



## CROSSROADS

Hello Steve,

8/31/2018

My name is Kater and I am your mentor for lesson one of "Who Am I?" In addition I am a volunteer in the Crossroads office - I enter new student enrollments into the computer. I may have done yours.

I want to congratulate you on your life changing decision to study God's word and to get to know Him better. That same God created you in His own image and loves you unconditionally. You may feel that you are just a number or someone's thrown away trash. That is not true. God does not make trash. God loves you Steve and me so much that He made a way for our penalty of sin to be paid in full. That payment was offering His one and only son to die for you. Would anyone else be willing to give His life for you? What a gift! Steve, we need to remember His love whenever we get down on ourself

"...you don't need to look back and to wallow in what went wrong - the "what if's"; the "should have," the "if only." That is past, it is done with. We are forever! The future is in His hands. Jeremiah 29:11, says "For I know the plans I have for you, plans to give you hope and a future. This is one of my favorite verses. I have a wall hanging of it in my entry way of my condo. It is there to remind me of this when I think things are "tough." Because His love is unconditional, as you mentioned, we don't have to be good enough" or do something spectacular. It is that payment for our wrongdoing.

Steve, you may have lost self worth, job, friends, kids & family. But because you believe in Jesus as the only way for eternal life with God. You are a child of God. You now belong to the family of God and are never without your brothers and sisters in Christ. Galatians 3:26 shows us that relationship. "you are all sons of God through faith in Jesus Christ. In His letter to the early church in Corinth (2 Corinthians 6:18), "And I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters."

Steve you did a great job on your lesson. I appreciate your openness and



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the thoughts you expressed. Being open and honest and answering each & every with thoughtfulness is a great way to begin your studies. These characteristic will serve you well in your studies. Your request for a Bible has been documented and one should be sent to you under separate cover. Keep up the good work.

There is one important thing I would like to share - suggest to you - to memorize Scriptures. This has been difficult for me as I don't memorize well. They may take your valuables, Bible & lesson in all searches and transfers. Satan can never take away God's word that you have memorized. Psalm 112:11 declares "I have stored up your Word in my heart, that I may not sin against you." Psalm 119 says, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Who wants to go down an unknown darkened path without a light and direction? God's word is that roadmap. When you have God's word in your heart/mind, it will come to the forefront when we are tempted. This temptation will be even more intense because you believe in Jesus Christ. Begin with a verse or passage each day/week. Whatever works for you. You may want to choose a verse from the lesson or your personal reading. Studies have shown that we learn better when multiple senses are used. If possible not only read it but also talk it aloud. You are reading, speaking and hearing it. You may want to follow our new pastor's suggestion. When he is studying a passage, he either journals, writes a Haiku verse, draws a picture and paints about it. I don't have those gifts! Give it a try. Crossroads would like to see your result. I would like to send this verse to you to encourage you. Philippians 4:6-7

Do not be anxious (stressed) about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all things will guard your hearts in Christ Jesus." Best wishes on your studies!

Youth Crossroads Mentor