal Family is with us in every situation.

The Bible talks about giving thanks in every situation. Now that at the beginning is hard to do until you get the understanding of those words.

Being part of a Family is one thing. Knowing that Family really love you is another. But, when you experience that belonging and that love because when you need them they are there it gives you a whole new meaning in your life.

You start to know deep in your heart that no matter what comes your way that God already has known about it and the situation is going to work out for your good, whichever way it turns out. What a good feeling that is.

Ok, now let's go back to the pathway that we are on.. Remember Jesus is right beside you. The Holy Spirit is in front leading and God is right at our back. Can you picture it? BUT, the road is not smooth anymore. There are little stones that seem to be underfoot and we find that our balance is a little

uneasy.

Have you ever walked on stones? Well, I have and it is difficult at times. Here we are walking on stones in our New Christian walk. Wow, it isn't as easy as what we thought. Our ankles are shaky and it almost seems like we could fall.

See, we have a New Family but we also have a new enemy. He really is nothing and can do nothing unless we let him but he is like the stones underfoot that are aggravating to us. Who is he? satan .

As you read your Bible you will read about this angel who thought he was better than God and he got kicked out of heaven. Sounds like a fairy tale? No, it is real and he is real but now that you belong to this new family there is nothing he can do to you that your new family doesn't know about, so don't worry about anything just leave it all with Jesus, God and the Holy Spirit.. They will take care of him.

You too will learn as you read more of the Bible and pray that satan can only do to you what YOU let him do. If you dedicate 100% to your new family you will find that your steps now are ordered by the Lord and the

things that used to mean something to you no longer do as your desires are changing inside of you.

A long time ago, when I was a new Christian I was to sing at this big Christian function. There were going to be approximately 500 people there and I sang with a group that had been asked to bring special music. Well, the group leader came to my home to inform me that another lady from our church wanted to sing instead of me and play piano. I sat and told the leader that she should be given the opportunity to do so. I didn't know much about this event but I did know this woman and knew that she too was a young Christian and my thinking was that she should be encouraged to sing and play. The leader told me that she had been spreading some rumors around about me because she felt that she should be there that night instead of me. Well, it hurt a little as I thought she was a friend but I told the leader to let her play and sing and that there would be lots of other opportunities for me to do that. The leader of the group left and I started to think about it all, feeling I had made the right decision. But, then I thought of the man who had organized this big event who was a friend of mine and had been bothered by this woman, so I decided to call

him and tell him not to worry about anything that I would just not come and this woman could play for him. Now, remember I am young in my Christian walk and trying to do the right thing. I called him up and to my surprise he told me that I knew what I had done and that the wages of sin was death and I better repent. Honestly, I didn't know what he was talking about and asked him. He said this woman had been to him and told him all the things that I was doing and that I needed to repent and hung up on me. What I learned that day was my friend had listened to her lies. Had believed her even after knowing me for a few years and didn't know how to show the love that a Christian should have as he judged me and hung up on me. I started to cry and cry thinking that my friend would even believe a lie. I had fallen on my Journey that day because of words that were spoken to me and instead of letting Jesus pick me up I thought I couldn't be a Christian because I didn't understand how my friend who was a Christian for a lot longer than me had hurt me so bad. So I stopped going to church, did read my Bible and tried to pray but the hurt or the stones on that pathway that I had tripped on were holding me back from walking forward. It took a few years until I realized that not all who say the love Jesus really do and it did come out that

this woman was only out to destroy others and make a name for herself in the music field.

But, this instance had taken two years of my life, many tears and questioning the Christian faith. See, we tend to believe at least I did that everyone who calls them a Christian really are and they are not. The word "Christian" means Christ like...

That poor woman didn't know what Christ was really like and it seems my friend really didn't either or he never would have treated me that way.

Through this experience I learned sadly years later that we will always have our hurts and disappointments but that is when Jesus is with us to help us through them. He is faithful and loving and would never hurt us as others do.

There have been many steps of my journey that I have fallen and it has taken time for me to realize that Jesus was there to pick me up and I didn't let him because I got discouraged or guilt would set in and I felt like I didn't deserve such a great Royal Family.

