DISCIPLESHIP – “ABC’S OF CHRISTIAN GROWTH”

The “ABC’s Of Christian Growth” programme is a Scriptural means of helping new Christians get on their feet and begin walking with the Lord in the light of His Word.

Upon your agreement, I have assigned a member of our Church the responsibility of being available to help you as you proceed through these lessons.

Your older brother (or sister) will endeavour to get together with you at an acceptable time on a regular basis for the purpose of helping you with these lessons, praying with you and for you, and answering any questions you may have.

As a record for the future, you may wish to fill out the following:

NAME: ___________________________________________

SALVATION:

I received Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour on: ________________

BAPTISM:

I was scripturally baptized into the ________________________________

Baptist Church on: __________________

PASTOR:

The man that God has placed over me to watch for my soul is: ____________________________________________

OLDER BROTHER / SISTER:

The one who will help me to learn to grow spiritually and become a fruitful and mature Christian is: ____________________________
POINTS TO REMEMBER BEFORE YOU BEGIN TO STUDY THESE LESSONS

1. Find a quiet place away from noise, so that you may be able to think and concentrate on the lesson.

2. Pray – before you commence the lesson ask the Lord to help you understand His Word.

3. Determine in your heart that you will not allow Satan to hinder you from completing these lessons. Make it a personal goal to finish the entire course.

4. By faith, believe that you will grow spiritually as you study this material.

5. When you learn a new truth, immediately put it into practice in your life.

6. Write down any questions, you may to ask your “older brother” or the pastor.

7. Remember – the Bible has the answer, not always your older brother! If your older brother cannot answer the question immediately, be assured an answer will be forthcoming.
Preliminary Study # 1

What Does Salvation Mean For Me?

Lesson Commenced: ________________ Lesson Checked: ________________

Look the Scripture references answer the questions by filling in the actual words from the Bible. (All references are found in the New Testament – use the index in the front of the Bible if you have difficulty in locating them.)

WHAT I WAS

A. I was spiritually _ _ _ _ in trespasses and sins. Ephesians 2:1

B. I was _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ already. John 3:18

C. I had the _ _ _ _ _ _ of God abiding on me. John 3:36

D. I was a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of sin. Romans 6:17

E. I was headed for the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of _ _ _ _ _ _ Revelation 20:15

F. I was _ _ _ _ , yet sought by Jesus. Luke 19:10

WHAT GOD PROMISED ME

A. The gift of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Romans 6:23

B. The _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of sins Colossians 1:14

C. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ through His grace. Titus 2:11

D. To _ _ _ _ _ _ in my heart. Ephesians 3:17 (John 14:23)

E. The _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ which passeth knowledge. Ephesians 3:19

F. The _ _ _ _ of Jesus Christ. John 15:11

G. The _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of God, which passeth all understanding. Philippians 4:7
WHAT I DID

A. I _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ upon the Name of the Lord. Romans 10:13

B. I _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ed in my heart. Romans 10:9

C. I _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Him. John 1:12

D. I _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ed of my sins. Acts 17:30

WHAT GOD DID

A. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ me freely. Romans 3:24

B. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ me from my sins. Revelation 1:5

C. Recorded my name in the Lamb’s _ _ _ _ _ _ of _ _ _ __. Revelation 21:27

D. Adopted me as a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of _ _ _ __. Romans 8:14-15

E. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ me in the Beloved. Ephesians 1:6

F. S _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ me. I Corinthians 6:11

G. Made me a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _. II Corinthians 5:17

Some words to explain:

Repent = change one’s mind, a change of attitude towards sin.
Justification = to be declared “as no guilty” (just-if-I’d never sinned).
Sanctification = to be “set apart” by God.
Grace = undeserved favour.

READING ASSIGNMENT:

Commence reading through the Gospel according to John. Read at your own comfortable pace, a chapter a day – or just a short passage each day. Do not stop until you completely read this Book.

MEMORIZATION: Try to memorize John 1:12.
Preliminary Study # 2

What Does God Expect of Me?

Lesson Commenced: _______________  Lesson Checked: _______________


   According to the Bible, another term of becoming a Christian is to be B _ _ _ A _ _ _ .

   John 3:6 teaches TWO births – a physical birth, and a spiritual birth.

B. Look up I Peter 2:2

   As a new Christian, to what does the Scripture liken you? A _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

C. Look up II Peter 3:18

   You cannot do much as a spiritual “baby,” but what does God expect you to do? To _ _ _ _ _ in grace.

D. Carefully read I Corinthians 3:1-3

   What does the Lord call a Christian who doesn’t grow spiritually? C _ _ _ _ _ .


   Into what does the Lord want His children to grow? (Use your own words)

   ____________________________________________________________

   ____________________________________________________________
Six steps to Christian Growth

The following acrostic will give you SIX basic steps to begin growing spiritually.

G  **GO** TO A BIBLE-BELIEVING BAPTIST CHURCH - Hebrews 10:25

R  **READ** YOUR BIBLE DAILY – I Peter 2:2; Acts 17:11

O  **OBEY** CHRIST AND BE BAPTIZED – Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:42

W  **WITNESS** TO OTHERS OF CHRIST – Acts 1:8; John 4:28-29

T  **THANK** GOD DAILY IN PRAYER – Philippians 4:6; Matthew 7:7

H  **HONOR** THE LORD WITH THE TITHE – Malachi 3:10; I Cor.16:2

(All of these steps will be covered in greater detail in the lesson series)
STUDY # 1

A  Assurance of Salvation

Lesson commenced: _______________  Lesson Checked: ____________

Satan may try to get you doubt your salvation. He may cause you to wonder if you really are a Christian, and tell you that because you do not feel any different than before, nothing really happened.

And then, you might sin. You might slip back into your old ways. Satan is quick to sow the seeds of doubt by telling you that Christians don’t sin.

When doubts come, what will your answer be?

The purpose of this study is to teach you that by accepting the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, you are saved now and forever – and you can KNOW it for certain.

WHAT IS MEANT BY “ASSURANCE”?

By “assurance of salvation” we mean the intellectual and spiritual certainty that you belong to God, that you possess eternal salvation.

A. Look up II Timothy 1:12

The “key words” in this verse are K _ _ _ and P _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

B. Look up I John 5:13.

1. On the basis of this verse of Scripture, would you say God to have assurance of salvation? ______________.

2. What word in this verse indicates this? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
WHY DO WE NEED ASSURANCE OF SALVATION?

A. Assurance brings us \_\_\_\_. *I John 1:4*

B. Assurance brings us \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ before God. *I John 3:19,21*

C. Assurance brings us \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Heart. *Colossians 2:2*

D. Assurance brings us \____________\_. *James 1:8* (Use your own words.)

E. Assurance enables us to o_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ the word. *I John 5:4-5*

F. Assurance enables us to effectively serve the Lord by telling others about Jesus.

Read the following: *John 1:40-41; John 4:28-29; and Acts 16:10.*

WHAT IS THE BASIS OF ASSURANCE OF SALVATION?

Many Christians base their assurance of salvation upon personal FEELINGS.

The problem with this is that feelings change. One day you may feel saved; the next day, through circumstances, you may not feel saved.

You have something MORE than feelings to go by – the UNCHANGING WORD OF GOD.

Look up *I John 5:11-12.* Write this Scripture out in full.

_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________

Circle the following two words in the above verse: “RECORD” and “HATH”.

There are three grounds for your assurance:

A. The PERSON of God.

  According to *Titus 1:2*, God cannot _ _ _ .

  **GOD SAID IT – THAT SETTLES IT!!**

B. The PROMISES Of God.

  1. According to *John 6:24*, God says I _ _ _ _ everlasting life, I _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ come into condemnation.

  2. According to *John 6:37*, because I came to Jesus Christ, He will in _ _ _ _ _ _ cast me out.

  3. According to *Romans 10:13*, those who call upon the Name of the Lord _ _ _ _ _ _ be saved.

These are just a sample of the positive statements; put in writing, by the Lord Who cannot lie!
C. The PRESENCE Of God

1. According to Romans 5:5, When we are saved, God gives us His __ __ __ __ __ __, who dwells in our hearts.

2. According to Romans 8:16, the Spirit of God bears __ __ __ __ __ with our spirit that we are in fact God’s children. See also the first part of I John 5:10.

HOW MAY I KNOW I AM SAVED?

Here is a Bible checklist:


B. I KNOW I am saved because I __ __ __ the Son. I John 5:12.

C. I KNOW I am saved because I have a love for the __ __ __ __ __ __. I John 3:14.

D. I KNOW I am saved because I desire to keep God’s __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ . I John 2:3.

E. I KNOW I am saved because I desire to turn from the W __ __ and all its sin. I John 2:15.

F. I KNOW I am saved because I am __ __ __ __ __ ing the world. I John 5:4

G. I KNOW I am saved because I have the __ __ __ __ __ __ of the Spirit within. I John 5:10

WHAT BRINGS ASSURANCE OF SALVATION INTO MY LIFE?

It is possible you may have doubts from time to time. Just remember that Satan is a LIAR (John 8:44), and his first recorded words in the Bible were casting doubt upon God’s Word (Genesis 3:1).

Here are some ways you can get assurance, or deepen your assurance in what God has done for you:

A. Learn The Word Of God

1. Your salvation is based upon what God has said - not upon how you think or feel. Thus it is important for you to read and study the Bible. Read II Timothy 3:14-15.

B. Thank God For His Gift Of Salvation

According to Romans 6:23, you have received the GIFT of __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __. Have you thanked God for this gift yet? Thanksgiving is evidence of faith. Read II Corinthians 9:15.

C. Make A Public Testimony Before Others.
1. Have you told someone that you have trusted the Lord Jesus Christ? Look at *I John 4:15* and see the relationship between confessing Christ and assurance.

2. Read *Matthew 10:9-10* and *Romans 10:9-10*

One way you can confess Christ publicly is to come forward at the “invitation” in one of our Church services. The pastor will gladly introduce you to the Church.

D. Attend Church Services As Much As Possible

Fellowshipping with your brothers and sisters in Christ will encourage you. Many of them have experienced the same doubts you may have. *Hebrews 10:25* commands this, and *Hebrews 10:22* talks about assurance.

E. Live a Righteous Life

Sometimes a full assurance does not come until God sees we mean business for Him. According to *Isaiah 32:17,* the effects of _______ is quietness and _______ for _________________ (how long?)

Remember your peace and assurance is based upon believing God’s promises and on your feelings.

WHAT HAPPENS IF A CHRISTIAN SIN?

A. Look up *I John 1:8.* Is it possible for a Christian to sin? ________________________

C. Look up *I John 2:1.* Does God want a Christian to sin? ________________________

D. Look up *I John 1:9.* If a Christian sins, what is the one thing we are to do about it? C_ _ _ _ _ _ it to God.

E. Look up *I John 2:1* again. When I sin, who appears before God the Father in heaven on my behalf? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ the Righteous.

F. Look up *I John 1:6-7.* In your own words, what does a Christian lose if he sins?

__________________________________________________________________________

CAN I EVER LOSE MY SALVATION?

A. *John 10:28* says we shall _ _ _ _ perish.

B. *John 10:29* says no man is _ _ _ _ to remove us from God’s hand.

C. *John 6:37* says God will in _ _ _ _ _ _ cast out those who come to Christ.
D. *John 6:39* says the responsibility of keeping us saved is the Lord’s, not ours, and that Christ can _ _ _ _ nothing.

E. *John 5:24* says the kind of life I now have is _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

F. *Romans 8:38-39* says that nothing can _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ us from the love of Christ.

G. *I Peter 1:5* says we are _ _ _ _ by the _ _ _ _ _ of God.

H. *Jude 24* says Christ is able to _ _ _ _ us from _ _ _ _ _ _ .

I. *Philippians 1:6* says that Christ will continue His good _ _ _ _ in us until the _ _ _ of Jesus Christ.

J. *Ephesians 1:13* says our salvation has been _ _ _ _ _ _ with the Holy Spirit.

K. *Ephesians 2:8* says that our salvation is the _ _ _ _ of God. A gift taken back by the giver is no gift.

L. *Ephesians 2:9* says that we have done nothing to gain salvation. If we have done nothing to gain it – we can do nothing to lose it!

M. According to *Ephesians 2:2-3* and *I John 3:10*, before we were saved we were in the control of satan. Now that we are saved, we have a new relationship with God.

God is our heavenly _ _ _ _ _ _ . *Romans 8:15*

Christians are the _ _ _ _ of God. *I John 3:1*

In our earthly family, when a child does wrong, his parents do not cast him of the family and disown him. They will correct and chasten their son – but he is still their son and a member of that family.

When a Christian sins, he is not cast out of God’s family, thus losing his salvation. However, like any loving father, God may _ _ _ _ _ _ the erring Christians. *Hebrews 12:6.*

“Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine,

*O, what a fore – taste of glory divine.*

*Heir of salvation, purchase of God,*

*Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.*

**READING ASSIGNMENT:**

If you have finished reading the Gospel of John, now read through the first epistle of John (I John).

**MEMORIZATION:**

Try to memorize *I John 5:11,12.*
B The Bible

Lesson Commenced: _________________ Lesson Checked: ________

What is the authority in your life? Those who believe something must have a reason for their beliefs. Just as there are standards in the business world, in government, and in education – the Christian needs an absolute standard for his beliefs, his duties, indeed his whole conduct.

Many people have as their authority CONSCIENCE. “Let your conscience be your guide!” they say. This sounds good, but according to Titus 1:15 the conscience may be ______ ; according to I Timothy 4:2, ______ and according to I Corinthians 8:7, ______.

Other people, especially religious folk, have the CHURCH or man-made CREEDS as their authority. Again, such standards are unreliable – man is involved. Colossians 2:8 warns us against P ______ and T ______. (Look up and read Matthew 15:3,6,9.)

For the Christian, only the BIBLE, the Word of God, is the unchanging authority for faith and practice.
This study will teach what the Bible is, why you can take it as your authority, and how to use it as a child of God.

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

A. The Bible is a collection of ___ books, divided into two major section known as the NEW ___ ___ ___

B. Other names given to the Bible are:

1. The ___ ___ ___ Romans 10:17.

2. The ___ ___ _______________. II Timothy 3:15.

C. The Books of the Bible are not arranged chronologically, but rather “topically.” Both the Testaments have their Books set in groups, as shown on the next page.

(All new Christians experience difficulty at the first in finding the Books of the Bible, especially during a preaching service. Don’t be embarrassed to use the index in the front of your Bible or to accept the assistance of another Christian. The more you use your Bible, the sooner you will become familiar with the location of its Books.)
HOW DID WE RECEIVE THE BIBLE?

The Bible is not just a book, but it is **THE BOOK** – different from any other book that has or will be written. The Bible is a **SUPERNATURAL** Book because of the way in which God gave it to mankind.

A. Look up and write out *II Peter 1:21*

This verse of Scripture teaches us three vital facts concerning how we got the Bible:

1. It was not made up by men. ("...came not by the will of man...")
2. Men of God wrote the Bible. ("...holy men of God spake...")
3. God authored the Bible. ("...as they were moved by the Holy Ghost...")

