

到底哪一个在前面，委身（决志跟随基督），真理，信心，还是自由？

What comes first, commitment (the decision to follow Christ), truth, belief or freedom?

约翰福音8:31及下文那里说道，“

耶稣对信他的犹太人说：你们若常常遵守（持续地遵行）我的道，就真是我的门徒；你们必晓得真理，真理必叫你们得以自由。”

可见，委身来跟随基督，也就是你选择来跟随基督，是在前面的。我在这里不想跟人来辩论，因为有些人偏要说，一个人必须首先拥有一些真理，此后才能够来相信，以致于做出决定，选择是否跟随基督。

我觉得，在你信靠基督，以基督为自己的救主，也就是上帝拯救你之前，你不是自由的，正如罗马书6:20-22, 7:24. 8:2; 以弗所书 2:1-3等经文所叙述的。

事实上，人们在信主之前都是死在罪中，是罪的奴隶。而一旦上帝拯救了你，你就真正的得着自由了，因为你在基督里的身份才是完美的，正如希伯来书10:14所说的。你可以用自己的自由来选择持续地信靠基督，每时每刻如此。

歌罗西书2:6

说道，“你们既然接受了主基督耶稣，就当遵他而行。”你是怎样接受基督的呢？乃是借着信靠基督。你又是如何来遵他而行（成长）呢？同样是借着继续地信靠基督。如此看来，在你成为基督徒之后，你需要做出的抉择乃是，把自己的全身全人都奉献给基督。因此，在你的祷告当中，你需要告诉主耶稣，说自己想要成长和更加地认识神。事实上，在“上帝拯救你”，和你“成为他的门徒（在基督里的一个学习者）并每日与主同行”之间，乃是有着巨大的区别的。有一些基督徒的生命并没有成长起来。他们终其一生都是在基督里的“婴孩，”正如哥林多前书 3:1-3所描述的。为什么呢？乃是因为他们从来都没有选择来跟随基督。

罗马书

12:1及下文吩咐我们说，要把我们的整个的生命献给上帝，并且要成长以致于成熟，正如以弗所书4:13-16所言。你准备什么时候做这个“献生”的事呢？一也就是把自己的身体献上当作活祭。如果你还没有这么做过，最好现在就来做这个事情。你可以向神祷告，告诉他你愿意做主的门徒并且渴望成长！可以这样说，“主啊，我愿意成长。我渴慕能够更加认识你。我希望成为一个成熟的基督徒。主耶稣啊，请你帮助我成长起来。阿门！”

约翰福音 8:31 提到了这些方面的道理：“(1)... 耶稣对信他的犹太人说...”

相信基督并接受基督作为自己的救主，是首先发生的事情，也就是上帝的救恩临到了你。事实上，生命是从上帝开始的，上帝乃是生命的源头。上帝就是那位造物主，是第一动力，并且是那位赐下生命气息的，正如创世记1:1-3, 2:7, 3:21; 以弗所书 2:8-10; 约翰福音1:12及下文; 歌罗西书

2:6的这些经文所叙述的。生命不是从人类开始的，乃是从上帝开始的。接下来，你作为承蒙上帝拯救的人，需要做出一个选择，要来“(2)常常遵守（一个持续的选择，作为一个居住在基督里、完全自由的人）主的道”。那么，你就会成为“(3)主的门徒”，并且就会“(4) ...必晓得真理...”于是就“(5)...真理必叫你们得以自由。”

但是人们往往不知道这个真理，也就是能够使他们自由的真理，除非他相信上帝的话语。就是这样。需要强调的就是这个词“话语。”你作为一个中国的基督徒，或者在这个世界上任何地方的基督徒，怎么能够成长起来呢一要是你不认为或者不相信“话语”乃是有意义的，是重要的？你是不能够成长的！正是这个缘故，大多数的基督徒从来就没有成长起来。他们不相信上帝的话。之所以不相信，乃是因为他们基本上对于任何人的话语都是半信半疑的。因为根据祖传的文化和现今的世道，往往在中国，“是”并非总是指真正的“是，”或者并非每次都指的是“是。”所谓的“是，”有时候指的是“是，”有时候指的是“不