I can go on and on and tell you of stories of things that have happened to me that have hurt but now looking back I see that God was with me through them and that everything negative that happened to me only helped me grow in the Lord and made me so much stronger.

You too will go through many things. I have had people say to me that they didn't need JESUS as their crutch, that they could make it on their own and have only come to me years later and said that they realized that JESUS was what they did need as their own ways brought no peace to their lives.

Looking back after I came to Christ I used to pray and read my bible and say often, "I am so restless inside and I don't know why". I never seemed to be able to find the real peace that I had the night of my decision to follow Christ. I now know why, but it took a lot of years to find out. I had never really dedicated my life 100 percent to the Royal Family. It was like I kept making moves and decisions that I thought were best for me and they only turned out to bring me pain.

Being part of this Royal Family is letting go and letting JESUS make the decisions for

your life. The Bible tells us how to live, if we pray and ask the Holy Spirit to be our guide then we will know the peace of the Lord and we will have that assurance that each step we take is ordered by the Lord.

DIE TO SELF

You have probably heard this expression over and over "You have to die to self". I used to hear it but never really understood it.

The Bible tells us that the old man or the old you is no longer present but that the new man (Jesus) is.. Still confused? Ok, let me put it this way..

We are sinners saved by grace. We have accepted Christ into our lives. BUT, we have a sinful body and our nature or our mind must be changed. We have been adopted into a new family.. a Royal Family, which is all new to us. For years we have lived the way of the world and done the things that we thought were right, some choices were good and some were bad but we thought they were right. Now we have moved from the old desires, thoughts and desires into a Royal Family which is so different. We now have to think the way our new family think. How can we do that? By letting go of what we think is right and finding out what our family think is right.

I once heard a preacher say and put your name into this I, Mr.. Mrs. Ms.._____no longer lives, I have died. My old thinking is gone, I no longer live at the same house.. I HAVE DIED.

Now the NEW PERSON... lives because JESUS now lives in me... old things are passed away and all things become new..

My new Royal Family is going to teach me my new lifestyle, my new way of thinking, they will teach me about the NEW ME...

THINK NOW..... Who is our new Royal Family???

GOD is Our Father, JESUS is Our brother, and the HOLY SPIRIT ... is our Guide and Comforter. WE have a new Royal Family that will walk with us through every situation, be there to help us when we fall, when we fail, when we feel unloved, when we are lonely and I could go on and on.

BUT, we have to do something too... We have to let go of all the old things that we are used too.. You say you are not sure how to do that?

Don't worry about it, Our Family will help us that is why they are there to instruct us in the right way. That is why we have the Bible, Our Roadmap which will give us direction and that is why the Holy Spirit is taking the lead, all we have to do is let HIM do it and give up everything to HIM.

Many times you will make mistakes and that too is OK. See, we live in our human, flesh and bone bodies that will make mistakes. It will take time for us to change and we will change from the inside out. The Bible tells us that our flesh is weak but that greater is He (Jesus) who is in us. So if we do things on our own we will become weak and get weaker but if we trust in JESUS who is in us, then we know that He is greater than any problem that may come our way. Also, He is our Family now and is watching out for us, which we never had before. If you read the Bible and pray you will see your life change and it will be full of joy in every situation.

We must always remember too that satan is out to kill us, destroy us and steal our joy. That is his mission in life to hurt everyone that God loves and now that we are in God's family, satan will want to hurt us. BUT, there is good news..... Our Family will teach

us how to fight satan and all the tricks that he will bring into our lives to destroy us.

Please remember that satan is nothing to you. He will try to convince you that he is going to hurt you and destroy you. You may even say at times when trials come that satan caused it and rightfully so, but do not dwell on the negative side of things because satan will work on that and can discourage you in your life. Always think on good things and always remember that you are not alone anymore but you have a family, a very big family now too. Your family members are all over the world and are praying for you. Now, some family members may hurt you because they are new to the family too and are just learning how to be part of this Royal Family so have patience with them and do not get upset at them.

How can we be strong against satan when he attacks us? This is a good question and we are going to learn how to make him useless against us.

Many times he uses our thought life to cause us problems. That is why it is so important to die to self. If we start to think and speak that (WE) no longer live but that CHRIST lives in us then we are on the right

road and we will find that our whole life, our actions and our direction will take on new meaning.

The next chapter will explain what we must to do keep satan under our feet where he belongs and then later you will learn how to really walk close to the King.

GETTING READY FOR BATTLE

In this chapter we will learn how to fight the battle against our enemy satan. You are saying "HE IS OUR ENEMY? WHY?"

Yes, he wants to take you from your Royal Family and have you end up in Hell one day.

He does not want you to be happy.

He does not want you to succeed.

He wants to steal from you.

He wants to destroy you.

He wants to kill you.

He wants you to make all the wrong decisions in life.

He wants to rob your joy and your peace.

He wants to take you away from Walking with the King.

He will come to you sometimes as an Angel of Light. This means that he is so sneaky that you may think that the situation or person is from your Royal Family and may do things that you think is right and they are wrong. When satan comes to you always remember he is a liar, he is no good, he only wants to hurt and destroy you.

We are very weak without our Royal

Family. Now let us go back again. Who is our Royal Family.

God, He is our new Father

Jesus, He is now our Savior, Brother, and best friend

The Holy Spirit, He is our Guide, Comforter and Deliverer.

Let's add one more to this list. Part of our Royal Family now will include other people who have accepted Christ into their lives. This will be our brothers and sisters in our City, our Country and even in other Countries. They are all our family now. But, be careful. Some who say they believe in JESUS do not. They will come to you as an "Angel of Light" and try to deceive you. So here is what you must do to protect yourself from satan and anyone who would try to hurt you. It really is quite simple and only takes a little on your part. Get ready cause this is actually going to be fun for you to learn of this.

You are now part of the Royal Army. Yes, that is what I said. ROYAL ARMY.

THE ARMOR OF GOD..

The Helmet of Salvation:

The Shield of Faith:

The Breastplate of Righteousness:
The Sword of the Spirit:
Feet prepared with the Gospel of Peace:
The Belt of Truth:

The Armor of God, there are six items that must be worn to protect you and help you fight your battle with your enemy, satan.

Each piece of Armor to be worn:

The Helmet of Salvation:

We cannot even think of wearing this Armor unless we have Salvation. If you go back in this book you will read of Salvation and it is a must. Giving of yourself to Christ is very important and the only way to heaven. When you have done this you will wear the Helmet..

The Shield of Faith:

The Shield of Faith is so very important. When I was a child I remember walking down the street, I was so small that I could not see through the crowds of people walking but I was holding my father's hand and knew without a shadow of a doubt that he was leading. This is like faith, we cannot see

what lies ahead but we believe that what the Bible says is true and we stand on the promises that God has given us in His Word. The Bible in Ephesians 6: 16 tells that we will be able to STOP all the fiery darts of the wicked if we have FAITH.. That in itself is a big statement and something to really think about. Many will tell you that Faith is not for today and that the things that happened in the Bible happened way back then and now everything is so different. But, I am here to tell you that today if we have FAITH we can move mountains. The Bible tells me this and I believe it. You ask HOW CAN I BELIEVE THIS? Because I have experienced it many times. If you really believe the word of God to be true, then you must believe it from cover to cover and stand on the promises that it gives. Even though things may happen and it looks impossible to work out, we go to the Bible and see that if we just trust in GOD, He will bring us through and we will see His Hand at work. But, we must believe, believe the impossible and it will happen.

The Breastplate of Righteousness:

As we are walking with the Lord, we must do what is right. When we make right decisions according to what the Bible tells us

to do we are protected. Many things may come our way to destroy but we will know that we have done right and that will give us strength. In Ephesians 6:14 we read about the breastplate and yet I also see at the beginning of the 14th verse it says to "STAND".. This really struck me, We have the armor on and what do we do? STAND... Why stand? Because GOD fights our battles, we dress up in the Armor and STAND.. He will make ways for us to win the battle.

The Belt of Truth:

Being truthful in all that we do according to the Word of God will benefit us in so many ways. This armor is protection. The word of God is truth and if we stand on the promises we find ourselves strong.

The Breastplate of Righteousness:

As we are walking with the Lord, we must do what is right. When we make right decisions according to what the Bible tells us to do we are protected. Many things may come our way to destroy but we will know that we have done right and that will give us

strength. In Ephesians 6:14 we read about the breastplate and yet I also see at the beginning of the 14th verse it says to "STAND".. This really struck me, We have the armor on and what do we do? STAND... Why stand? Because GOD fights our battles, we dress up in the Armor and STAND.. He will make ways for us to win the battle.

The Sword of the Spirit:

The Sword of the Spirit is the word of God. I have always thought of it as being the strongest piece of the armor as it can cut deep. It is very powerful because it is the driving force to fight the enemy. We need to have the word of God so strong inside of us that we can stop any attack that comes our way.

Feet Shod with the Gospel of Peace:

We should always walk in peace with all men. One of our best defenses is to be at peace.

Also remember that we do not fight against man... Now men will hurt us in many ways.. People do hurt us, they say things, do things to us that dig real deep, but we do not fight them, we are in a battle with our enemy

satan. Remember he is out to steal, kill and destroy and he has many angels who he sends out to do his work. BUT, we win, if we have on all our armor and we stand. The one verse that really stands out to me is in Ephesians 6:18... to PRAY... Picture this now... We have all the armor put on.. what does this armor do for us? Right .. it protects us and then what does the word say to do? STAND and PRAY in the Spirit..so in other words the armor protects us and then we are commanded to just STAND and PRAY.. We don't have to fight the battle because JESUS CHRIST is our fighter. Also, keep in mind our battle is not with our neighbors, our friends, our family but we are at war with satan. There will be a Bible Course on spiritual warfare that will help you understand this better but that will come later. Now read Ephesians 6: 10-18 over and over, it will help you understand a little better what I have just said.

Ephesians 6:10-18

Putting on the whole Armor of God.

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.

Put on the whole armor of God, that ye

may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Above all, taking the shield of faith, where with ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching there unto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

When I read the last verse here where it says to Pray always and watch, I stop and think about what the word "WATCH" means... to me it means to PRAY, STAND, and WATCH the end results.. does that make any sense to you? I am a mom, as a mom you look after your children. There are times when you tell them to just stand back while you are doing something. You know as a mom or dad that they would have trouble doing a task, so you do it for them. That is what God does for us... HE fights our battles for us.

When it is raining outside you tell your child to be sure and put on their raincoats .. WHY? To protect them from getting wet. Right? Same with God, He tells us to put on our Armor, He gives us every little detail what to wear and where to wear it because this will protect us from the attack of satan, BUT God will fight the enemy for us. He is mighty and great and wants to take care of us. What a wonderful Lord we serve.

I remember not too long ago, I was really undecided about a decision that had to be made. I had prayed about it, read the Bible and left it with God and yet it still kept coming back to bug me. A few days went by and I just couldn't take it any longer. I went before the Lord in prayer and told Him that it was really bugging me and asked Him what I

should do. After I prayed for awhile and no answer came I decided to clean out a big box with pictures in it. As I was going through the pictures I happened to pick up a picture that a friend had given me about 6 months before. At the bottom of this picture said the words.. "BE STILL, and KNOW THAT I AM GOD." Those words just jumped out at me and I knew in my heart that God had spoken to me. Peace came into my heart and I felt so much better. Well, the next morning I went to check my email and another friend had sent me a scripture....

YES, you guessed it "BE STILL, and KNOW THAT I AM GOD" to me that was more confirmation that I just had to BE STILL... Now the if you knew what was going on in my life you would understand this so much better.. See, I could have moved forward or I could have just stayed still... Getting that scripture told me to BE STILL... I knew in my heart that GOD was fighting my battle that day and every other day concerning this matter. What a wonderful God we serve. How privileged we are to be part of this Royal Family.

You will learn as you walk this pathway with the King that many times He will reveal to you that He is with you and is fighting

your battles for you.. Always remember and this is a must that if we have on the whole armor of God our battle is not with man, but it is with principalities and powers of darkness in other words satan.

PRAYER

Another very important thing to remember while walking with the King, is Prayer.

What is prayer? Communication with God, our Royal Family.

There will also be a Book on Prayer and that will go into much detail about how to pray and when to pray. You will really enjoy this book as you find so many different thoughts on prayer.

