**CONQUERED ALONGSIDE THEIR GUIDE**

**Introduction**

Monica was extremely attentive listening for the starting signal; ready to run. Suddenly, she heard the sound that meant the race had begun. Monica ran and ran with all her might. After she crossed the finished line she realized she had won first place and set a new record. Finishing the 1500 meter race in only 4:37:40.

The race Monica was participating in was special, it was a competition for the blind and visually impaired. Monica had run with her eyes covered. You might be asking yourself, how could she run so fast in those conditions without tripping or getting off course? The answer is simple. She ran with a guide. In fact, the following was mentioned: Monica Olivia Saavedra from Mexico made history alongside her guide Kevin Aguilar and brought home the gold medal.

**Jesus is Our Guide**

Just like Monica needed a guide to be able to race and gain victory, we also need Jesus in order to win the race of life and be conquerors. Jesús said, “ If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” (John 15: 5). All who participated in this special race were reliant on the important function of their guide. Jesus wants us to draw near to Him so He can be our guide. How do we do this?

**Studying the Bible**

The Bible is a lamp that illuminates our path, as it is written, “Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.” (Psalms 119:105). This is the map that shows us the path to take. We find the instructions given from our guide, Jesus Christ and receive great blessings when we study the Bible. A Father wrote the following words to His child, “ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”(2 Timothy 3:15-16).

Apart from lighting our path and providing instructions for us to be conquerors, the Bible helps us get to know our guide, Jesus. He said, “You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me.” (John 5:39). When we study the Bible, not only are we getting to know Jesús, but we will also come to know His will and His instructions for our lives.

**Prayer**

When we read the Bible, God speaks to us, but when we pray we are speaking to God. THe prophet Daniel 's experience was special. He said, “ So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.”(Daniel 9:3). Daniel liked to pray so much that he dedicated three times a day to prayer. (Daniel 6:10). Nothing impeding his special time of prayer. Not even a decree from the king. Daniel always prayed, it had become a habit for him, as well as a privilege and duty to seek out communion with God. God saved Daniel from being devoured by lions by sending His angel to accompany him. Although this was an important experience, this was not the only wonderful thing to happen to Daniel. On day an angel sent Daniel a special message from Heaven. God loves you so much and is attentive to your prayers so he sent me to help you immediately when you began praying. (Daniel 9:21; 10:11,12). Isn’t it beautiful to have a special communion with Jesus? Jesus wants all of His children to pray. He said, “If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.” (John 15:7). “And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”(John 14:13).

**The man who walked with God**

Have you ever heard the story of Enoch? It's a short, but special story. Enoch loved God very much. Enoch was so close to God that it was said that he walked with God. His friendship with God was so great that one day he disappeared because God took him. (Genesis 5: 24). How wonderful it is to walk with our God! We may ask ourselves, how did he do it? The answer was given many years afterwards when the secret was revealed that because of Enoch’s faith, God took him before ENoch could experience death. “By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: “He could not be found, because God had taken him away.”For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.” (Hebrews 11:5). Enoch 's secret was faith. This same faith is at our disposal, we need only to want to walk with Jesus with all our heart.

**Invitation**

Would you like Jesus to be your guide? Would you like to walk with Him? Would you like your friendship with Jesus to grow?

A young pastor from Africa was given a beautiful plant one day. He and his wife kept this plant inside their house and had almost forgotten about it. They didn’t dedicate much time to it. So he and his wife noticed that the leaves were becoming yellow and no flowers flourished. They decided to investigate and find out what kind of plant this was and what it needed for it’s care. They found out that it was a desert flower and needed sunshine. Once they began following the instructions the leaves once again became green and the plant began to bloom.

This is an example of what our relationship with Jesus is like. If we forget about Him and we don’t pray or read our Bible, our relationship with Him will little by little die. However, if we seek Him by faith through prayer and Bible study, then your relationship with Him will bloom.

Would you like to walk with Jesus today? Would you like to begin to cultivate your relationship with Him through prayer and Bible study? I invite you to let Jesus your guide.