B. God used human writers to pen His Words.

1. God used about 40 different men from all walks of life to write down the Bible. This was accomplished over a period of some 1,500 years.
2. Most of the Old Testament was originally written in HEBREW. The New Testament was originally written in GREEK.

C. God authored the Bible

A good way to illustrate this miracle is to consider how you would write things down on paper. It is the PEN, which actually does the writing – but it only writes as you move it. The characteristics of the script will depend on the kind of pen you use. Write your name down on paper using a “fine ball-point pen” and a “felt marking pen” – same words, different appearance!

1. The Holy Spirit moved the human writers of the Bible in such a way that they recorded the very words and sense of God, though couched in their own literary style.

2. The way in which God gave us the Bible is called INSPIRATION

   a. Because the Bible is the INSPIRED Word of God, we can take it as the authority for all we believe and do.

      BEWARE of men who say, “The Bible BECOMES the Word of God” when it speaks to you personally. Look up Matthew 24:35 and I Corinthians 2:13. According to these passages, God has inspired the __ __ __ (not just the ideas & thoughts).

      BEWARE of men who say, “The Bible CONTAINS the Word of God,” meaning there are parts of it which are not God’s word. Look up II Timothy 3:13. According to this scripture verse, how much of the Bible is inspired? __ __

   b. Because the Bible is inspired of God, it is __ __ from beginning to end. Psalm 119:160

DO WE HAVE THE BIBLE TODAY?

The original manuscripts of the Bible have long been lost. Does this mean we no longer have the sure Word of God?

A. Look up Psalm 12:6,7 and Matthew 24:35.

     Not only did God give us His Word, but He also promised to P __ __ __ __ __ it until the end of the world.

B. How has God preserve His Word?

     God has providentially kept His Word from destruction and corruption in 2 ways:

     1. Down through the centuries, the Lord has raised up men with a love for His Word to keep it from harm. Zealous Jewish patriots, simple Bible-loving Christians, (in particular, our Baptist forefathers) have kept the Scriptures available to all generation.

     Satan has on numerous occasions attempted to remove the Bible from the face of the earth. Hellish decrees have seen the Bible banned, burnt, banished, and battered by scornful men.
2. The Hebrews text of the Old Testament has been faithfully preserved by fastidious Jewish scribes – it is called the **Masoretic Text.** The Greek text of the New Testament has been faithfully preserved in what is called the **Textus Receptus, or Received Text.**

Almost 2,700 ancient manuscripts of the New Testament, along with some 2,000 lectionaries (selected readings) still exist today – the majority of them attesting to the Received Text.

C. Do we need to understand Hebrews And Greek to know the Bible?

**NO!** The preservation of God’s Word extends to our English Bible.

**The ONLY version of the Bible Translated from the Masoretic Text and the Textus Receptus Is the KING JAMES VERSION of 1611A.D., also known as the Authorized Version.**

1. When you hold a copy of the King James Version (KJV), you hold in your hands the Word of God.

2. **BEWARE** of all other translations such as the Revised Standard Version, the New International Version, New American Standard Version, Good News Bible, the New English Bible—they are all based upon corrupt manuscripts and contain serious error.

If you don’t already possess a Bible, your pastor recommends you purchase a plain KJV without added notes or comments. Make sure the type is readable.

Bibles range in price from about $2 to $100 – the difference is due to the covers and quality of the binding.

**WHY DO WE NEED THE BIBLE?**

A. Look up *I Peter* 2:2; *Matthew* 4:4; *I Corinthians* 3:2; *Hebrews* 5:12-13; *Psalm* 19:10; and *Jeremiah* 15:16.

According to these Scriptures, the Bible is our spiritual _ _ _ _ .

B. Look up *Hebrews* 4:12 and *Ephesians* 6:17.

The Bible is our spiritual _ _ _ _ _ _ .

C. Look up *Psalm* 119:11. This verse teaches us the Bible keeps us from _ _ _ _ _ _ .

D. Look up *Psalm* 119:105. According to this Scripture, the Bible is life’s _______________________. (Use your words).

E. Look up *II Timothy* 3:16 again. The Bible is profitable for _ _ _ _ _ _ , _ _ _ _ _ _ , _ _ _ _ _ , _ _ _ _ _ _ , and _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

F. Look up *I Thessalonians* 4:18 and *Psalm* 119:50. The Word of God is for our _ _ _ _ _ _.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH THE BIBLE?

A. John 5:39  
   Acts 17:11

B. II Timothy 2:15

C. James 1:22

D. I Corinthians 2:13d  
   C_______________________________

E. II Timothy 4:2

F. Psalm 1:2  
   Joshua 1:8

G. Colossians 3:16a

H. Psalm 119:11

You may wish to write the following statement in your Bible as a truthful reminder:

“THIS BOOK WILL KEEP YOU FROM SIN –
OR SIN WILL KEEP YOU FROM THIS BOOK”

READING ASSIGNMENT:

Read through Psalm 119 (24 verses per day). This is called the “Word of God Chapter,” and is the longest chapter in the Bible.

MEMORIZATION:

Try to memorize Psalm 119:9,11
C  THE CHURCH

Lesson Commenced: ___________________  Lesson Checked: ________________

This study looks at one of the most confusing and misunderstood doctrines of the Bible. People have all kind of ideas as to what a church really is. Some people think it is a building (a cathedral, or some place of worship). Others think of a church as a denomination (a human organization) and speak of the “Catholic Church,” the “Presbyterian Church,” the Baptist Church,” etc. Many Christians conceive the “Church” as consisting of all born again believers in the world, a kind of “invisible, universal” church.

Our task is to put aside these notions and determine what God says a Church in His Word.

THE CHURCH IS A NEW TESTAMENT INSTITUTION

Look up Matthew 16:18. This is the first mention of the Church in the Bible.

A. Who founded (built) the Church? ________________________________

B. Look up John 1:42. What is the meaning of Peter’s name? ___________________________________________ (Note: Peter’s full name is Simon Peter.

C. Look up I Peter 2:3-4, 6-8. Whom did Peter identify as the “Rock” upon which the Church would be built? ___________________________________________

Note: The Old Testament is primarily addressed to the NATION of Israel. The New Testament is mostly addressed to CHURCHES. DO NOT CONFUSE THE TWO. The Bible makes the distinction in I Corinthians 10:32.

THE CHURCH IS AN ASSEMBLY

The word “church” or “churches” is found 114 times in the New Testament, and is rendered from the Greek word “EKKLESIA.”

The word “ekklesia” has only one meaning – “a company of people called out for a specific purpose.” It has its roots in the democracies of the Greek city-states, when the Town Crier would call out citizens to a meeting to conduct business.
In *Matthew 16:18*, the Lord Jesus did not change the meaning of ekklesia, but distinguished it from other assemblies of the day with the personal pronoun “*MY.*” Thus a New Testament church is the “Lord’s Assembly.”

**THERE ARE FOUR IMPORTANT FACTS CONCERNING AN “ASSEMBLY.”**

A. An assembly must be LOCAL.

1. People cannot “come together” and yet be all over the world! A motor car is an “assembly” of various parts. How absurd to think of it as being everywhere - a “universal car”!!! This fact is in harmony with the New Testament.

2. In all but about 15 instances, where it is used in a “generic” or “institutional” sense, (that is, any church in general, no church in particular), the word “church” or “churches is always used in connection with definite, geographic localities.

3. Look up the following Bible references and write down the actual cities or regions where some real churches were located. *Romans 16:1; I Corinthians 1:2; 16:1,19; II Corinthians 8:1; Colossians 4:16; I Thessalonians 1:1; I Peter 5:13; Revelation 2:1,8,12,18; Revelation 3:1,7.*

   ___________________________________________________________

4. For these reasons, the Bible knows nothing of a universal (Catholic) worldwide “church”. The New Testament speaks of many churches which were all meeting in different localities.

B. An assembly must be VISIBLE.

1. People cannot “come together” and not be seen! Many like to talk about “invisible church” (which allows them to “move around” in Christians circle) – but all the churches mentioned in the New Testament were “see-able.”

2. Look up *Philippians 1:27* and *I Thessalonians 2:17 and 3:6.* The Apostle Paul, writing to the churches at Philippi and Thessalonica, desired to come and _ _ _ _ these assemblies.

C. An assembly must be ORGANIZED.

1. An assembly is not rabble (“disorderly mob”). The word assembly implies organization.

   a. Look up *Colossians 1:18.* A church is likened figuratively to a _ _ _ _ _ .

      The human body is an “assembly” of many parts; but does a pile of skin, flesh, organs, bones, etc. constitute a body? Of course not! They must be put together according to a plan. See: *Psalm 139:14.*

   b. Look up *I Timothy 3:15.* Here, a church is likened figuratively to a _ _ _ _ _ _. The house you live in is an “assembly”; but does a pile of bricks, timber, plaster, nails, etc. constitute a house? Of course not! These things must be put together according to a plan or blue print. Study *I Corinthians 3:9-11, 16.* The Church at Corinth was likened to a temple.

2. A New Testament Church is to be organized – the blue print is found in the New Testament.
D. An assembly must be CONSTITUTED.

1. By this, we mean it must be made out of the right components. How absurd to assemble a motor vehicle out of milk, leaves, and uranium! How foolish to build a house out of paper, bandages, and meat!!

2. So too, a New Testament Church is not to be made up of just anything – or anyone. God specifies the correct components in the New Testament.

3. Write out Acts 2:41__________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

   Circle the following words: RECEIVED, BAPTIZED, and ADDED.

The verse gives God’s order and qualifications for church membership:

a. _Receive_ the Word of God = ______________________________________________________________________

b. _Baptism_.

c. _Added_ to the church. (See also Acts 2:47; 5:14).

4. This is the only Scriptural way in which become people become members of a Baptist church – salvation first, then baptism.

THE CHURCH HAS A “HEAD”

Many man-made religious organizations have their heads, presidents, popes, moderators, etc. Every New Testament Baptist Church has a Head – but vastly different from any of the above.


A. Who is the Head of each New Testament church? __________________________________________

B. Each church is to be S _ _ _ _ _ _ to its Head.

C. Look up Galatians 3:1 and 5:7. In what way is a church subject to its Head?
   ___________________________________________________________________

DEFENITION

A New Testament Baptist Church is an organized assembly of baptized believers
Note: Jesus Christ is not a “figure head.” Any church, which is not subject to Him and His law, is out of control.

No church has the right to make law – it may only obey the laws already given by the Head through His Word.

A church without a head is dead!

THE CHURCH HAS OFFICERS

A. Look up Philippians 1:1. What are the two officers in the church?
   _ _ _ _ _ _, (elders, pastors) and _ _ _ _ _ _.

B. Look up I Timothy 3:1-13. This reference gives the qualification of these two officers.
   Note: The terms “bishop,” “elder” and “pastor” are used interchangeably in the New Testament. We prefer to use the term “pastor” because the other two have been given un-Biblical ecclesiastical connotations.

C. MY PASTOR
   1. Look up I Peter 2:25 and 5:4. Who is the Chief Pastor of my Church?
      ________________________________________________________________

What does the Bible call the church in relation to its pastor?
   The F _ _ _ _

3. According to I Peter 5:2, What is the duty of the pastor?
   ________________________________________________________________

4. According to Ephesians 4:12-14, Why has the Lord given my Church a pastor?
   ________________________________________________________________

5. According to Acts 20:17,28-31,
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

6. According to Hebrews 13:7, I am to R _ _ _ _ _ _ my Pastor and F _ _ _ _ _ _ him.

7. According to Hebrews 13:17, I am to O _ _ _ _ my Pastor and S _ _ _ _ _ _ to his leadership in the church.

How should I address my Pastor?

Many feel unsure as to what they should call their Pastor in conversation. There is no God-given title for a pastor. It is unwise to refer to him as “Reverend” or “Father”. (See: Psalm 111:9; Matthew 23:9.)
However, just as we train children not to call their parents by first names out of respect for their place and authority, and thus with their teachers and policemen, etc., it is right to show similar respect to the man God puts over you in your Church.

My Pastor prefers to be addressed as: ________________________________

You and Your Pastor:

Give your Pastor your confidence, love, encouragement, and constant prayers. Be his co-worker. Go to him in your difficulties; call him when in need. He is best able to help you with counsel from the Word of God. Never make him your idol – keep your eyes on the Lord, but neither harshly criticize your pastor or be a party to scheming against him.

Read: I Thessalonians 5:12,13 and I Timothy 5:17-19.

Love and appreciate the wife of your pastor also. She holds no office in the Church and has no inherent authority – yet she is so important to his ministry.

THE CHURCH MAKES DECISIONS

A true New Testament Church never makes laws – it simply follows the Lord’s commands as set forth in His Word. In a practical sense, a church often needs to make decisions in keeping with this principle. Unlike the hierarchical systems of many religious bodies, Baptist Churches practice what is known as “Congregational” church government, where the congregation decides.

A. Look up Acts 6:1-5. Who chose the seven deacons?

B. Look up Acts 1:15-26. What preceded the vote of the whole church in electing a successor to Judas? P _ _ _ _ _ .

C. According Matthew 18:17, what is the highest decision-making body in spiritual affairs? The C _ _ _ _ _ _ .

D. According to Matthew 18:18, the decision of a church congregation are ratified in H _ _ _ _ _ _

THE CHURCH IS AN INDEPENDENT INSTITUTION

A. Each New Testament Baptist Church Is Independent

In Acts Chapter 15, delegates of the Church at Antioch came to the Church at Jerusalem to consider a matter of extreme doctrinal importance. After having determined the teaching of God’s Word on the matter (verses 15-18), the issue was resolved. Even then, the Church at Jerusalem HAD NO AUTHORITY over the Church at Antioch. Their sentence was that “…we trouble not them…”; and they simply wrote a letter making a request. See: verse 19.

This is far cry from the hierarchical religious systems of man – where the various congregations within a denomination are controlled and dictated to by “higher authorities.”
B. Churches Are To Be Separated From Governments

   b. Christians may disobey a civil law only in the rare case that they are compelled to disobey God’s law. Acts 5:29

2. Governments should not involve themselves with the establishment or support of any religion, except to offer security and protection as it would for all citizens of the land.

C. Churches May Scriptural Co-operate With Other Churches

Independence does not mean isolationism. Baptist churches may Scripturally co-operate in certain areas with other Baptist churches of like faith and order—provided such co-operation is voluntary, and does not violate the sovereignty, independence, and autonomy of each church.


3. New Testament churches were involved in regional fellowships.

Galatians 1:2 Churches (pl.) of _ _ _ _ _ _ _
I Corinthians 16:19 Churches (pl.) of _ _ _ _
Galatians 1:22 Churches (pl.) of _ _ _ _ _ _ _

See also: Colossians 4:16, where two churches were to share the Scriptures and other apostolic writings.

THE CHURCH IS A COMMISSIONED ORGANIZATION.

A. The Lord Jesus Christ established His churches to continue His work here on Earth. This is not a social ministry, but a spiritual one. Just before the Lord returned to Heaven, He left His Church with what is known as the “Great Commission”.

B. Look up Matthew 28:19,20. List below the verbs (actions) in these verse:

1. _ _ ye.
2. _ _ _ _ _ all nations.
3. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ them.
4. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ them to observe.

C. This Great Commission is repeated in each of the Gospels and in the “Book of Acts”. Read them and see exactly what the mission of a Baptist church is. (Mark 16:15, Luke 24:47, John 20:21, Acts 1:8. Also, I Corinthians 15:58.)
THE CHURCH HAS ORDINANCES

A. BAPTISM will be taught in Study #9.
B. The LORD’S SUPPER will be taught in Study #12.

THE CHURCH IS TO BE FINANCED

TITHING will be taught in Study #20.

THE CHURCH AND ME

Having learned these many things about the New Testament Church, how should it be applied?

Listed below are some practical suggestions for you to receive great blessings from your Church:

A. JOIN IT.

1. It is God’s will for every born-again believer to be a member of a sound, Bible-believing New Testament Baptist church.

2. Look up Acts 2:47. The L_ _ _ added to the_ _ _ _ _ _ _ D_ _ _ _ such as should be saved.

3. Look up I Corinthians 12:18. God has_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ in the_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

B. LOVE IT.

A Christian ought to love the things his Lord loves. Look up Ephesians 5:25. Christ_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Himself for it.

C. SUPPORT IT.

1. Your Church is the place where you will grow, find comfort and fellowship, and serve the Lord. Write out Hebrews 10:25.

___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

2. Plan now to attend as many of the services and meetings of your Church as you can. Decide in your heart never to miss a service unless providentially hindered.

READING ASSIGNMENT:
Read through I Timothy Chapter 3.

MEMORIZATION:
Try to commit to memory Hebrews 10:25.

STUDY #4

ABC’s Of Christian Growth
D  Daily Walk

Lesson Commenced: ____________  Lesson Checked: ____________

Bible Christianity is not a CREED (a set of beliefs), but a PERSON, the Lord Jesus Christ. When we receive the Lord Jesus as our Saviour, we receive Him as a real person into our heart and life – and although there are many THINGS to learn about the Lord and the Christian life, we must never forget there is a personal relationship to be enjoyed and maintained.

Personal relationships are maintained by communication. Every Christian needs a “Daily Walk” with his or her Lord to enjoy all that God has in store.

This is the battleground where victory or defeat in your Christian life will be decided!!

THE VITAL REQUIREMENTS OF A GOOD DAILY WALK

A. Check back to “Preliminary Study #2.” God’s will for you as a young Christian is to __________ into spiritual maturity.

B. There are a number of essential requirements for physical growth, and there are some essential requirements for spiritual growth. This study will deal with TWO vital things you need for a daily walk with the Lord.

WHEN SHOULD I WALK WITH GOD?

A. In actual fact our walk with the Lord needs to be constant.

1. Look up Joshua 1:8.

   Joshua’s command was that God’s Word would not ____________ from the mouth of God’s people day and ____________. See also: Deuteronomy 6:6-9.

2. Look up 1 Thessalonians 5:17.

   Here we are bid to pray without ____________.
B. Nevertheless, in our busy schedules of daily life, it is necessary for a Christian to set aside a **DEFINITE TIME EACH DAY** for a devotional walk with the Lord.

1. Look up *Daniel 6:10*. How many times did Daniel pray each day? _________

2. Look up *Acts 17:11*. How often did the Berean Christians read the Word of God?_____________________________________________________________

3. There is no prescribed time for your daily devotions – the important thing is that you set a time aside.

   It may be early in the morning…
   It may be after the family has left home for the day…
   It may be during an undisturbed lunch break…
   It may be when the family has gone to bed…

   **YOU SET THE TIME – THEN STICK TO IT:**

   Having considered my family, my duties, and my usual activities in the light of God’s clear command, I now promise the Lord that I will set aside the following time each day for the purpose of Bible study and prayer:

   _____________________________________________________________

   Signed: ________________________________  Date: ________________

HOW SHOULD I WALK WITH GOD?

Now that you have set aside a definite time for devotions, remember that good habits are hard to form. Ask the Lord to help you keep this one vital appointment. If you fail, don’t quit – there’s always the next day to re-start.

A. Divide your time roughly into thirds.

   \[
   \frac{1}{3} \text{ for Bible reading} \\
   \frac{1}{3} \text{ for thinking about what God has said (meditation)} \\
   \frac{1}{3} \text{ for prayer}
   \]

   This time, 20 minutes at least, must be deliberately reserved, conscientiously kept, and valiantly defended against the attacks of the Devil.

B. Make *Habakkuk 2:1* your motto!

SOME RULES FOR BIBLE STUDY.

A. Begin with a short prayer, asking the Lord to teach you.

   Look up and write out *Psalm 119:18*. This is a model prayer for you.
B. Remember God means what He says and says what He means. Take every word in its primary, literal meaning – unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

“When the plain sense makes common sense, seek no other sense, or it all becomes non-sense.”

C. While all of the Bible was written for you, it was not all written to you, nor was it all written about you.

To help you understand a passage, apply the GOLDEN KEY. Ask these 4 questions:

☐ WHO IS SPEAKING?
☐ TO WHOM IS HE SPEAKING?
☐ ABOUT WHAT IS HE SPEAKING?
☐ WHEN WAS HE SPEAKING?

D. Have a definite Bible-reading schedule. If you don’t, your Bible reading will become hit and miss – and so will your Christian life.

E. Keep a notebook to write down truths, insights, and questions.

F. Mark your Bible. Underline key verse. Write down other references in the margins. (If you do not wish to do this in your best Bible, purchase a cheaper one for study purposes.) Note: Not all pens are suitable.

G. Treat the Bible as a personal letter from God. Read it ardently and expectantly – as a lover reads a love letter. Jeremiah 31:3


I. You MUST resolve to obey the Word of God as you read it and study it. John 15:14

J. When you cannot understand a Scripture, remember you have a pastor who cares for you, and who delights in teaching the Word of God. Call him, listen to him, and then check the Scriptures to see if what he says is so.

SOME TEACHING ON PRAYER

In your daily quiet time with the Lord, you will want to pray. A full lesson and prayer will be presented in study #16.

A. What is prayer?

1. Look up Matthew 6:5-7. In your own words, tell what prayer is not. Prayer is not _____________________________________________________________.

2. Look up Matthew 7:7a. The word “pray” simply means “to ____________________.” Prayer is asking – it is the cry of a Christian unto God, the request of a child to his or her Father.

B. To Whom Do We Pray?
Look up *John 15:16f, John 16:23c*, and *Luke 11:2*. To whom should we address our prayers?

Note: Nowhere does the Bible teach us to repeat *Luke 11:2-4*. It is not the Lord’s prayer. (He never prayed it – it is a “model” prayer.)

C. In Whose Name Do We Pray?

Look up *John 14:14* and *John 16:24*. We pray in the Name of _________________

D. What Things May We Ask For?

*Matthew 6:11* _______________________________________________________
*James 1:5* _________________________________________________________
*I Thessalonians 3:1* _______________________________________________
*Acts 4:29* _________________________________________________________
*Psalm 34:4* _________________________________________________________
*Psalm 119:18* ______________________________________________________
*Psalm 119:133* _____________________________________________________

There are many other things we can pray for; the above are some examples. As a general rule:

Begin your prayer by thanking God for blessings.
In the middle, pray for others and their needs.
At the end, pray for yourself and your needs.

E. Keep An On-Going Prayer List.

1. Keep a prayer list with your Bible. On it write down any definite requests you have – special family needs, church needs, and the special requests other Christians may share with you.

2. Don’t forget to write down the answers as they come.

**READING ASSIGNMENT:**

Read: *Matthew Chapter 6.*

**MEMORIZATION:**

Review all the memory verses to date:

*John 1:12*  
*I John 5:11-12*  
*Psalm 119:11*  
*Hebrews 10:25*
STUDY #5

E  The Enemy (Satan)

Lesson Commenced: ________________ Lesson Checked: ________

Some people do not believe in the existence of a personal Devil, calling “him” a medieval invention designed to scare people into “the Church.”

Others imagine the Devil to be dressed in a red suit complete with horns, cloven feet, and a long dragon’s tail – standing in Hell, tormenting folk with his pitchfork.

Both these views of Satan are false!!

The Devil is NO JOKE! He’s real, and he is a danger. In this lesson we shall learn what the BIBLE teaches concerning Satan.

DOES SATAN EXIST?


B. Look up and read Matthew 4:1-11. Satan was real in the life of the Lord Jesus Christ.

   1. List the 3 names or titles used of Satan in this passage: ________________________

   2. How many times did Satan tempt the Lord? ________________

   3. How did the Lord Jesus answer the Devil? “It is _ _ _ _ _ _ _.” (He used the Bible.)

THE ORIGIN OF SATAN

Look up and read Ezekiel 28:11-19. Primarily, this is a prophecy against the King of Tyre (probably Ethbaal II). The first 10 verse in the chapter were historically fulfilled by Nebuchadnezzar’s invasion and 13-year seige of Tyre (598-585 B.C.).

Yet in this prophecy, we see another personage – the one behind the wicked king of Tyre – SATAN.

(This is known as a “double prophecy” – it has a near and far fulfillment.)

A. Is Satan an eternal or created being? ______________________________

   Upon what verses do you base your answer? __________________________
B. What was Satan originally? The A _ _ _ _ _ C _ _ _ _ . (see: verse 14).

C. According to verse 15, what change took place which dramatically altered Satan’s original status? ____________________________________________________________

THE SIN OF SATAN

A. Look up and read Isaiah 14:12-17. According to Ezekiel 28:17, this indescribably beautiful, intelligent, powerful, celestial being sinned though PRIDE. The account is enlarged upon in Isaiah 14.

B. Underscore the five “I will’s” of Isaiah 14:13-14 in your Bible.

1. What was Satan’s original name? _____________________________________

2. What was Satan’s last “I will”? _____________________________________

2. According to verse 15, where is Satan’s final destiny? ________________

WHERE IS SATAN NOW?

A. According to Ephesians 2:2, Satan is the “price of the power of the _ _ _ _ .”

B. According to Revelation 12:10, Satan can appear before _ _ _ _ to accuse believers.

C. According to I Peter 5:8 and Job 1:7, Satan also walk about the _ _ _ _ _ _ .

From these Scriptures, we learn that Satan is alive and active in many areas. Read Matthew 25:42 and Revelation 20:10. Here we learn that Satan will end up in the Lake of Fire; but he is not there yet! (When he is cast into Hell, he will not be the king of hell – he’ll be tormented.)

SATAN’S WORKINGS AMONGST THE UNSAVED

A. Look up Mathew 13:38; John 8:44; Acts 13:10; and I John 3:10. According to these Scriptures, what does God call those who are lost? ________________________________

B. Look up II Corinthians 4:4. What is Satan’s major work amongst the lost?

SATAN’S WORKINGS AMONGST REAL CHRISTIANS

Look up I John 4:4b. Who is the One “that is in you”? ________________________________

Who is the one “that is in the world”? ________________________________

Who is the greatest? ________________________________
It is essential for you to know this fact because Satan is a powerful being. The Bible teaches that he works with a whole kingdom of darkness, made up of angels that sinned with him at the beginning. The Bible refers to these as “devils” (demons). See: Jude 6; Matthew 12:26; Ephesians 6:12.

A. Satan can still _ _ _ _ _ _ me. I Thessalonians 3:5.

B. Satan does A _ _ _ _ _ _ me. Revelations 12:9-10.

(When he does, my Advocate is _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ the Righteous. I John 2:1).

C. Satan will try to H _ _ _ _ _ _ me in my service for the Lord. I Thessalonians 2:18

D. Satan will try to get Christians to depart from the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ I Timothy 4:1

E. Sometimes, God will permit Satan to afflict Christians physically – but always for His glorious purpose. See: Job 1:2; 2:4-7, and II Corinthians 12:7-10.

**HOW DO I DEAL WITH THE DEVIL?**

If we left this lesson here, many Christians would become very discouraged. Praise God, He has made provision for us to overcome Satan and his works.

(More on this subject will be covered in Study #22 – Victory.)

**Step 1: Remember Satan is a defeated foe.**

Look up Hebrews 2:14 and John 16:11. When Jesus died on the cross, He broke the power of the Devil. Satan is on “borrowed time.”

**Step 2: Remember – you are on the winning side.**

Write out I John 4:4. Modify this verse by using your name in place of the personal pronouns “ye” and “you.”

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

**Step 3: Remember to put on the whole armor of God.**

Look up Ephesians 6:10-18. This is a spiritual armor designed by God just for you. If you wear it, Satan cannot hurt you. List the parts of this “suit of armor”:

a. Undergarment = ____________________________________________

b. Breastplate = ____________________________________________

c. Shoes = ____________________________________________

d. Shield = ____________________________________________

e. Helmet = ____________________________________________

f. Sword of Spirit = ____________________________________________

**Step 4: Remember – don’t give the Devil an inch.**

Look up Ephesians 4:27. Here we are instructed to give _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to the Devil.
Step 5: Remember to be always on the alert.

Look up II Corinthians 2:11. Write out I Peter 5:8.
_______________________________________________
_______________________________________________

Step 6: Remember – never retreat, always RESIST.

Look up James 4:7. What happens when you stand up to the Devil?
_______________________________________________

Look up I Peter 5:9. We are to resist the Devil stedfastly __ __ __ __ __.

Look up Matthew 4:4,7,10. What weapon did the Lord Jesus use to resist the Devil?
_______________________________________________

Look up Matthew 16:23. What might we say to Satan as we quote Scripture at him?
“GET THEE __ __ __ __ ME, __ __ __ __.”

A FINAL WARNING AS TO THE CHARACTER AND WORKS OF SATAN

Don’t be fooled into thinking the Devil always appears in the form of ugliness, hideousness, vileness, and overt wickedness.

Yes, he is the instigator of sin, the destroyer of lives, the wrecker of homes, the great deceiver, the liar, the Wicked One – but most times he comes across as “nice,” “harmless,” and even “benevolent.”

Notice Satan’s ambition in Isaiah 14:14. “I will be LIKE the Most High.” This teaches us that Satan imitates God. Everything good that God is and has done, the Devil imitates with a counterfeit “look-a-like.”

Satan has:


D. Other M __ __ __ __ __. II Corinthians 11:13-15

E. Another W __ __ __ of __ __ (Bible). II Corinthians 2:17
In addition, Satan has a counterfeit **ministry** – similar to the Gospel. See: *Matthew 13:24-30,36-43*. Here, true Gospel preaching results in W _ _ _ _ : Satan sows T _ _ _ _.

Satan can work **miracles** too. See: *Acts 8:9-11* and *Revelation 13:13*. (Revelation 13 refers to the yet future period known as the Great Tribulation, when Satan will rule the world through the person known as the Antichrist.) See further: *II Thessalonians 2:9*. Just because someone claims to do religious miracles, don’t immediately conclude he is from God.

Satan also has a counterfeit **“church.”** Notice in *II Corinthians 11:2*, God likens the Church at Corinth to a “chaste virgin.” In *Ephesians 5:25-27*, each true New Testament Church is called the “Bride of Christ.” But in *Revelation 17* we read of another religious organization that God calls the “great whole” (**verse 1**) and the “mother of harlots” (**verse 5**).

A study of this chapter shows this “church” to be made up of the mass of apostate “Christendom,” full of man-made systems, unsaved people, great wealth, etc.

**HOW CAN WE PICK THE DIFFERENCE????**

**Answer:** Isaiah 8:20

**READING ASSIGNMENT:**

Read through *Genesis Chapter 3*.

**MEMORIZATION:**

Try to commit to memory *I Peter 5:8*
FAMILY (The Christian Home)

Lesson Commenced: ___________ Lesson Checked: _________

The Bible teaches that God has two institutions – the HOME and the CHURCH. Nothing should be more important to a Christian than these two places, for they are sacred.

Contrary to what many think, the Home and the Church are COMPLIMENTARY. The greatest Home is one built around a Church – and the greatest Church is one made up of families who attend faithfully and serve the Lord.

In is little wonder, then, that Satan’s arena of diabolic activity is in our homes and in the churches. This is truly an age when “Homes are on the rocks – instead of on THE Rock,” and when so-called “churches” are departing from the Word of God.

The Bible is very practical Book, and has much to say about the Home. God has a definite blueprint for your family, your home. Space will not permit an exhaustives study, so this lesson will be concerned with establishing some godly principles for you to follow.

A. THE FIRST HOME

Open your Bible to Genesis 2:15-25. Read this passage carefully.

A. What did God say was not good for man? ______________________________

B. How was the first woman made?_____________________________________

C. In this passage, God says the woman is to be an H_ _ _ M _ _ _ FOR THE MAN.

D. In marriage, what are the couple to leave? ______________________________

E. In marriage, what are the couple to become? ______________________________

F. Look up Matthew 19:4-6. What did the Lord Jesus Christ say concerning the permanency of the marriage relationship? ___________________________________________

G. Look up Romans 7:1-3. According to God’s ideal for marriage, the bond of marriage was to be broken by ___________________________
H. Look up Hebrews 13:4a. What two things does God say are honorable?

1. M_ _ _ _ _ _ _.
2. The bed u _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (i.e., pre-marital chastity).

THE HUSBAND’S DUTY TO HIS WIFE

A. Genesis 1:24. To _ _ _ _ _ _ _ unto his wife.

B. Ephesians 5:25. To _ _ _ _ _ _ _ his wife.

C. A husband’s love for his wife is to be same as:

1. _ _ _ _ _ _ ’s for the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Ephesians 5:25.)
2. For their own _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Ephesians 5:28.)

D. To P _ _ _ _ _ _ _ for his wife – 1 Timothy 5:8.

E. 1 Peter 3:7. To give H _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to his wife.

F. 1 Corinthians 7:3. To render due B _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to his wife. (Do not use her as an object of personal pleasure.)

G. 1 Corinthians 7:5. To D _ _ _ _ _ _ _ not his wife. (This is referring to the intimate act of marriage.)

H. Ephesians 5:23. The husband is to be the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of the wife, and the home. (This has nothing to do with being a “dictator,” but means he is to be in the peace of leadership.)

THE WIFE’S DUTY TO HER HUSBAND

A. Ephesians 5:22. To _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to her husband in his exercise of leadership in his home.

B. Ephesians 5:33. To _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ her husband. (Never criticize your husband in his presence of others.)

C. 1 Timothy 5:14. To G _ _ _ _ _ _ _ the household.

    Note: The Bible does not teach it is wrong for a woman to get a paying job, especially in a time of need, but her first priority is to be a home-maker. When a job causes a wife to neglect her husband and a mother to give second best to the children – she ought to quit her job and trust the Lord!

D. If your husband is not a Christian, follow the teaching of I Peter 3:1. The word “conversation” means a “godly manner of life.”

    Note: Never set out to disobey your unsaved husband, even if it means having to miss coming to a church meeting. Pray hard, and led God deal with him! Never push the Bible “down his throat.” Instead seek to be a “living gospel” to him by following the Scriptural pattern above. Earnestly pray for your husband and love him. Ask the Lord to open opportunities for you to witness to him or invite him to the Church meetings.

E. 1 Corinthians 7:4-5. To D _ _ _ _ _ _ _ not her husband.
Note: The physical union of marriage is intended for the intimate pleasure of both husband and wife. Never use this part of your marriage as a “bargaining chip” with your husband. Husband and wife must work together in this area to achieve both understanding and harmony.

PARENTS’ DUTY TO THEIR CHILDREN.

A. Psalm 127:3. Children are the Lord’s H _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

B. Proverbs 22:6 Parents (not school, not TV) are responsible to _ _ _ _ _ up their children.

Ephesians 6:4b. Fathers are responsible to bring the children up in the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of the Lord. (The word “nurture” means “discipline.”)

❖ Children require discipline and should be taught obedience in the home. This will take real character on the part of the parents.

1. Children should be taught to OBEY without question; and when necessary, without waiting for an explanation.

2. Obedience must be instant and without argument.

3. For character building, parent should allow no exceptions to this rule.

❖ Children should be taught to work. In their first year they can be taught to pick up clothes and toys.

❖ Children should be taught regular habits for happiness and usefulness.

1. They should go to bed at regular times without complaint.

2. They should have good habits of personal hygiene.

3. They should be trained to be orderly and neat. Parents have to set the example!!

4. Their Television watching should be very carefully controlled and limited. Children should never be permitted to watch television apart from parental presence!

❖ Children need to be taught the art of living peaceably with others at home.

1. No fighting should be allowed.

2. They should respect the possessions of others family members (including their parents) and not take what is not their own.

3. They should be taught to share their property.

4. They should be taught to forgive and to ask forgiveness.

❖ Children should be taught the right use of money.

1. When old enough, they should earn some money of their own (but not for doing things they ought to be doing anyway, such as making their beds or cleaning up their rooms).

2. They should be taught to tithe and give to the Lord.

3. They should be taught how to spend wisely.
4. They should be taught to save.

Children need, and should have, time with their parents.

1. They should have “special” times with each parent, and special times with the entire family together.

2. Parents should lead their children in such a way that in time they can win that one to Christ.

All of the above spell TIME and WORK. That’s what it takes! Most modern day parents are too lazy (selfish) to give the time and put in the consistent effort to raise godly children – they want instant results, or to let others do it for them.

Determine here and now that you will follow God’s pattern, and dedicate yourself to its consistent application while you have children in the home.

C. See your children as they really are in God’s sight….

Look up Proverbs 22:15a and Psalm 58:3. We are all born with a “sin nature.”

D. God’s provision for correction of children:

1. Proverbs 13:11 Father’s _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .


Much of today’s humanistic philosophy says it is wrong to spank children, but the Bible says it is necessary and right – provided ……

a) The rod is applied to the right place. Never strike your child across the face, chest, back, etc.

b) The rod is applied in love. Proverbs 13:24b. Never spank your children in anger or to take out your frustrations. Send your disobedient child to his or her room and wait for a few minutes to think things through.

c) The rod is applied early in life (“…while there is yet hope…” Proverbs 19:18).

d) The rod is applied effectively. Proverbs 19:18. Children will cry with a proper spanking. They will also do their best to make you feel like an ogre - don’t spare it!!

e) The rod is applied consistently. Don’t spank for wrongs the child didn’t know about. Don’t spank for last week’s wrongs. DON’T EVER NOT SPANK WHEN YOU SAID YOU WOULD.

f) There is a time of loving and prayer soon after the rod has been applied. Never apologize for spanking, but assure the child of your deep love. Proverbs 13:24a.
CHILDREN’S DUTIES TO THEIR PARENTS

A. *Exodus 20:12.* H _ _ _ _ _ thy father and thy mother.

B. *Proverbs 13:1.* Listen to your parents’ I _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

C. *Ephesians 6:1.* O _ _ _ your parents.

FAMILY LIFE – GOD’S HEAVEN ON EARTH

“In the house of the righteous is much treasure.” *Proverbs 15:6*

A. Look up *Ephesians 4:31-32.* List the six things that need to be put out of your family and home ……

1. ________________________
2. ________________________
3. ________________________
4. ________________________
5. ________________________
6. ________________________

And the three things you need to have there ……

1. ________________________
2. ________________________
3. ________________________

B. Look up *Deuteronomy 6:5-7.* What is it that should be a constant part of your home?

___________________________________________________________________________

C. Look up *Joshua 24:15f.* What was Joshua’s motto for his home?

_____________________________________________________________________

ESTABLISHING A FAMILY ALTAR

One of the greatest blessings you can enjoy in your home is to have what is termed a “family altar.”

A family altar is a definite time, place, and event in the life of your home where the whole family meets around the Word of God – to read, to pray, to sing, to talk.

In our fast– moving society, it will be one of the most difficult things for you to do – but one of the best.

B. The Responsibility For The Family Altar

This responsibility rests upon the _________________________________.

(See: *Ephesians 6:4, Colossians 3:21, I Peter 3:7, I Corinthians 14:35*)
C. How To Establish Your Family Altar

1. Decide upon the most suitable time for your home. If appropriate, call a family conference to make this decision.

2. Make a definite commitment to the Lord to the establishment of your family altar. Plan to stick to it.

3. Work out a plan of Bible reading and devotional material. This will vary depending upon the age of any children. Talk to your pastor if help is needed in selecting some good material.

4. Do it!! Right away!! Then be ready to resist the Devil as he throws his fiery darts of opposition.

D. Suggestions For A Good Family Altar

1. Always read a portion of Scripture. The book of Proverbs is excellent for the family.

2. Have a hymn or chorus “of the month.” Learn it as family.

3. Use “prayer cards” for a family prayer time. Make these up yourself; and include your pastor, missionaries, church members, relatives, and the unsaved.

4. Be brief. It is far better to be brief and consistent than drawn out and haphazard.

5. Involve the entire family.

6. Use some variety. Reading through a good Christian biography is one helpful adjunct.

7. Keep informal, Biblical, and open for suggestion and improvement.

**Warning:**

*Be careful that the atmosphere of your home is not different at family altar time. That is hypocrisy and will harm your children greatly.*

---

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Christian homes and marriages are NOT exempt from pressures and troubles. There may be times when serious problems arise. Always feel that you can confidently (and confidentially) speak to your pastor about such matters. He believes the Bible has the answer, and is more than willing to counsel with you. But, be willing to accept Bible answers and principles over worldly “solutions”!

---

**READING ASSIGNMENT:**

Read *Proverbs* chapters 10 through 15.

**MEMORIZATION:**

Try to memorize *Joshua* 24:15
STUDY #7

G          GOD

Lesson Commenced: ____________________  Lesson Checked: ________________

The Bible does not present any argument for the existence of God; it takes the FACT of GOD for granted. God is the infinite and perfect Spirit in WHOM all things have their source, support, and end.

The Word of God reveals God to us. Because God is infinitely beyond our human comprehension, the Bible “couches” God in human language.

WHO MADE GOD?

Answer: No one! God is eternal. The fact that we cannot grasp this does not make it not so. (We may not understand how electricity makes the lights work – but why sit around in the dark until we figure it out!!)

Look up Hebrews 11:6. Those that come to God must _ _ _ _ _ _ _ That He _ _ .

HOW DO WE KNOW THERE IS A GOD?

A number of reasons are given in the Bible to show how we can know there is a God.

A. The Fact Of Universal Belief Proves There Is A God

Man has a “religious nature” which is unique to man. All men ages in all civilizations have manifested a belief in some higher Being. Most times this belief is perverted – but it demonstrates that there is some higher being.

Look up Romans 2:14,15. This verse teaches that even those who have never heard of the Lord have His law written in their _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

B. The Fact That Everything Must Have A Cause Proves There Is A God

Man is an intelligent being; therefore his Cause must also be intelligent. Man has personality; thus his Cause could not be impersonal.

C. The Fact Of Intricate Design In The Universe Proves There Is A God

A watch not only requires a watchmaker, but also a designer and a purpose.
Look up Psalm 139:14. How does the human body prove there is a God?
__________________________________________________________________________

D. The Whole Of Creation Proves There Is A God

Look up Psalm 19:1 What do the heavens declare?
__________________________________________________________________________

Look up Romans 1:20. What two invisible things about God are seen and understood through creation?

His E _ _ _ _ _ P _ _ _ _ and G _ _ _ _ _.

E. The Events Of History Prove There Is A God

Many times God has intervened in human history, and His hand is often seen in the rise and fall of nations. See: Psalm 75:6-7.

F. The Bible Says There Is A God

If there is a God, it is most reasonable to expect Him to reveal Himself to man. This He has done – first through creation, but in detail through His Word. Look up Genesis 1:1. The Bible begins with God – not philosophical arguments for His existence.

HOW MANY GODS ARE THERE?

A. Look up Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 45:5; I Timothy 2:5.

There is only _ _ _ God.


This One God eternally, equally, and essentially exists as __________ Persons:

□ The F _ _ _ _ ,

□ The S _ _ ,

□ The H _ _ G _ _ _ _ .

This is known as the doctrine of the TRINITY. There is one God, three Persons.

While we cannot comprehend this, we can explain it somewhat by using an illustration of a glass of iced water:
WHAT IS GOD?

There are 4 statements in the Bible telling us what God Is.

A. God is _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . John 4:24 (Divine Essence).

B. God is _ _ _ _ . 1 John 4:8. (Divine Compassion).

C. God is _ _ _ _ _ . 1 John 1:5. (Divine Holiness)

D. God is A _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . Hebrews 12:29. (Divine Righteousness).

E. The Bible Also Teaches That God Is A Person (i.e., He has personality).


4. Deuteronomy 6:15. God is J _ _ _ _ S.

5. 1 Kings 11:9. God can be A _ _ Y.

6. 1 Peter 5:7. God C _ _ S.

All these, and more, are the characteristics of personality. (There are some who think God is some impersonal “Force” or that He is in all of “Nature.”).

WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

If we look at the Creation of God, we would know Him to be Mighty, Glorious, and Majestic, but it is through the Bible that God reveals Himself completely.

No man will ever be able to comprehend the essence of God (what He is). It is only through His attributes that God makes Himself known to finite man.

A. God Is All Knowing (Omniscient).


2. Read 1 John 3:20. What does this verse say God knows? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

B. God Is All Powerful (Omnipotent).

1. Read Job 42:2. What can God do? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

2. Read Matthew 19:26. What are all things with God? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

C. God Is Everywhere (omnipresent).

Read Psalm 139:7-17.
D. What is your conclusion regarding the question, Where is God? ______________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

E. God Is Eternal

1. Look up Exodus 3:14. What is the Name of God? “_ _ _ .”
   
   Notice this does not say “I Was,” or “I Will Be,” both of which imply either a beginning or an ending.