I have heard it said often that Prayer is the Key to heaven.

It is good to spend time with the Lord just talking with Him. Thanking Him for what He has done in your life and Praising Him for He is so mighty.

The Bible gives us an example of How we should pray. This book will help you to have

that close relationship with your NEW ROYAL FAMILY. You will also see that Prayer is very powerful and is so much needed as you are WALKING WITH THE KING.

When you pray or talk to the Lord, remember the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13

After this manner therefore pray ye:

OUR FATHER,

Which art in Heaven,

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy Kingdom come.

Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven,

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;

For thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, for ever... Amen

TRIPPING ON THE ROAD

When I was a little girl, I remember my mom telling me as I went outside to play to be careful.

Of course I was more of a tomboy and a little determined in my thinking and decided to ride my bike as fast as I could on the sidewalk.

Needless to say, I hit a rock and went right over the handle bars, hitting my head and skinning both of my knees. Believe me it was sore, I still remember it today.

I ran in the house crying and showing my mom my wounds as she washed the dirt out of them and told me to be very careful how I rode my bike next time. She also reminded me that she had said to not ride so far from home. She knew that up the street the sidewalk had a lot of pit holes and bumpy areas with rocks and that is why she had told me to stay close to home. I hadn't listened.

This reminded me of when we are "Walking with the King" The road seems to be smooth, then maybe at times there is little

stones that are uncomfortable under foot and then

The Lord tells us in the Bible to do certain things, it is not told to us to take our joy but He tells us things for our protection. Just as my mom had told me to stay close to home, she knew what lay ahead but I did not listen.

When we read in the Bible certain things if we disobey like I did with my mom we are sure to have a fall.

When we make the wrong choice and think our way is best and we realize after that we made a big mistake Christ is always there to pick us up, wash out our wounds and give us a hug to make us feel loved once again.

Looking back I remember meeting a man who was so wonderful, I was serving God and he wasn't. He did go to church with me once in awhile.

Well, it ended up that we dated and he bought me an engagement ring. I was excited and looking forward to the future. The next Sunday he did not go to church with me, so

I decided to visit the church that I had been attending a few years before. I knew a lot of people there and just wanted to see

how everyone was doing.

At the end of the service I waited to speak with the Pastor's wife. She was a dear woman whom I cared for a lot and I couldn't wait to show her my ring. I stood for a few minutes and proceeded to show her my ring. She looked at this nice engagement ring and then looked me strait in the eyes and asked if he knew Christ as his personal Savior. I was shocked and said "Well, he goes to church with me" She looked at me and said "Anne, I am not happy for you. If he does not know Christ as his Lord and Savior it will not work, you are only wasting your life", and she walked away. My heart fell to the ground, my joy was taken from me that day and yet those words kept ringing in my ears over and over.

I did marry this man and after the first 30 days of marriage I knew what this Pastor's wife had said was true. If I was reading the Bible and he walked into the room, he told me to put it away. If I was playing a hymn on the piano he told me he didn't want to hear that kind of music and it went on and on. I had married a man who did not love the Lord. I realized that my love for the Lord was getting put on hold because I had made the wrong choice. Our divorce came only a

few years later and the words of this woman rang out in my ears..."Anne, I am not happy for you.. If he does not know Christ as his Lord and Savior it will not work, you are wasting your life".

I learned that hard way and it took a few years of my life too, that the Bible has all the answers to our questions and if we read the word and obey it then our life will be so much easier. Because I thought that marrying an unbeliever would be ok and that everything would work out I shed tears, many hurts and disappointments and all because I did not heed the word of our Lord,

God knows what is best for us and if we submit to His will we can be happy. I know I lived it.

That's why prayer is so important. We can read about a situation and make all the excuses that will suit us, but we must also pray about it too.

Prayer is what will help us understand God's will for our life. If you really love the Lord and really want to be part of this Royal Family, then you must go to the Lord in prayer about a situation and get His leading. Many answers are right in front of our faces

as we read the Bible and some answers we have to take before God. He is faithful and will answer all that we ask. It may not be what we want to hear but it will be the best thing for us, because He loves us and knows what is best.

WALKING ALONE?

There will be many times in your life while walking with the King that you will feel alone. You will feel like everyone has left you and that no one cares. I too have felt like that but it is a deception.

No matter how we feel, we learn that the Bible says we are never alone. What I have found out is that in those times of feeling alone it has taught me to trust in God in a different way. Many used to say to me in a situation "Just TRUST in God" but I never really knew what that meant until just recently. This may sound strange to you but it is the truth. I would say "I am trusting in JESUS" without understanding fully what that meant.

To TRUST in Jesus is to totally let go of the situation that you are going through and give it all over to the Lord, or to your Royal Family and let them help you through it. Remember, we can only do so much which is Pray, Read our Bible and Trust.. OK our part is the reading and the prayer.. then comes the TRUST, which is letting GO and letting

GOD take over and resting in Him, knowing that He is working everything out for our good, no matter what we may believe.

Our Royal Family knows exactly what is the best road for us to take. As we walk down the road with God behind us, the Holy Spirit as our Guide and Jesus right beside us we have to let them direct us. By letting them direct it means that we TRUST their leading. When as a child I trusted my parents to look after me, feed me, clothe me and be there to dry my tears. It means a total giving up of self and leaning on the Lord.

When situations come into our life and we have done all that we can do then we give everything over to our Royal Family and leave it with them to work it all out.

You will be very surprised at what will take place, the burden of trying to figure out what to do will be gone and you will find that you will have a peace inside knowing that everything is in control. You may not know the outcome but you will know that whatever happens is for the best because your Family is working on your behalf in your situation.

We serve a wonderful Lord and Savior, We have family in our life who really love us in

spite of what we have done and really want what is best for us.

Total submission to their wants and desires is what will bring us peace, real peace. Try it and you will see that what I say is true.

OUR ASSURANCE

Our Assurance is now that JESUS is on our side and even though satan tries his best to discourage us we do not have to worry as everything will work out for the best.

Sometimes our life will make turns in the roadway that may seem to everyone who looks on that we are not making progress. BUT, we are... see no matter what comes our way our paths are ordered by the Lord.

What causes us heartaches is only a situation that is teaching us and in the end it will turn out for our good. That is when we will realize more and more as time goes by that our Family really LOVE us...

We have been accepted in the Royal Family of God, not by anything we have done but because of the great love that has been shown to us.

Our walk with the King gets more exciting each day and we realize that each step is new. I look back on my life and see God's hand at work. I am not the same person I

was when I began my walk with the King. I have learned to leave my burdens at His feet, to trust Him when it looks like there is no way out and to rely on His judgment in a situation and agree that His way is the best way. I also have learned that my ways and my decisions without God's leading have only led me to many tears and heartaches and to my knees. Many of my years were wasted because I thought I knew what was best for Anne and believe me now looking back I realize that if I had stayed on the roadway with my Royal Family my life would have been so much different. We do have to learn the hard way at times and I can tell you of my experiences but you will still have to learn for yourself the Love of the Lord. You will grow as you walk this roadway and you will tell others one day what a wonderful Family of God that you have and how JESUS was there beside you through it all.

Life without Jesus Christ is nothing. Sure you will laugh and have fun, at least you will think it is fun but there will always be that emptiness inside of you that you cannot fill... My emptiness only got filled when I accepted Him and completely surrendered my life to Jesus Christ.

The journey that we are on and the

roadway of life is ongoing and there is still lessons for me to learn. I pray every day that I surrender my will to His and that the Holy Spirit stay in control of every situation.

This study is a little different as the exam will make you look up scriptures to the answers that are given.

As you have noticed I didn't put a lot of scripture into this book that will be your job...

Always remember that you have a family now that you have come to Christ. A Royal Family that will never leave you. If you make a mistake you ask for forgiveness and move forward, never look back there is nothing but heartaches back there. The past is over and the future is bright ahead.

Hannahhouse2002@gmail.com
Or visit Hannah House website:
<http://hannahhouse2002.org>

Mailing Address

Hannah House
MPO Box 2813,
Niagara Falls, New York, 14302

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Anne Skinner is Founder of Hannah House and Prison Letters.. She has pastored a church, been on Television for three years and has authored many books.