是，”有时候指的是“不知道，”等等。正是因为你可能自己也是这样的人，随便就会撒谎，于是也同样很难相信其他人（包括上帝）所说的任何的事，当然就不容易成长起来了。

但是在上帝那里，“是”就完全是“是的，”每次如此，永远如此。在上帝那里，“是”所指的意思从来不会改变。因为上帝永不改变，神的话语永不改变，并且上帝给你的应许都是真实的，且同样是永不改变的，正如民数记

23:19所说的。请你今天就来信靠上帝吧！相信“话语”是有意义的！学习那些有意义的话语，并且自己也来讲述那种有意义的话语。请你来认识、相信、和讲说有真实意义的话语，使自己得着自由吧！其实，在自由里面生活，并且持续地成长起来，是非常令人兴奋的事情。你现在就可以进入这样的生活，无论你身在何处。使徒保罗，那位最伟大的使徒，在他写腓立比书的时候，其实是在罗马的监狱里面，但是他的灵与魂都是极端自由的，这样的境界洋溢在腓立比书的字里行间，尤其是以下的这些经文里面：**1:21, 2:17, 3:8, 20, 4:6-8, 11-13, 18!**

What comes first, commitment (the decision to follow Christ), truth, belief or freedom?

John 8:31f, “Jesus therefore was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you abide (continue) in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

Commitment to follow Christ, your choice to follow Christ, comes first. I am not going to argue with those who say one has to have some truth to believe in, before one can choose to follow Christ.

Before you believed in Christ as your Savior and God saved you, you were not free, Romans 6:20-22, 7:24. 8:2; Ephesians 2:1-3. You were dead in sins and slaves of sin. But once God saved you, you become free in your perfect position, Hebrews 10:14, in Christ and free to continue to believe Christ moment by moment.

Colossians 2:6 says, **“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.”** How did you receive Christ? By believing in Christ. How do you walk (grow) in Christ? By continuing to believe in Christ. So after you become a Christian, you need to make the choice to give your whole life to Christ. In prayer, you need to tell Christ you want to grow and know the Lord. There is a great difference between God saving you and you becoming His disciple (a learner in Christ) on a daily basis. Some Christians do not grow. They remain “babes” in Christ all of their lives, 1 Corinthians 3:1-3. Why? They never choose to follow Christ.

Romans 12:1f commands you to give your whole life to God and grow unto maturity, Ephesians 4:13-16. When will you do this? Do it now and pray and tell God you are His disciple and want to grow! “I want to grow Lord. I want to know you. I want to be a mature Christian. Please help me grow Jesus. Amen”

John 8:31 **“(1)...those Jews who had believed Him...”** Belief in Christ as Savior comes first, God saves you. All life begins with God and comes from God. He is the Creator, initiator and the One who gives life, Genesis 1:1-3, 2:7, 3:21; Ephesians 2:8-10; John 1:12f; Colossians 2:6. Life does not start with man, it begins with God. Then you as one who God has saved, makes the choice to **“(2) abide (continue)(a choice you make as a positionally free person in Christ to abide) in His word.”** Then you become **“(3) His disciple”** and then **“(4) ...you shall know the truth...”** and then **“(5)...the truth shall make you free.”**

But you can not know the truth which makes you free, unless you believe God’s Word. There it is. The word “Word” again. How can you as a Chinese believer, or any believer in this world, grow if you do not think or believe words have meaning and are important? You can’t grow. And that is one reason why most Christians never grow. They do not believe God’s Word and they do not believe God’s Word because they do not believe any words that anyone says. “Yes” in China is not “Yes” all the time, every time. “Yes” is sometimes ‘yes,’ sometimes ‘no,’ and sometimes ‘nothing.’ You lie and never grow.

But God's "Yes" is "Yes" every time, all the time and "Yes" never changes with God. God never changes, His Word never changes, and His promises to you are true and never change, Numbers 23:19. Believe God's Word today. Believe words have meaning. Learn what words mean and than speak words with meaning. **Know, believe and speak words with true meaning and be set free! It is exciting to be free and to continue to grow in freedom. And you can do that right now wherever you are. Paul, the greatest apostle, was in prison when he wrote the Philippians and he was free in his spirit and soul, Philippians 1:21, 2:17, 3:8, 20, 4:6-8, 11-13, 18!**