2. Look up Psalm 90:2. This verse tells us God extends from _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

F. God Is Unchanging (Immutable).

   Read Malachi 3:6.

   What does this verse say that God does NOT do? _ _ _ _ _ _ .

G. God Is Holy.

   Look up Psalm 99:9. Why should we exalt the Lord and worship Him? ______________________

   ____________________________________________________________

H. God Is Love

I. Look up Romans 5:8. How did God commend (prove) His love toward you and me?

   ____________________________________________________________

J. God Is Gracious

   1. “Grace” means “undeserved favor.”

   God’s

   R iches

   A t

   C hrist’s

   E xpense

   2. We are S _ _ _ _ by Grace. Ephesians 2:8.

   3. We are TAUGHT by Grace.

   4. We are KEPT by Grace.

K. God Is Truth

   1. Look up Titus 1:2. What is it that God cannot do? _ _ _ .

   2. Look up Isaiah 40:8. What is it about God that will stand forever? ______________________
WHAT IS GOD CALLED?

There are three primary Hebrew words used to designate “God” in the Old Testament.

A. “Elohim” – which is translated “GOD” in our English Bible. (The Greek equivalent in the New Testament is “Theos.”)

B. “Adonai” – which is translated “Lord” in our English Bible. This means that God is the Master.

C. “Jehovah” – which is translated “LORD” in our English Bible.

(To distinguish “Jehovah” from “Adonai,” the translators of the Authorized, King James Bible had it printed in capital letters.)

The meaning of “Jehovah” was given in Exodus 3:13-14: “I AM THAT I AM”:

“The Self-Existent One Who Reveals Himself.”

The word “Jesus” is the Greek form of the Hebrew “Joshua,” and literally means “Jehovah-Saviour.”


READING ASSIGNMENT:
Read Psalms 19; 139; and 147.

MEMORIZATION:
Try to commit to memory Hebrews 11:6.
STUDY  #8  

H                        The Holy Spirit

Lesson commenced: ____________ Lesson Checked: ____________

There is a whole lot of confusion about the Holy Spirit. Many cults deny He is a Person and He is God, saying the Holy Spirit is just a “force” or an “influence.” On the other hand, the Charismatic Movement, which is absolutely sweeping the religious world at the moment, places extreme emphasis on the Holy Spirit – teaching such things as “ecstatic utterances,” “healings,” and “exorcism.”

As with all these studies, our aim is to look beyond what men say and see what the Bible teachers.

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

A. Look up Acts 5:3-41.
   In verse 3 Ananias is said to have lied to the _ _ _ _ _ _ _, and in verse 4 he is said to have lied to _ _ _ . The conclusion we can draw from this passage is ____________________________

B. Look up I John 5:7.
   This verse tell us the Holy Ghost is one with the _ _ _ _ _ _ and the _ _ _ _ (Son).
C. Look up Matthew 28:19. Notice the word “Name” is singular, which again shows the Holy Spirit to be God, the third Person of the Holy Trinity.

D. Look up John 14:16-17,26 and John 16:7-8,13-14.

How many “personal pronouns” (“He,” “Him,” “Himself”) which apply to the Holy Spirit are there in these verses? ______________  From this, would you say the Spirit of God is a Person – or an impersonal “force”? ______________

E. Look up Acts 5:3, 7:51, and Ephesians 4:30. List three ways in which the Holy Spirit may be affected as a Person.

He may be ______________, ______________, and ______________

WHAT HAS THE HOLY SPIRIT DONE IN TIMES PAST?

A. Look up Genesis 1:2;2:7; and Job 33:4.

The Holy Spirit was active in __________________________________________

B. Look up II Peter 1:21.

The Holy Spirit in the Author of __________________________________________


What miracle was the Holy Spirit a part of? ________________________________

D. Look up Romans 1:4 and Romans 8:11.

What other miracle was the Holy Spirit of God responsible for? ________________

WHAT IS THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TODAY?

A. Look up John 15:26. The Holy Spirit testifies of ______________________________

B. Read John 16:8-11. (The word “reprove” means to “convict.”) of what three things does the Holy Spirit convict men?

1. __ __ __

2. __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

3. __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

C. Look up Titus 3:5, John 3:5, and John 6:63. When we believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, it is the Holy Spirit Who does work of “regeneration” (i.e., “born again”). (The word “quicken” means to “make alive.”)

WHAT DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT DO WHEN WE ARE SAVED?

A. He Comes To D __ __ __ __ In The Believer. Romans 8:9.

B. It is in the Person of the Holy Spirit that the Lord Jesus Christ lives within the heart of every believer. John 14:23

C. Our Body Is The __ __ __ __ with the Holy Ghost. This means a “dwelling place for God.” II Corinthians 6:19.

D. Every Christians Is S __ __ __ __ with the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 1:13 and 4:30. This is our guarantee of eternal security.

E. Look up John 16:7. The Spirit Is Our __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

F. The Holy Spirit Makes __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ For Us. That is, He prays on our behalf. Romans 8:26-27.
WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE HOLY SPIRIT AND ME?

A. He Is Always Dwelling _ _ _ _ II Timothy 1:14.
B. He Enables Us To K _ _ _ The Things Of God’s Word, for He is our T _ _ _ _ E R. I Corinthians 2:12-14.
C. A Christians Can G _ _ _ _ The Holy Spirit. Ephesians 4:30.

Read Ephesians 4:31-32 and list the six sins which will do this, and three attitudes which will prevent it.

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(I John 1:9)


This means to “throw cold water” on His work within us – to stifle what He wants to do in and through us.

F. In Ephesians 5:18, I am COMMANDED to be _ _ _ _ _ _ with the Spirit.

The negative command, “Be not drunk with wine” explains what the Bible means by being filled with the Spirit. I am to be under the influence and control of the Spirit.

G. The Work of the Holy Spirit in me is to produce the _ _ _ _ _ _ Of The Spirit. Galatians 5:22-23. This fruit is what God expects to see come forth in your life.

List the nine-fold “fruit of the Spirit”:

_________________              __________________               __________________
_________________              __________________               __________________
_________________              __________________               __________________

The “secret” to allowing the Spirit to do this work in your life unhindered is found in John 15:4-8:

A _ _ _ _ in Christ, and let His W _ _ _ abide in me.


1. Every Christians has at least one spiritual gift (verse 7 and 11).
2. These spiritual gifts are NOT for personal use, but for the benefit (edifications) of your Church. I Corinthians 14:12.

3. Some of the spiritual gifts listed in the Word of God were TEMPORARY, and ceased when the written New Testament was completed. These gifts (tongues, interpretations, miracles, healing, prophecy, knowledge, and discernment) were given as SIGNS to the Nation of Israel (Mark 16:17-18, I Corinthians 1:22, and I Corinthians 14:21-22, and ceased after A.D.70, when Israel was dispersed among the nations, and were said to vanish when “that which is perfect (the completed Word of God) is come.” (I Corinthians 13:8-10).

4. Every Christians needs to discern what his or her spiritual gift is, then use it in the church to benefit others. Your pastor can give you some material which will help you determine your spiritual gift – just ask for it.

WHAT ABOUT “SPEAKING IN TONGUES” AND “DIVINE HEALERS”?
The Charismatic Movement is a modern phenomenon which had its beginning in the U.S.A. just before the turn of this century. In the last 20 years, it has snowballed into the most active movement in Christendom. One of the main reasons for this is because of the spiritual deadness of most mainline denominational “church” – and the apparent “aliveness” of the Charismatics.

Don’t be fooled!! II Corinthians 11:13-15. The test of whether something is right or wrong is NOT “how it feels” – but “what saith the Lord?” Isaiah 8:20.

A. The Bible defines “tongues” as known, understandable foreign languages. Acts 2:4-11. The Charismatics do not do this. They come out with babbling gibberish, which at best it a psychologically induced ecstatic aberration which comes about when the conscious mind loses control and the subconscious takes over.

B. In the Bible, the miraculous gift of being able to speak in an unknown foreign language was a sign to unbelieving Jews. I Corinthians 1:22; 14:21-22; Isaiah 28:11. In each recorded case of tongues (only 3) – Jews, and at least one apostle, were present. Acts 2:5; Acts 10:45-46; Acts 19:6.

C. The Bible says “tongues shall cease,” I Corinthians 13:8, and then goes on to say when they would cease, verse 10.

Now the Charismatic will argue that “that which is perfect” refers to Christ, and that tongues will continue until the Second Coming of Christ. But Joel 2:28-31 indicates an outpouring of the Holy Spirit with associated gifts after the Second Coming!! “That which is perfect” refers to the Word of God, which replaced the gift of prophecy. II Peter 1:19-21.

D. If the gift of tongues were still operative today, which they are not, the Bible would have certain restrictions on their use:

1. No more than three people to speak in any meeting. I Corinthians 14:27

2. Each tongue speaker to follow after each other. I Corinthians 14:27. “….by course…” (i.e., not all at once).

3. One person to interpret. I Corinthians 14:27.

4. If there is no interpreter, then no one should speak in another language. I Corinthians 14:28.

5. The Holy Spirit NEVER takes anybody out of control. I Corinthians 14:32. Letting yourself go, rolling your head, raising your hands and repeating some phrase over and over again until you burst forth with some bubbly, electrifying ecstasy is both unscriptural and dangerous!.

6. Women are not to speak in tongues. I Corinthians 14:34. The modern-day Charismatic Movement is largely a women’s movement – II Timothy 3:6.

In most cases, the Charismatic Movement violates every one of these Spirit-given restraints.

E. The Charismatic Movement is dangerous because it elevates “experiences” above the Word of God. Remember, the Devil can give you any experience you desire – the Christian must walk by the Word of God. II Corinthians 5:7 and Romans 10:17.

F. Many Charismatic groups say, or imply, you are not saved unless you have spoken in tongues. They claim to have the “Full” Gospel – but the real “Full Gospel” is given in I Corinthians.
15:1,3-4. Those who add something to this are in fact preaching “another gospel” – Galatians 1:6-9.

Remember this glorious FACT – Colossians 2:10. I am C_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ in H_ _

G. The Charismatic elevates the Holy Spirit above the Son of God. The Spirit IS God. He is EQUAL with the Father and the Son in EVERY way – but He is the “shy” Member of the Godhead. He does not speak about Himself, but always of Christ. John 15:26; 16:13-14.

H. The miraculous gift of healing was a “sign gift” to Israel. Mark 16:17-18.

I. Healings were overshadowed by Gospel preaching and conversions. Acts 3:7; 4:4; 9:34-35,40,42. in these example we see “one healed – many saved.”

J. Healings were done on unsaved people (who had no faith at the time!), yet Paul, a great Christian, wasn’t healed – II Corinthians 12:7-9; Timothy was sickly – I Timothy 5:23; and Epaphroditus was sick and almost died – Philippians 2:25-27.

K. Today we are to pray for God’s healing mercies – but not to seek, or expect, miraculous (instantaneous) healings. James 5:14-15. Of course, God can do both!

READING ASSIGNMENT: Read: Romans chapter 8

MEMORIZATION:

Try to memorize Ephesians 5:18

STUDY #9

I Immersion (Baptism)

Lesson Commenced: ________________ Lesson Checked: ________________

The subject of “baptism” is without doubt one of the most confusing and controversial of all Bible teachings. Many types of “churches” have many types of “baptism.” Some sprinkle, some pour, some immerse. Some do it to infants, others to adults – some even “baptize” on behalf of those deceased. Then others tell us it is not an important thing, so they practice no baptism at all.

History tells us that baptism has been the most divisive issue throughout the present age. Our Baptist forefather paid dearly for their stand upon the Bible truth of baptism. Millions have been cruelly put to death just because they refused to have their children “sprinkled,” or dared stand upon the teaching of God’s Word. We do not have to face such persecution today – but we ought to be willing to take the same stand upon the truth of the Bible.

You can learn the truth by carefully studying the following Scriptures. Set aside any preconceived notions and see exactly what the Bible teaches. DON’T COMPROMISE!!

WHAT IS BAPTISM?
A. How many kind of Scriptural baptisms are there? *Ephesians 4:5* _________________

B. What is baptism called in *Colossians 2:12*? B _ _ _ I A L.

C. According to *Romans 6:4*, we are B _ _ _ _ _ in the likeness of Christ’s death by baptism.

D. *Romans 6:5* tells us that baptism pictures a P _ _ _ _ I N G.

E. In your understanding, which action best pictures a burial, or a planting: immersion or sprinkling? _______________________________________________________________________

F. In *Matthew 3:6*, where did John the Baptist baptize? ________________________________

What exactly is this? _______________________________________________________________________

G. From *John 3:23*, what was John the Baptist’s reason for baptizing at a place called Aenon? _______________________________________________________________________

H. What does your answer to “G” say about the method of baptizing? _______________________________________________________________________

I. In *Mark 1:10*, when the Lord Jesus was baptized – what did He come up out of? _______________________________________________________________________

J. Look up *Acts 8:38-39*. When Philip baptized the Ethiopian, what was the relationship of both men to the water?______________________________________________________________

K. From your honest study of these verses of Scripture, what do you conclude to be the mode of baptism? *(Check one)*

- Sprinkling
- Pouring
- Immersion

Having drawn your conclusion, the following information will help reinforce the truth:

1. The Greek word rendered “baptize” in your Bible is “baptidzo.” The meaning of “baptidzo” is “dip, plunge, immerse, submerge, overwhelm.” ALL reputable Greek scholars (Catholic, Protestant, and Baptist) agree on this point.

2. Pope Stephen II declared the practice of “pouring” for baptism was valid in the case of sick candidates in the year 754 A.D. The Roman Catholic Council of Ravenna, 1311 A.D., gave the first “official” sanction of sprinkling. Prior to these times, immersion was the mode. In some Roman Catholic circles, immersion was still practiced in the 18th Century.

**WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?**

A. According to *Matthew 3:7-8*, what did John the Baptist require from people *BEFORE* he would baptize them? ________________________________________________________________

B. Look up *John 4:1*. What does the relationship between the words “made” and “baptized” show concerning who should be baptized? ________________________________________________________________

C. In *Acts 2:41*, what had those who were first baptized done? ________________________________
D. In Acts 8:12, what had the men and women who were baptized first done? ________________________

E. In Acts 8:37, what was the requirement for the Ethiopian’s baptism? ________________________

F. Look up Acts 10:47. When does a person receive the Holy Spirit? ________________________
   (Look back over Study #8.)

G. Look up Acts 16:14-15. What had the Lord done with Lydia before she was baptized? ______

H. Study Acts 16:30-34. What happened to the keeper of the prison and his household before they
   were baptized? __________________________________________

I. List the three steps of the Corinthians given in Acts 18:8.
   H _ _ _ _ _ , B _ _ _ _ _ _ , B _ _ _ _ _ _

J. From your honest study of these verse of Scripture, who do you conclude to be the proper
   candidates for baptism? (Check One)
   □ Babies
   □ Believers
   □ Jews

Having drawn your conclusion, the following information will help reinforce the truth:

1. There is NO evidence of “infant baptism” to be found in the first couple of centuries in
   church history. The first recorded instance of “infant baptism” was when the Roman Emperor
   Valens insisted his dying son be “baptized” – in the year 370 A.D.

2. Infant baptism was made “law” by the Catholic Council of Mela in the year 416 A.D. It was
   from this point that the bloody butchering of Baptist began to be practiced – by other
   “Christians.”

WHAT DOES BAPTISM DO?

Many people believe (and are taught) that baptism is a Sacrament – that is, a “means of God’s
grace,” a channel through which our salvations comes.

A. What is the channel of God’s saving grace? Ephesians 2:8 ________________________________

B. What are we NOT saved by? Ephesians 2:9 ________________________________

C. Compare Titus 3:5, Ephesians 5:26, and John 17:17. How are our sins “washed away”? _____
   __________________________________________

D. Read Luke 23:32-33,39-43. One thief was saved. Was he ever baptized? _________________
E. From your honest study of these verses of Scripture, what part does baptism play in your salvation?

□ No part  
□ Some part  
□ Absolutely essential

WHAT DOES BAPTISM MEAN?

A. Look up I Corinthians 15:1-4.

1. What does Paul declare here? The ____ ____ ____ (v.1).

2. Where does he ask them to keep it? In ____ ____ ____ (v.2).

3. What is the Gospel? “Christ ____ ____ for our sins, was ____ ____ , and ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ . (Vs.3,4).

B. According to Romans 6:5, baptism is called the L ____ ____ ____ of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

C. In I Peter 3:21, baptism is called the L ____ F ____ ____ .

(Be careful as you read this verse. It does not teach that baptism saved anyone, but it is what baptism pictures that saved. Baptism is the answer, response, of a good conscience. We get a good conscience before God when we are saved!)

D. From your study and consideration of these verses of Scripture, what would you say baptism is? (Check one)

□ A symbol of the Gospel  
□ The washing away of sins

WHAT DOES BAPTISM MAKE ME?

We have already seen that baptism plays no part in our salvation. A person is scripturally baptized AFTER salvation, not before it.

There are TWO things your baptism will “make” you:

A. Baptism Makes You A Baptist

Attending a Baptist church is wonderful, but that doesn’t make you a “Baptist.” When you are Scripturally baptized, then you become a Baptist in fact.

Salvation makes us a CHRISTIAN. Baptism makes us a BAPTIST. (Every true Baptist is a Christian – but not every Christian is a Baptist!)

1. The name “Baptist” is a Biblical name

It is found some 15 times in the New Testament, referring to John the Baptist. According to Matthew 3:1 John was called a Baptist before he ever baptized anyone. It is a God-given name. (He wasn’t called “John the Catholic” or John the Presbyterian,” etc.)

Thus it is a name we can wear “proudly.” Never be ashamed to accept the name “Baptist.” See also Study #11.

3. All the apostle received Baptist baptism; and this was NEVER repudiated, but was in fact a requirement for office. See: *Acts 1:22.*

The name “Baptist” stands for:
- What we BELIEVE – *I Corinthians 15:1-4*
- What we ARE – *Romans 6:17-18*
- What we DO – *Matthew 28:19-20*

**B. Baptism Makes You A Church Member**

Look up *Acts 2:41-42.* List the order of events.

R _ _ _ _ _ _ (His Word) = Salvation
B _ _ _ _ _ _ = Baptism
A _ _ _ _ unto them = Church membership
C _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ stedfastly = Christian growth

According to *John 3:3,5* – the “new birth” is the “doorway to eternal life.”

According to *Acts 2:41* and *I Corinthians 12:13* – the spiritual birth is followed by baptism into the membership of a church (a body of baptized believers).

When you are baptized, you become a member of our Church. As such, you enjoy the rights and privileges of membership, including:

1. The privilege of participating in church business meeting.
2. Participation at the Lord’s table in the observance of the Lord’s Supper. (*See: Study #12.*)
3. A place to effectively serve the Lord.

**WHO HAS THE AUTHORITY TO BAPTIZE?**

**A. There Are Two Facts To Keep In Mind:**

1. There is a “Heinz 57” variety of “baptisms” in the religious world today. (See the introduction to this study.)
2. According to *Ephesians 4:5,* there is only ONE BAPTISM – so all cannot be right.

**B. The Authority To Baptize Was Given To The New Testament Church.**

Just before our Lord ascended back to Heaven, He left “orders” for His work to be continued. These orders are given in *Matthew 28:19-20,* *Mark 16:15,* *Luke 24:46-48,* *John 20:21,* and *Acts 1:8.*

The Lord spoke these words to His disciples – but if He gave this commission only to the disciples present, then it no longer applies because they are long dead!. The Lord Jesus Christ
gave the Great Commission to His disciples INSTITUTIONALLY – not individually. That is, the command to go, preach, baptize, and teach all nations was given to His CHURCH. (Review Study # 3.)

Since the command to “baptize” is contained in the commission, then the authority to baptize has been given to New Testament churches – not to individuals or man-made religious organizations.

The Lord Jesus walked 60 miles (from Galilee, where there was plenty of water – to Judea) just to be baptized by John the Baptist. He thought the authority was important. It is just as important today!

C. There Are Four Requirements For Baptism To Be Scriptural:
   - SAVED CANDIDATES
   - SUBMERSION IN WATER
   - SYMBOLIC REPRESENTATION
   - SCRIPTURAL AUTHORITY

All those who are baptized into this Church are baptized on the authority of this Church. Even though the pastor actually performs the act, he does so on behalf of the Church body.

This is why:
1. All those desiring baptism are presented before the Church members, and the Church votes to receive them into membership upon their baptism.
2. The Church receives members from other Baptist churches of like faith and order by way of a “Letter of Commendation.”
3. The Church does not receive into membership those who have been “baptized” into some man-made religion, “church” or denomination. As with our ancient Baptist forebears, we require Scriptural baptism (sometimes erroneously called “re-baptism”) in such cases.

WHY SHOULD WE BE BAPTIZED?
Some people do not hold great importance to baptism – seeing it as either unnecessary, or an “optional extra” to being a Christians.

On the other hand, the Word of God place great emphasis upon the ordinance. The “symbol” of Christianity is NOT a cross or a fish – but the beautiful emblem of baptism.

Here are some reasons why you should be baptized:

A. The Lord Jesus Christ Was Baptized – Matthew 3:13-17.
   1. He came from G______ to J____ (60 miles) just to receive baptism (v.13). It was important to Him.
   2. Jesus said His baptism B__ in verse 15. That is, “It is becoming.”
   3. Jesus used the little word U__ in verse 15, indicating we associate with Him when we follow Him in baptism.
   4. God the Father was well P__ when God the Son was baptized (v.17)

As noted previously, the command to baptize was given to the Lord’s churches thus it follows that those who are won to Christ have a duty to be baptized.
Write out John 14:15. 

ABC’s Of Christian Growth  Page 53
C. **Baptism Is The Bible Way**
   1. Look up *Acts* 2:38. Here the command is for E _ _ _ _ O _ _ of you to be baptized.
   2. *Acts* 8:38 includes both M _ _ and W _ _ _ _ in the act of baptism.

D. **All Christians Are Exhorted To Be Faithful In Church Attendance**
   We read of this command in *Hebrews* 10:25. Can we properly follow this command and not be a member of a Baptist church, and be baptized? No!

**IF YOU HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED:**
Be sure to record the date at the very beginning of all these lessons. Write it, along with the date of your salvation, in your Bible.

**IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN BAPTIZED:**
1. Write out the question the Ethiopian asked of Philip in the last part of *Acts* 8:36.
   ______________________________________________________________________________

2. In your own words, and your own situation, answer this question.
   ______________________________________________________________________________

3. Why not decide now to obey the Lord?

```
"Having studied the Scriptures concerning the subject of baptism, and realizing this step is asked of me by the Lord, I hereby determine by the grace of God that I will present myself for baptism by coming forward during the invitation at the next service of the Church, thus publicly associating myself with the Lord Jesus Christ, and committing myself to active membership in this Church."

Signed: _____________________                               Date: ____________________
```

**READING ASSIGNMENT:**
Read *Matthew* Chapter 3 and *Acts* Chapter 8.

**MEMORIZATION:**
Try to memorize *Acts* 2:41
J

Jesus Christ

This is the study about the One Who is the sum and substance, the center and essence of Bible Christianity.

If we take Buddha from Buddhism, if we take Mohammed from Islam, if we take Smith from Mormonism – we still are left with systems of belief. But, if we take Jesus Christ from Christianity – we have NOTHING!!

Christianity is not a system of beliefs, but a PERSON. We are not saved through rules and rites, but through a PERSON.

In this study lesson we want to look at two things concerning Jesus:

1. WHO HE IS
2. WHAT HE HAS DONE

JESUS CHRIST IS THE PERFECT MAN

A. Look up Galatians 4:4. Jesus was born of a _ _ _ _ _ _.

B. Look up Luke 2:5. Mary underwent a normal human pregnancy until she was _ _ _ _ _ with child.

D. Read John 4:7-9. To the woman of Samaria, Jesus looked like a typical woman.

E. Read Isaiah 53:2. This prophetical description of the Lord tells us He had no C_,_ _,_ _,_ _,_ _ or attractive B_,_ _,_ _. According to Matthew 26:48-49 the Lord Jesus was so plain that Judas needed to kiss His cheek to identify Him to the soldiers.

Incidentally: The “religious art” portraits of Christ as having blue eyes, long straight golden hair, and fair complexions are far from reality. Our Lord looked like a very average Jew – olive skin, brown eyes, and short black hair. He did have a beard.


G. Look up Matthew 8:24. Jesus required S_,_ _,_ _.

H. Look up Matthew 21:18. Jesus got H_,_ _,_ _.

I. Look up Luke 22:44. Jesus suffered painful A_,_ _,_ _.

J. Look up Hebrews 4:15. Jesus was T_,_ _,_ _ in all things, just like you and I.


L. Look up John 19:33. Jesus died a physical D_,_ _,_ _.

JESUS CHRIST IS GOD

A. Look up John 1:14. Who is “the Word”? __________________________________________


C. Look up John 5:18. Why did the Jews try to kill Jesus? ______________________________

D. Look up John 5:23. How does this verse relate the Father and the Son? __________________

E. Look up John 10:30. Jesus said He and the Father were _ _,_ _.


G. Look up John 14:9. Who do we see when we see Jesus? The _ _,_ _,_ _,_ _.


Did Jesus ever rebuke Thomas for saying this?____________________________________

I. Look up Hebrews 1:8. To whom is the title, “O God” addressed? The _ _,_ _.

J. Look up I John 5:20. Who is the true God and eternal life? __________________________

K. Look up Titus 1:3 and compare it with Titus 1:4. Who is referred to in each verse as “our Saviour”? ___________________________ What does this mean? ____________________________

L. Look up and compare Genesis 1:1 with John 1:3. What is the inescapable conclusion concerning Jesus Christ? __________________________________________

JESUS CHRIST WAS BORN OF A VIRGIN
From what you have learned above, the Lord Jesus Christ is a man and He God. He is not 50% human and 50% divine, but 100% perfect in His humanity and 100% perfect in His deity.

How can this be??  The God – Man!

This is a fact clearly taught in the Word of God, but one that we cannot fully comprehend.

A. Look up I Timothy 3:16. This verse says that Jesus is  manifest in the . Remember back to Study #7 and the Bible teaching of ONE God, THREE Persons. In studying about the Lord Jesus Christ we must appreciate ONE person, TWO natures – a divine nature and a human nature. While we will never understand this truth, we can see it was accomplished in the miracle of the Virgin Birth of Christ.

1. If Jesus had a human mother and a human father, He would be just another man – sinful, needing to be saved, and totally incapable of saving Himself, let alone others.

2. If Jesus had no human mother and no father, He would be unapproachable as God – Holy, and dwelling in light inaccessible.

3. The Bible teaches Jesus to be the SON OF MAN (because Mary was His mother) and the SON OF GOD.

B. Look up Isaiah 7:14. This Old Testament prophecy of Christ said a would conceive.

C. Look up Matthew 1:18. When Jesus was conceived in Mary’s womb, she was engaged to Joseph; and they had not in marriage.

D. Look up Luke 1:35. The conception of Jesus in the womb of Mary was the miraculous work of the .

The birth of Jesus Christ was supernatural.

THE DEATH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST


B. Look up Romans 5:8. Christ died for .

C. Look up Isaiah 53:6. What was laid upon Jesus when He died on the cross? _______________

D. Look up Romans 5:10. Through the death of Jesus Christ we are to God.

E. Look up Galatians 4:5. By His shed blood, Jesus is able to R those who trust Him.


H. Look up John 19:30c and Hebrews 10:12. What needs to be added to the death of Christ on the cross to complete our salvation? _______________

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

A. Look up John 20:1. On what day of the week did Jesus rise? The F day, or .

B. Look up Matthew 12:40. For how long was Jesus in the tomb? __________________
Note: Simple arithmetic (and much Bible evidence) shows the impossibility of a “Good FRIDAY” crucifixion. Jesus was crucified on a Wednesday and spent 72 hours in the tomb.

C. Read *1 Corinthians* 15:3-8. List the appearances of the resurrected Lord as given here:

____________________________________________________________________________

D. Look up *Romans* 4:25. Why was Jesus raised from the dead? ______________________

E. Look up and carefully study *1 Peter* 1:3,4. According to this Scripture, because of the resurrection of Christ, each believer has a “lively” ___ for a wonderful inheritance, reserved in ___.

THE ASCENSION OF JESUS CHRIST

A. Look up *Acts* 1:3,9. When did Jesus return to Heaven? ________________________________

B. Look up *Hebrews* 10:12. Where is Jesus at this present time? ___________________________

C. Look up *Hebrews* 7:25. Jesus is making ___ for each believer.

D. Look up *John* 14:2. Jesus is preparing a ___ for each of us who are saved.

E. Look up *I John* 2:1. When a Christian sins, Jesus acts as an ___ with the Father.

THE RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST

This subject will be studied in greater detail in Study # 18.

A. Look up *John* 14:3. Jesus said, “I will ___ ___ ___ ___.”

B. Look up *Acts* 1:11. Who promised the return of Christ here? ___________________________

C. Look up *Titus* 2:13. The return of Christ is called the B ___ H ___ .

D. Carefully study *1 Thessalonians* 4:16-17. What will happen to believers (living and dead) when Jesus returns? ________________________________

E. Look up *I Corinthians* 15:51-52. When Jesus Christ returns for His people, how quickly will this event transpire? ________________________________

READING ASSIGNMENT:

Read through *Colossians* Chapter 1.

MEMORIZATION:

Try to commit to memory *John* 1:1.
STUDY #11

**K**  
**Kinship**  (Our Baptist Heritage)

Lesson Commenced: _________________  
Lesson Checked: _________________

Outside of the Word of God, one of the greatest areas of spiritual ignorance is that concerning the **history** of New Testament churches over the past 1,900 years.

