

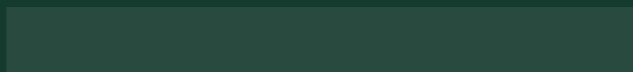
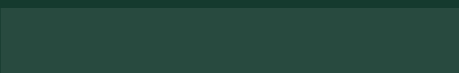


HOMeward

THE JOURNEY OF FAITH · STAGE FOUR

New Foundations

Rebuilding with humility and hope



A HOMeward GUIDE FOR YOUR SEASON



New Foundations

Stage Four of the Journey of Faith

You appear to be in a season when pieces are beginning to come together. You may have questioned, searched, read widely, and released beliefs that no longer felt honest. Now you are looking for a center you can actually live from.

You are not trying to recover every answer you once had. You are discerning what can bear the weight of real life - a faith rooted in Jesus, open to mystery, tested by its fruit, and held with humility.

A mirror, not a box.

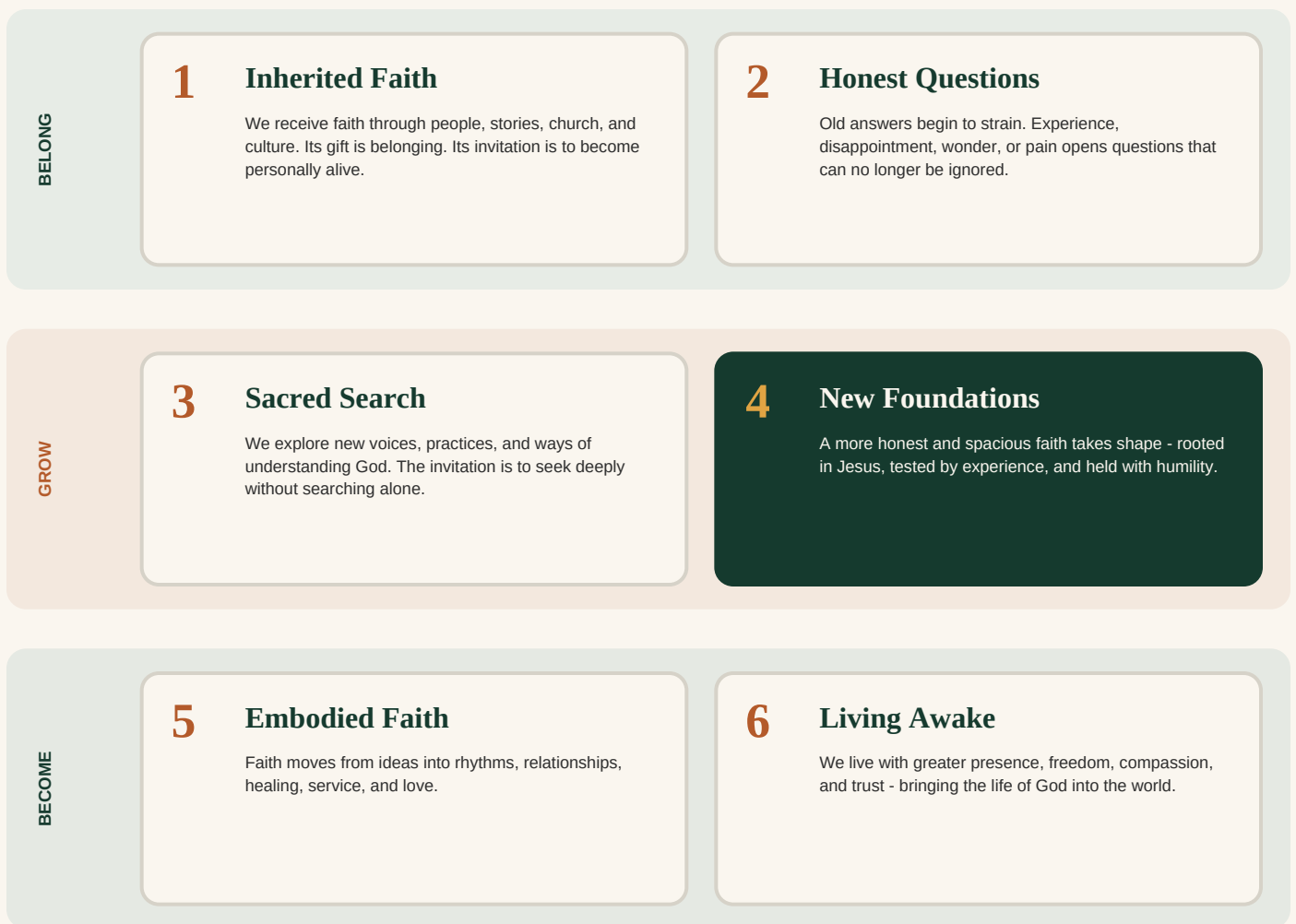
This result is not a diagnosis, ranking, or permanent label. Most of us carry parts of several stages at once. New Foundations simply names the movement that seems most alive in you right now.



A spiral, not a ladder. New foundations are lived before they are finished.

A Spiral, Not a Ladder

Spiritual growth is rarely linear. We receive, question, seek, rebuild, embody, and awaken - often more than once. No stage is a rank, and no stage makes anyone more loved by God.

