

## 3 Dealing with doubts in your relationship with Christ

Doubts, questions and varying emotions are common parts of everyone's life, but they are unreliable gauges of anyone's relationship with Christ. **Even though feelings are important, your relationship with Christ is based on unchanging facts, not on feelings that can change daily.** The Christian lives by faith in the reliability of God and His unchanging Word.



This diagram illustrates the relationship between **fact** (God and His Word), **faith** (your trust in God and His Word) and **feeling**. When filled with gasoline, the van will run with or without the trailer; however, it would be useless to attempt to pull the van by the trailer. **In the same way, do not depend on feelings to live the Christian life. The promise of God's Word, not our feelings, is our authority.**

But what if you don't feel like a Christian tomorrow? **Place your faith in the faithfulness of God Himself and the trustworthiness of His Word.** The more you learn of His Word, the more you will be able to answer any doubts with solid facts. Your feelings will begin to respond to the truth of God's Word and not your circumstances.

## 4 Growing in your relationship with Christ

Take one truth each day from the list below and reflect on it. Read the verses listed beside each truth. Thank God that this is now true of you. Knowing and trusting in these essential truths is important to your growth in Christ.

**Day 1 — You are forgiven:** Ephesians 1:7 and Colossians 2:13.

**Day 2 — You are a child of God:** John 1:12,13 and 1 John 3:1.

**Day 3 — You are indwelt by Christ:** Revelation 3:20 and Galatians 2:20.

**Day 4 — You have new life:** 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Ephesians 2:4,5.

**Day 5 — You have eternal life:** 1 John 5:11-13 and John 10:27-29.

Throughout this week, begin to make these truths part of your life. If these truths are meaningful to you, tell someone this week that you have a relationship with Christ.



### SUMMARY

If you have trusted Christ as your personal Savior, you have begun the most significant, fulfilling relationship that you can experience. Regardless of feelings, the sure promises of God provide confidence that Christ lives in you and that He will never leave you. This is the foundation for a growing relationship with Christ.



### LOOKING AHEAD

Next time we will look at how we can experience God's acceptance of us even when we fail.

Next meeting time is: