

Learning to Follow Jesus, Step by Step

Step by Step by Jerry D Thomas includes a short story and 3 teaching tips for each step. This discipleship resource helps children understand how to live the principles of Ellen White's book, **Steps to Christ**. Published in 2008 by Pacific Press. Purchase from Adventist book stores or online at adventistbookcenter.com

Step (& Steps to Christ Reference)	Summary	Bible Reference
1. We learn that God loves us SC 10	Just like we're sure that the sun will come up every morning, we can be sure that God loves us.	For God so loves the world that he gave his one and only Son. John 3:16 NIV
2. We learn what God is like SC 11,12	As a globe tells us what the earth is like, the story of Jesus tells us what God is like.	God gave his son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life. John 3:16
3. We learn why God loves us SC 14	God loves us just because we exist, just because we are alive. God loves us because we are His children. And nothing will ever change that.	The Father has loved us so much! He loved us so much that we are called children of God. 1 John 3:1
4. We learn what we can't do SC 18	We can't change our own hearts. Only God can do that.	Can a person... change the color of his skin? Can a leopard change his spots? Jeremiah 13:23 NCV
5. We learn that Jesus connects us to heaven SC 19,20	The ladder in Jacob's dream was like Jesus. He connects us to heaven.	Jesus answered, 'I am the way. And I am the truth and the life. The only way to the Father is through me.' John 14:6
6. We learn about being sorry when we do wrong things SC 23,24,38	There is a difference between being sorry that we're in trouble and being sorry that we hurt someone.	God, you will not reject a heart that is broken and sorry for its sin. Psalm 51:17
7. We learn that really being sorry means changing SC 39	Jesus is always ready to forgive us when we're really sorry for doing something wrong. He'll keep forgiving us when we make the same mistakes more than once. But if we're really sorry, we really want to stop doing the wrong thing.	If my people... will pray and seek me and stop their evil ways... I will forgive their sin. 2 Chronicles 7:14 NCV
8. We learn to apologize to other people SC 40,41	When we hurt people or do something wrong to them, we should tell them that we're sorry. Then we should tell God that we're sorry.	Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other. Do this so that God can heal you. James 5:16
9. We learn that God wants us to be happy SC 46	When God tells us not to do things, it's because He wants us to be happy. If we trust Him, He'll keep us safe so we can have fun that doesn't hurt us or anyone else.	God is working in you to help you want to do what pleases him. Then he gives you the power to do it. Philippians 2:13
10. We learn about choosing to believe SC 47,48	We believe in God because we see Him each day in the love of our parents, our grandparents, our teachers, and our friends. We believe in God because we can feel the difference He makes in our hearts.	Faith means being sure of the things we hope for and knowing that something is real even if we do not see it. Hebrews 11:1 NCV
11. We learn that God wants us to have peace SC 49	Jesus wants us to feel peaceful all the time. When there are problems we can trust Him to help us find the answers. And when bad things happen, we'll know that He's with us.	I leave you peace; my peace I give you... So don't let your hearts be troubled or afraid. John 14:27 NCV