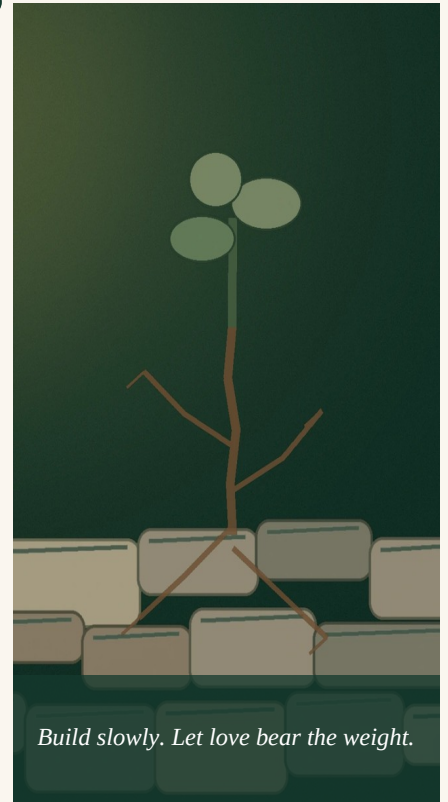


You may revisit any stage more than once. The stages describe how our relationship to faith may change - not God's relationship to us. Jesus remains at the center of the journey, inviting us toward greater honesty, freedom, compassion, and love.

A truer center is beginning to emerge.

You may feel drawn again to Jesus, Scripture, prayer, and community - but differently. You are less interested in defending a system and more interested in discovering what is trustworthy, life-giving, and real.

One common risk is replacing the old certainty with a new certainty, or making reconstruction entirely intellectual. A living foundation is more than an updated set of beliefs. It is a center practiced in relationship, tested by its fruit, and held with humility.



WHAT MAY BE TRUE IN THIS SEASON

1

You are allowed to build slowly.

A durable faith does not need to answer every question at once. Patience is part of discernment.

2

Jesus can remain central.

You can return to the words and way of Jesus without preserving every interpretation you inherited.

3

A foundation is known by its fruit.

Does it deepen love, freedom, compassion, courage, and humility? The life it produces matters.

4

Practice makes faith livable.

Scripture, prayer, community, and embodied choices turn a promising idea into a place to stand.

Inspired Reading

Lectio Divina - letting Scripture become encounter

In Matthew 7:24-27, Jesus says a stable foundation is formed by hearing his words and putting them into practice. Inspired Reading is Homeward's accessible form of Lectio Divina: reading slowly enough for Scripture to move from information into relationship and response.

Seven minutes or twenty

1

Arrive

Become still. Ask for openness rather than certainty. Read Matthew 7:24-27 in a translation you trust.

2

Read

Read the passage slowly, twice. Notice one word or phrase that catches your attention.

3

Receive

Let the phrase meet your actual life. Do not rush to explain or prove it. What might it be inviting you to notice?

4

Respond

Speak honestly with God. What feels hopeful, difficult, resistant, or alive?

5

Rest & Carry

Sit in silence. Then choose one small way to practice what you heard today.

A FOUNDATION PRAYER

*Jesus,
teach me to hear
without grasping,
to trust without
pretending,
and to practice
the love I am learning.*

*Build in me
what can bear the weight
of real life.*

Try this for seven days. Return to the same passage. Notice how the invitation changes as you practice it.



Prefer to be guided?

Open the online Inspired Reading practice and move through the passage step by step.

homewardcommunity.com/practice-inspired-reading

Companions for the Road

Choose the companion that helps you build from a truer center. You do not need to consume the whole shelf.

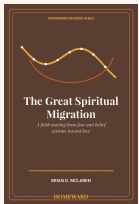


BEGIN HERE

The Divine Conspiracy

Dallas Willard

A Jesus-centered vision of the Kingdom of God as a life available now - and of discipleship as becoming an apprentice of Jesus.

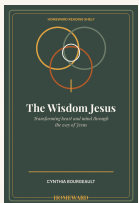


FOR A FAITH DEFINED BY LOVE

The Great Spiritual Migration

Brian D. McLaren

A hopeful movement from faith defined mainly by beliefs and institutions toward love, a renewing vision of God, and healing action.



FOR CONTEMPLATIVE DEPTH

The Wisdom Jesus

Cynthia Bourgeault

A contemplative reading of Jesus as a teacher of transformation, self-emptying love, and practices that reshape how we see.

LISTEN & WATCH



Living the Divine Conspiracy

Podcast · Dallas Willard / Renovare

A classic talk on trusting God and living within the present reality of God's Kingdom.



Shaped by the Word

Webinar · Tim Mackie, Carla Harding & Renovare

A conversation about Scripture forming disciples and drawing us into living relationship with God.



Learning How to See

Podcast · Brian McLaren / CAC

Practices and conversations for recognizing bias and learning to see through eyes of love.



The Choice

Video · BibleProject

Jesus closes the Sermon on the Mount with paths, fruit, and houses - and an invitation to hear and practice his way.



Keep the shelf close.

Open every link, future addition, and guided practice online.

homewardcommunity.com/resources/new-foundations

Build in Good Company.

A new foundation is not formed by ideas alone. It becomes strong through Scripture, practice, honest conversation, and relationships that can hold both conviction and humility.

Homeward Circles are small groups of six to eight who share a meal, sit with Scripture and honest conversation, practice presence, and pray.

It is not a finished system. It is a life we practice together.

1

Name the center you are choosing.

What about the way of Jesus, the character of God, or the life of love feels trustworthy enough to build from?

2

Test it by its fruit.

Does it lead toward love, freedom, compassion, courage, and humility - in you and toward others?

3

Practice one thing.

Choose one teaching or rhythm and live it this week. A foundation grows strong by bearing real weight.



Come and see.

Explore a Circle where a more honest faith can become a shared and livable way of life.

homewardcommunity.com/m/circle



*“May you build slowly,
with courage to release what cannot bear love
and humility to keep learning.*

*May the words and way of Jesus
become more than an answer -
a foundation beneath your life.*

*May your faith grow roots deep enough for storms
and branches wide enough for others.*

You belong here - still becoming.”



HOMEWARD

Journeying Toward God. Together.

BELONG · GROW · BECOME

Return to the Journey Reflection after a season, and notice what has moved.