The Roman Catholic is led to believe his is the **only** “Church” which began with St. Peter and has continued intact down through the centuries. All non-Catholic denominations are “departed brethren.”

The average Protestant think true Christianity disappeared during the “Dark Ages” and was revived after the Protestant Reformation. A lot of Baptist have been hood-winked into believing they are Protestants and had their beginnings in England in the early part of the 17th Century.

History is to be studied in the light of the Word of God. The Scriptures promise, and history confirms, the existences of true New Testament churches in every period of the last 19 centuries.

**THE PERPETUITY OF BAPTIST CHURCHES**
By this we mean that in every age there have been New Testament churches and believers who have faithfully remained true to the Word of God.

**GOD PROMISED HIS CHURCHES PERPETUITY.**

A. Read *Matthew 28:18-20*. This commission was given to His churches (See Study #3), and is for the churches to fulfill.
   1. In it, The Lord promised to be with them **A _ _ _ _**, even unto the end of the world.
   2. If God made such a promise, then we can expect churches to be around until the end of the age to receive the promise.

B. Read *Matthew 16:18*. Upon the Rock (Himself) the Lord established His Church, and His said that the gates of Hell would **_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ **against it.

C. Read *I Corinthians 11:26*. The Lord’s Supper is an ordinance given to the Lord’s churches. The Lord’s Supper is to be **perpetually** observed by churches.
   This again pre-supposes the existence of New Testament churches at all times to observe the ordinance.

D. Read *Ephesians 3:21*. In a special way, God is glorified among His churches. This glory is continue throughout **_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ **. If true churches disappeared as the apostasy that developed into the Roman Catholic Church took hold, this Scripture would be meaningless.

E. Much of the New Testament is addressed to Christians in a **CHURCH** setting. If there have been periods of time when churches have not existed, much of the New Testament was or is useless.

**THE TRAIL OF BLOOD**

There are many excellent books dealing with the subject of Baptist history. If you enjoy history, and would like to read more detailed presentations, talk to the pastor.

Right now, read through the little booklet entitled, “*The Trail of Blood*” by J. M. Carroll. This is a great primer on some true facts about church history which will bless your heart.

**Answer the following questions:**

1. List three ways many of our Baptist forebears were dealt with. *(p.2).*  
   __________________________________________  
   __________________________________________  
   __________________________________________

2. What was possibly the first serious departure from New Testament church order? *(p.12).*  
   __________________________________________

3. What is the year of the first recorded baptism of child?  
   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________
5. In what year did the Dark Ages begin? (p.19). ___________________________

6. What one doctrine does the Greek Orthodox reject? (p.26). ______________________

7. What action was taken by the Council of Toulouse in 1229 A.D.? (p.37). _____________________

8. To what century can the name “Anabaptist” be traced? (p.39). _________________________


10. Why was Mr. Painter whipped? (p.48). __________________________________________

11. According to the chart, from which “Church” did the **Methodist** denomination come?

12. From the book and the chart, fill in the list of names given at various times to our Baptist kin.
   
   C _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Acts 11:26)
   
   M _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Phrygia)
   
   D _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Africa)
   
   N _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Italy)
   
   P _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Armenia)
   
   W _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Europe)
   
   A _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (France)
   
   B _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (today)

**Note:** Page numbers may vary between editions of the “Trail of Blood.” The pages referred to above are from the June 1987 edition.
STUDY #12

L

The Lord’s Supper

Lesson Commenced: _______________ Lesson Checked: _______________

Here is a subject which requires careful study of the Word of God. Like baptism, the ordinance of the Lord’s Supper is generally misunderstood; and the religious world has many substitutes for the real thing.

The only references to the Lord’s Supper in the New Testament are the Gospels’ account in Matthew 26:17-30, Mark 14:12-26, Luke 22:7-20, and in Paul’s first epistle to the Corinthians in which he actually rebukes the Church there for serious disorders at the Lord’s Supper – I Corinthians 10:14-22 and 11:17-34.

Prior to completing this study, carefully read each of those passages above. (The references in the Book of Acts do not refer to the Lord’s Supper because there is no mention of “the cup,” and because in one instance the breaking of bread was done twice in the same night. Acts 2:46; 20:7,11. This simply refers to a fellowship-type meal.)

WHAT IS THE LORD’S SUPPER?

A. Notice The Correct Terminology

ABC’s Of Christian Growth  Page 62
There are only three Bible terms:

1. C _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . *I Corinthians 10:16.*
2. The L _ _ _ ’ _ _ _ _ T _ _ _ _ _ . *I Corinthians 10:21.*
3. The L _ _ _ ’ _ _ _ _ _ . *I Corinthians 11:20*

*The Bible does not mention such man-made ecclesiastical terms as “The Mass,” “Holy Communion,” and “Eucharist.”*

B. It is an O _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of the Church. *1 Corinthians 11:2, 23* – the connecting phrase “… I delivered unto you…” shows this to be the case.

C. When we partake of the Lord’s Supper, we:

1. Do it in R _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of Christ. *I Corinthians 11:24-25.*
2. Do S _ _ _ _ the Lord’s death. *I Corinthians 11:26*

From these Scriptures we conclude the Lord’s Supper is a:

- [ ] SYMBOL
- [ ] SACRAMENT (Cross out incorrect words.)
- [ ] MEMORIAL
- [ ] MEANS OF GRACE

D. Is the observance of the Lord’s Supper **commanded** or a **choice?** See: *I Corinthians 11:24-25.*

It is __________________________ .

**WHAT IS THE SYMBOLISM OF THE LORD’S SUPPER?**

A. The Element Of The Supper

1. Unleavened _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . *I Corinthians 11:23; Matthew 26:17,26.*
2. The F _ _ _ _ _ _ of the V _ _ _ _ _ . *Matthew 26:29.*

*I Corinthians* uses the term, the _ _ _ _ _ . *I Corinthians 11:25-26.*

**Note:** Nowhere does the Bible refer to “wine” as part of Lord’s Supper. Alcoholic wine (fermented) is a result of the action of yeast (leaven). Leaven is a symbol of sin – *I Corinthians 5:6-7.* Thus alcoholic wine and leavened bread would be invalid symbols of the spotless Son of God.

B. The Symbolism Of The Bread

The bread pictures the B _ _ _ _ _ B _ _ _ _ of the Lord Jesus Christ. *I Corinthians 11:24.*

This reminds us of the terrible of our Lord, though not a bone in His body was broken.


C. The Symbol Of The Cup
The cup (grape juice) pictures the S _ _ _ B _ _ _ of the Lord Jesus Christ. 
I Corinthians 11:25.

This reminds us that without the shedding of the blood of Christ, there could be no _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of sin. Hebrews 9:22. Read: I Peter 1:18-19.

D. The Purpose Of The Lord’s Supper
Like the ordinance of baptism, the Lord’s Supper is a picture of Jesus Christ. 

BAPTISM pictures the D _ _ _ _ , B _ _ _ _ _ , and R _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of Christ. (See: Lesson #9.).

When we observe the Lord’s Supper we set forth symbolically the L _ _ ’ D _ _ _ until He comes. I Corinthians 11:26.

WHO SHOULD OBSERVE THE LORD’S SUPPER?

A. When Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper (during a pre-Passover meal), who were present?
Matthew 26:20 __________________________________________________________

(It seems evident from John 13:18-30 that Judas Iscariot left the supper to betray Jesus before the Lord instituted the Lord’s Supper.)

B. According to I Corinthians 12:28a, what did this group of people constitute?
The C _ _ _ _ _ .

C. Compare Matthew 26:30 with Hebrews 2:12. The Lord’s Supper was instituted in the C _ _ _ _ _ .

D. Read I Corinthians 11:17-21. Here the Apostle Paul is rebuking the Church at Corinth for turning the simple memorial Supper into a drunken orgy-type feast. However, note the following:

v 17 – “ye C _ _ _ T _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .”
v 18 – “ye C _ _ _ T _ _ _ _ _ _ in the C _ _ _ _ _ .”
v 20 – “ye C _ _ _ T _ _ _ _ _ _ into O _ _ P _ _ _ _ _ .”

E. According to I Corinthians 1:2a, to whom was this letter initially addressed?
“the C _ _ _ _ _ _ of God which is at C _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .”
(Thus it is to the churches that the command to keep the ordinances has been given.)

F. Conclusion: The Lord’s Supper is a C _ _ _ _ ordinance. It is given to the Lord’s churches to observe.

What are the 2 requirements for membership in a New Testament Baptist church?
(See: Lesson #3) _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
When our Church comes together to observe the Lord’s Supper, only members of our Church who are in good standing may properly partake. We do not open the Supper to Christians in general, or even members of other Baptist churches. Many people find this a hard doctrine (in the light of the current ecumenical climate), but remember, it is the LORD’s Supper, not man’s, and He issues the invitation.

Note: Many “churches” open the Supper to “all who love the Lord in sincerity and truth,” which sound good, but conceivably would allow Christians with all manner of beliefs to join together. This contrary to God’s Word, for I Corinthians 11:18-19 forbids the observance of the Lord’s Supper by any church when D __ __ __ __ __ __ and H __ __ __ __ __ __ __ are present.

HOW DO WE OBSERVE THE LORD’S SUPPER?

A. How Often?

The Bible does not give a definite time to observe the Lord’s Supper. I Corinthians 11:26 simply says, “A __ O __ __ A __.”

The Pastor decides when the church should come together, and a special service is held.

B. According to I Corinthians 11:28, the observance of the Supper should be preceded by solemn, personal self-E __ __ __ __ __ __ __ ION.

Note: Eating “unworthily” means “in an unworthy manner” as the context shows (v29).

Note: The word “damnation” means “severe judgment” (even physical death) (v30).

C. When observing the Supper the elements are distributed to the members, then all eat (or drink) together. This is because I Corinthians 11:33 bids us to T __ __ __ one for another.

D. Following the observance of the Lord’s Supper, the meeting closes with the singing of an H __ __ __. Matthew 26:30.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC “MASS”? 

This study is included here because of the vast amount of confusion regarding the meaning and benefit of the Lord’s Supper.

A. What Are Roman Catholic Taught?
1. That the “mass” is the sacrifice of Jesus Christ Who is really present on the altar. That He is offered to God for the living and the dead by the priest.

2. That upon the words of consecration by the priest, “Hoc est corpus meum,” the wafer and the alcoholic wine literally change into the real flesh and blood of Christ. (This is called “transubstantiation.”).

3. That observance of the mass is a means of grace (part of “salvation”) whereby the person actually eats the real flesh of Jesus. That it is mortal sin to not receive “Holy Communion” at Easter.

B. How Did This Teaching Originate?

1. The doctrine of transubstantiation can be traced to the 9th Century writings of PaschADIUS. It was declared a doctrine by Pope Innocent III in 1215 A.D. at Lateran IV.

2. It is “based” upon a literal interpretation of Matthew 26:26-28 and John 6:53-58.

C. What Does The Bible Have To Say?


2. Idolatry is forbidden – I John 5:21; Exodus 20:4-5. (Roman Catholics are taught to worship the “Host.”)

3. Jesus spoke symbolically in Matthew 26 because He was literally present. “This is my body” means “This presents My body.” A literal interpretation of this passage would also require a literal interpretation of, say, Matthew 16:23. Oh! Oh! (Roman Catholics are also taught that Peter was the first pope!).


5. The death of the Lord Jesus Christ was sufficient and once and for all. The continual, repetitious “sacrifice” of Christ by Roman Catholic priests is a denial of the finished work of Christ. See: John 19:30; Hebrews 10:10-12.

6. How can a priest (a creature) make Christ (the Creator)? John 1:3.

READING ASSIGNMENT:

As given above.

MEMORIZATION:

Try to commit to memory I Corinthians 11:26.
At the conclusion of His earthly ministry, the LORD JESUS CHRIST committed His Church to the continuance of His work of redemption. To the assembled body of (baptized) believers He said: “As My Father hath sent M, even so send I you.” (John 20:21). The Lord’s churches, then, are to duplicate the things done by the LORD – without change! Whilst the many things Jesus did could not be contained in any number of books (John 21:25), there were some works He did consistently throughout His earthly ministry.

Jesus _ _ _ _ and _ _ _ _ _ _ disciples (John 4:1).

Jesus t _ _ _ _ _ and trained his disciples. (Matthew 5:1,2).

Jesus built His _ _ _ _ _ _ (Matthew 16:18).

THE BIBLICAL BASIC FOR MISSIONS

A. Look up and read the following Scripture passages which record the words of the Lord to His Church (assembly of baptized believers):
   □ Matthew 28:16-20.
   □ Mark 16:14-20.
   □ John 20:19-23.
□ Acts 1:8.

B. Having read these Scriptures, discover the answers to the following:

1. What is our Church to do? 

2. What is the extent of our mission field?

3. What is message of our mission work?

4. Where do we get our power to engage in mission work?

THE BIBLICAL PLAN FOR MISSIONS

Look up and read Acts 13:1-5.

A. When God called two men to be missionaries, from whence did He call them?
   The _ _ _ _ _ _ _ that was at Antioch.

B. How would you describe the kind of men God called to be missionaries? (See also: Acts 12:25.)

C. Look up I Thessalonians 2:4 and I Timothy 1:12. Who calls and equips men to be missionaries?

D. According to Acts 13:3, who is to send missionaries?


E. According to Acts 13:4, when a church sends out a missionary, how is that missionary led into his work?

F. According to Acts 13:5, what is the missionary to do?

G. According to Acts 14:23, missionaries are to establish a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ from those won to Christ and baptized.

The Word of God knows nothing of “medical missions,” “educational missions,” “social justice missions,” or “agricultural missions,” etc.
THE BIBLICAL CHALLENGE FOR MISSIONS

A. Look up John 4:35. What is every Christian to realize? ________________________________

B. Look up Matthew 9:37. What is there a great need of today? ________________________________

C. Look up Matthew 9:38. What should be our prayer? ________________________________

D. Look up Acts 9:6. What question should we ask the Lord concerning missions? ____________

THE BIBLICAL WAY TO SUPPORT MISSIONS

A. We Are To Give Financially Toward missions

In II Corinthians 8, 9 and 10, the Bible deals with the subject of giving to the work of the Lord.

Note:

1. Attitude in giving – II Corinthians 8:1-5.
3. Purpose in giving – II Corinthians 10:14-16.

B. We Are To Pray For Missionaries. Romans 15:31


C. God Bless A Mission-minded Church

Read Philippians 4:14-19.

1. Which church helped Paul financially? The church at ________________________________.
2. What abounded to the heavenly account of this church? ________________________________.
3. What did God promise to supply for this Church? ________________________________.

“A missionary is God’s child in God’s place doing God’s work in God’s way in God’s power for God’s glory.”
WRITING ASSIGNMENT:

Make a list of the missionaries our Church supports, noting their fields of labor.