12. We learn we can believe Jesus' promises SC 50,51	When we're sorry for having done things that hurt ourselves or hurt other people, Jesus promises to forgive us. We don't have to wonder if what we did was too bad or if God might be angry with us. Jesus promised to forgive us, and He does.	No matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. 2 Corinthians 1:20 NIV
13. We learn that God loves us, no matter what SC 53,54	No matter what we do, no matter what we say, no matter where we go, we are God's children. He loves us. And nothing – nothing – can ever change that.	The Lord is ... abounding in love ... He does not treat us as our sins deserve. Psalm 103:8,10 NIV
14. We learn that it's what's inside that counts SC 58	It's what's inside our hearts that really counts. When we ask Jesus to change us so that we act like Him, He gives us hearts that are sweeter than any apple in the world.	I will give you a new hearts and put a new spirit in you. Ezekiel 36:26 NIV
15. We learn about being on Jesus' team SC 60,61	We don't need a uniform to show people that we are on Jesus' team. The way we treat each other will show people we are Christians faster than any uniform or badge. When we follow Jesus, we are kind to each other.	All people will know that you are my followers if you love each other. John 13:35
16. We learn that we can't do it ourselves SC 63	No matter how hard we try we can't be good all by ourselves. But Jesus is there to rescue us. If we ask Him to, He will pick us up and change us into people who act more and more like He did. He will change our hearts.	God is strong and can help you not to fall. He can bring you before his glory without any wrong in you and can give you great joy. Jude 1:24 NCV
17. We learn to keep going and keep growing SC 64,65	It's easy to get discouraged when we mess up. But when we're really sorry, Jesus forgives us and says, "Don't be discouraged. You're still learning. Keep going and keep growing." He doesn't give up on us.	God began doing a good work in you. And he will continue it until it is finished when Jesus Christ comes again. Philippians 1:6
18. We learn about being good – but growing – Christians SC 67	Young Christians are like acorns. They're still growing and learning how to follow Jesus. Inside every one of us is a person who loves Jesus and wants to act just like Him. As long as we're following His path, we're growing a little more like Him every day.	Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Glory be to him now and forever! Amen. 2 Peter 3:18 NCV
19. We learn we must stay connected to grow SC 68,69	Just like a branch will dry up and die if it's not connect to a tree, Christians dry up and die if they don't stay connected to Jesus.	No branch can produce fruit alone. It must remain in the vine. It is the same with you. You cannot product fruit alone. You must remain in me. John 15:4
20. We learn about changing into something new SC 73	There is one way that we can change just as amazingly as caterpillars do when they change into butterflies. Jesus can change people's hearts from cross and mean to kind and friendly.	God has great mercy, and because of his mercy he gave us a new life. 1 Peter 1:3
21. We learn what Jesus was like SC 77,78	Jesus tried to make the people around Him happier and to make the world a better place. And when we're following Jesus, we'll do that too.	I tell you the truth, whoever believes in me will do the same things that I do. John 14:12 NCV
22. We learn to exercise our kindness SC 80,81	When we learn more about Jesus and try to act like He did, when we help others and tell them about God's love, we become stronger, better followers of Jesus.	Be strong in the Lord and in his great power. Ephesians 6:10 NCV
23. We learn to work for God wherever we are SC 81,82	It doesn't matter whether we're in school or on the playground or at home with our families – we can always be like Jesus. We can always be kind and helpful and honest.	Do everything for the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

24. We learn from God's two books SC 85, 87,88	We can learn things about God by looking at what He created. But we learn the most about God from the Bible's stories about Jesus. The way Jesus treated people tells us how much God loves every person. It also tells us how God wants us to treat people around us every day at home, at school, or on the playground.	The Bereans were eager to hear what Paul and Silas said and studied the Scriptures every day to find out if these things were true. Acts 17:11 NCV
25. We learn to talk to God as a friend SC 93	Even though God is a very important Person, we don't have to be nervous about talking to Him. Praying to God is like talking to a friend.	Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. Jeremiah 29:12
26. We learn why we go to church SC 101,102	Christians are really a lot like a family – a big family in which everyone watches out for each other. Just like a regular family, a church family works together to keep the kids safe and teach them about God's love.	You should not stay away from the church meetings', as some are doing, but you should meet together and encourage each other. Hebrews 10:25 NCV
27. We learn that we'll always have questions SC 106,107	There are many things we can learn from the Bible about God and His plans for us. But the Bible doesn't answer all our questions. There will always be more to learn and more questions to ask.	Now we see a dim reflection, as if we were looking into a mirror, but then we shall see clearly. 1 Corinthians 13:12 NCV
28. We learn to be a witness SC 115	Every Christian carries a message about God with him or her every day. Everything we say and do tells the people around us something about God.	When the Holy Spirit comes to you, you will receive power. You will be my witnesses ... in every part of the world. Acts 1:8 NCV
29. We learn to look for the good SC 117,118	Being a Christian doesn't mean that bad things won't happen to you. But being like Jesus means looking for the good things in life.	I will be happy because of you. God Most High, I will sing praises to your name. Psalm 9:2 NCV
30. We learn to trust God's plan SC 122-124	Following Jesus is a great adventure. There will always be questions to ask and things to learn. But every step will make us happier and better people. And Jesus will be with us all along the way.	Jesus answered, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." John 14:6 NCV