MEMORIZATION:

Try to commit to memory *Mark 16:15.*

STUDY #14

**N**  The New Birth

Lesson Commenced: ____________________ .  Lesson Checked: ______________

There are some precious Bible words we almost hesitate to use these days because they have been abused and misused throughout Christendom. Words like “Christian” and “Bishop” mean different things to different people, even though their Bible meaning has never changed.

Another term lately subjected to such abuse is “Born Again.” It has been downgraded by the world so much that now we must define terms. *What do you mean that you are “born again”?* Today, you are “born again” if you had some life-changing experience. It is used in popular songs to mean “falling in love.” Hollywood superstars by the dozen profess to be “born again” – yet continue producing their wicked wares. Even Roman Catholics are using the term, “born again.”

Because the Lord Jesus Christ said we could not get to Heaven without being “born again,” it becomes vitally important that we understand the Bible meaning of the term.
WHAT BEING “BORN AGAIN” IS NOT

A. The New Birth Is NOT Baptism

Those who teach the doctrine of “Baptismal Regeneration” (all infant-sprinkling “churches” and some immersing “Churches” like the Church of Christ do!) use the following Scriptures as proof texts:

1. *John 3:5* — “…born of water…”
   The context of this verse, especially *John 3:6*, shows that being ”born of water” refers to the physical birth.
   a) *Born of water – that which is born of flesh is flesh.*
   b) *Born of the Spirit – that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.*

2. *Titus 3:5* — “…washing of regeneration …”
   *Revelation 1:5* defines this washing – we are washed by the blood of Christ.

3. *I Peter 3:21* — “…baptism doth also now save us …”
   A careful reading of this verse shows:
   a) Baptism is a “figure” (symbol).
   b) The literal washing of the body does nothing for us spiritually.
   c) Baptism is the *answer* (response) of a good conscience toward God. How do we get a good conscience?? See: *I Peter 3:14-16.*

   It is not baptism which saves us, but that which baptism *pictures* – i.e., the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

B. The New Birth Is NOT Reformation

How often do people “turn over a new leaf”? Getting rid a bad habit is always a good thing – but it is NOT the new birth.

1. Nicodemus had religion and a position of authority – but that wasn’t enough. See: *John 3:1,7.*

2. The rich young ruler kept the commandments (or so he thought) – but that wasn’t enough. See: *Mark 10:17-22.*

3. Saul (later, Paul) had every outward reason to be accepted by God – but that wasn’t enough. See: *Philippians 3:4-8.*

C. The New Birth Is NOT Some Religious Experience

Many people equate their experience to real salvation.

1. Simon Magus had an experience – but that wasn’t enough. See: *Acts 8:9 13, 18-22.*

Note: Emotions are evoked when we are born again. Many people count their salvation as an experience. The important thing to remember is that the experience is not what saves – it follows!

WHAT BEING “BORN AGAIN” REALLY IS

A. The New Birth Is The Work Of God
   1. John 6:63 – “The flesh (ourselves) profiteth _ _ _ _ _ _.” The Holy Spirit _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (makes alive).
   2. Ephesians 2:1 – “You hath _ _ quickened.”
   3. Ephesians 2:10 – “We are workmanship.”
   4. John 3:5 – “Except a man be born of water and of the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ , he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”

B. The New Birth Is Accomplished Through The Word Of God
   1. John 15:3 – “Now ye are _ _ _ _ _ _ through the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .”
   2. I Corinthians 4:15 – “For in Christ Jesus I have _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ you through the _ _ _ _ _ .”
   3. I Peter 1:23 – “Born again by the _ _ _ _ _ _ of _ _ _ _ .”

C. The New Birth Is The Imparting Of A New Nature
   1. II Peter 1:4 – “We are made partakers of the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .”
   2. II Corinthians 5:17 – “We are made a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .”

D. The New Birth Is The ONLY Means Of Entering God’s Family
   “Born…. Not of Blood – i.e. of human lineage. (God has no grandchildren!)
   Nor of the Will of the Flesh – i.e. through works, reformation, etc..
   Nor of the Will of Man – i.e. through priest, pope, or pastor!
   ….but of God!!”

THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY OF THE NEW BIRTH

Write out John 3:3, 7.

________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

HOW A MAN IS “BORN AGAIN”

As with our physical birth, there are three requirements for a spiritual birth:

A WOMB - the human heart.
A SEED - the word of God.

ABC’s Of Christian Growth Page 72
A CONCEPTION - the work of the Spirit, bringing life.
While this miracle is entirely the work of God, it cannot take place except a man actually receives Christ.

READING ASSIGNMENT: Read the Book of 1 Peter.
MEMORIZATION: Try to memorize John 3:3.

STUDY #15

O  Obedience

Lesson Commenced: _______________                      Lesson Checked: _______________

In his excellent book, “Growing Up God’s Way,” John A. Stormer has these to say: “Obey is the most important single word in the Bible. Being obedient is the key to receiving all of God’s blessings. To be saved from sin and Hell, a person must obey God’s command ....” Acts 16:31.

“There are a multitude of other material and spiritual blessings for those who obey God.” (pp.103, 4).

This current age is characterized by rebellion. Rebellion and disobedience comes directly from man’s sinful nature. See: II Timothy 3:2 and Romans 5:19a. We see rebellion in the home, rebellion in society, rebellion in our churches all stemming from a basic rebellious attitude toward God. Perhaps now, as never before, we need to seriously concern ourselves with this subject of OBEEDIENCE.
OBEDIENCE DEFINED

John A. Stormer gives the following explanation of obedience:

“Obedience is doing what those in authority request or want. It is the opposite of ‘doing your own thing.’ True obedience involves doing what an authority wants immediately, respectfully, joyfully, and completely. Obedience requires the submission of the will of the individual to those in charge. True obedience ultimately stems from submission to God.” (Ibid: pg. 103).

GOD’S ATTITUDE REGARDING OBEDIENCE

A. Look up I Samuel 15:22. What does God say is better than sacrifice? To ______.

B. Look up Acts 13:22. How did the Lord describe David, the son of Jesse?

“A ______ after ______ own ______.”

C. Why did the Lord so describe King David in Acts 13:22b?

GOD’S ATTITUDE REGARDING DISOBEDIENCE

A. Look up I Samuel 15:23. What does God say rebellion is like?

The sin of ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______.

B. What was the penalty required for rebellion in sons under the Mosaic Law? See: Deuteronomy 21:18-21 ________________________________

THE SOURCE OF TRUE OBEDIENCE

A. John 14:15. “If ye ______ me, ______ my commandments.”

B. John 14:23a. “If a man ______ me, he will ______ my ______ ______ ______ ______ ______.”

C. I John 5:3b. “His commandments are not ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______.”

D. I John 1:19. “We love him, because he ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ us.”

PROMISE AND BLESSINGS RELATING TO OBEDIENCE

A. Look up I John 3:22. What does God promise when we keep His commandments and do those things which are pleasing in His sight?

____________________________________________________

B. According to John 15:10, where does an obedient Christian abide?

____________________________________________________

C. Look up Matthew 6:31-33. What three things does God promise to take care of for us when we put Him first? __________________________ __________________________ __________________________

D. According to John 15:14, what does obedience make us?

____________________________________________________
E. What is perfected in our lives when we keep God’s Word, according to 1 John 2:5?
________________________________________________________

F. If we hear the Word of God and yet do nothing about it, what is the result? James 1:22
________________________________________________________

What does James 4:17 call this?
________________________________________________________

G. According to Matthew 7:24-27, to what does the Lord Jesus compare the life of an obedient person?
________________________________________________________

THE RIGHT ATTITUDE IN OBEDIENCE

It is against human (sinful) nature to obey. Obedience comes as a result of training, and attitude is all important here.

A. Obedience ought to be a _ _ _ _ _ _ . Psalms 40:8.
B. Obedience is to be whit the whole _ _ _ _ _ and _ _ _ _ . Deuteronomy 26:16.
C. Obedience requires us to be _ _ _ _ _ and very C _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Joshua 1:7.
D. When obeying the Lord, we need to make _ _ _ _ _ _ and not D _ _ _ Y. Psalms 119:60.
E. What should our attitude be when God’s Word seems to contradict our own judgment? Luke 5:4-7
________________________________________________________

F. According to Matthew 21:28-31, are good intentions alone sufficient for obedience?
________________________________________________________

AREAS FOR GOD-DIRECTED OBEDIENCE

Every Christian needs to recognize what has been termed, “GOD’S CHAIN OF COMMAND.” By this we mean that not every action required of us is commanded directly from Heaven, but that God has placed others over us in various segments of life, who will be used by Him to accomplish His perfect will in our lives.

We are to submit to these authorities as unto the Lord.

An example of this “chain of Command” in relation to marriage is given in 1 Corinthians 11:3:

God the Father ➔ God the Son ➔ Husband ➔ Wife

A wife who truly loves God will never “run” her husband, but lovingly submit to his leadership as unto the Lord.

Note: This has got nothing to do with equality or inequality, as the first example below shows.

A. The Lord Jesus Christ Was An Obedient Son
   1. He was obedient to God the Father’s _ _ _ _ _ . John 6:38-39.
2. He was not in any way unequal with the Father, but say “I and my Father are _ _ _ .”  
   John 10:30.


B. **Five Areas Of Authority Requiring Christian Obedience**

1. In marriage
   The _ _ _ _ _ is to submit to the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . Read Ephesians 5:22; Colossians 3:18; I Peter 3:1-6.

2. In the home
   _ _ _ _ _ _ _ are to obey their _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . Read: Ephesians 6:1; Colossians 3:20.

3. In the workplace
   _ _ _ _ _ _ _ are to be obedient to their _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . See: Ephesians 6:5-7; Colossians 3:23.

4. In society
   Every citizen is to be _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to the higher powers. Romans 13:1-7.

5. In our Church
   Each member is to _ _ _ _ _ _ those that have the rule over them (i.e., the pastor). Hebrews 13:7, 17.

   *In each of these areas God expects you to obey those in authority just as you would (and with the same attitude) Him. Yet, it is in each of these areas we find the most rebellion today – bossy, domineering wives (or weak, spineless husbands); rampant, bratty children; militant unions; anarchists; and church members who continually “buck” the pastor.*

   Let not these things be named in our life – we have already read about God’s opinion of rebellion.

   If the one in authority is failing to give leadership or be responsible – God will deal with Him. Leave these things to God – don’t try to rectify the situation by usurping the authority. That’s wrong too!!

   Read I Peter 3:1-7 and see that a wife CAN win her husband. How?? Not by taking over and running things, but by the ornament of subjection.
READING ASSIGNMENT:
Read: Genesis chapter 22

MEMORIZATION:
Try to commit to memory II Corinthians 10:5.

(This book is highly recommended – especially to those with young children, or those just commencing family life.)

STUDY #16

P          Prayer
Lesson Commenced: ________________       Lesson Checked: ______________

According to Acts 2:42, the young Christians, along with the older believers, “continued steadfastly in the apostle doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, AND IN PRAYERS.” These Christians had developed from the very beginning of their new life in Christ some definite habits including prayer.

Through His Word, the Bible, God speaks to the Christian. In prayer, the Christian talks to God. Yet, in this busy, bustling word, both Bible study and prayer are neglected by so many.

WHAT IS PRAYER?
Read over the previous study about prayer. (See: Lesson #4 Daily Walk).
A. The word “pray” means “to __ __ __.”
B. Give a Scripture reference showing this to be so. ____________________________________________
C. According to I John 5:14, prayer is asking for _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ according to His will.

D. According to Philippians 4:6, prayer is asking for _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

WHY SHOULD I PRAY?

The Bible teaches us that prayer is both a COMMAND and a PRIVILEGE.

A. We Are Commanded To Pray
   1. Luke 18:1. “Men ought _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to pray.”
   2. Colossians 4:2. “_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ in prayer.”
   3. I Thessalonians 5:17. “Pray without _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .”
   4. Matthew 7:7. “_ _ _ _ .”

B. We Have The Privilege To Pray
   2. Hebrews 4:16. “We are invited to come _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to the throne of grace.

HOW DO I PRAY?


Below are some of the “essentials” in praying.

A. What Posture Should I Adopt When Praying?
   1. Mark 11:25. “We may _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and pray.
   2. I Kings 8:54. “We may _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and pay.
   4. Matthew 26:39. “We may fall on our _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and pay.
   
   From your study of these Scriptures, what do you conclude about the posture we should adopt when we pray? ______________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________

B. To Whom Do I Address My Prayer?
   Study Matthew 5:9; John 16:23; Acts 12:5; John 15:16. I am to Pray to __________________
   ____________________________________________________________________

C. In Whose Name Do I Pray?
   Study John 14:14 and John 16:24. I am to pray in _ _ _ _ _ _ ’ Name.

D. In Whose Power Am I To Pray?
   Read Ephesians 6:18 and Jude 20. I am to pray in (the power of ) the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
E. The Right Attitudes In Prayer

Listed below are some key attitudes in praying. Study the Scripture passages given, then jot each reference down next to the “prayer attitude” they teach.


1. Reverence:
2. Boldness:
3. Faith:
4. Thanksgiving:
5. Persistence
6. Dependence
7. Earnestness:
8. Confidence:
9. Openness:

**WHEN SHOULD I PRAY?**

There are two Bible answers to this question:

A. I Am To Pray _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . *I Thessalonians 5:17.*

   This means that we are to be in the attitude of prayer, ready to pray ("on praying ground") at all times.

   There is NO TIME when we cannot pray.

   Read also: *Luke 18:1; Romans 12:12; Colossians 4:2; Ephesians 6:18.*

B. I Am To Have Definite, Set Times Of Prayer

   1. Daniel prayed _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ times daily. *Daniel 6:10.*
   2. David prayed each _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . *Psalm 5:3.*
   3. The Lord Jesus prayed in the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . *Mark 1:35.*

   It is vital that you develop a pattern of regular prayer. Always begin the day with prayer. *Proverbs 8:17.*

**WHERE SHOULD I PRAY?**

There are three kinds of prayer found in the Word of God. Each of them ought to be part of the Christian’s prayer life:

A. Personal Prayer

   Read *Matthew 6:6*
1. Jesus calls the place for this kind of praying a C _ _ _ _ , which means we need to be where we can pray without interruption.
2. Jesus assures us God hears and answers our S _ _ _ _ prayers.

B. Public Prayer

1. This kind of praying is usually done in church meetings and gatherings of believers.
2. In such meetings the public prayer is worded by one at a time. I Corinthians 14:23, 40.
3. When one leads the congregation in prayer, all participate in the prayer and say “Amen” (“so be it”) at its conclusion. I Corinthians 14:16.
4. In mixed company, public prayers are expressed by men. I Corinthians 14:34; I Timothy 2:8.

C. Partnership Prayer

Read Matthew 18:19-20.

It will be a blessing in your life if you seek out another believer in the Church to become “prayer partners.” Ask God to lead you to someone with whom you can spend time in prayer together.

WILL MY PRAYERS ALWAYS BE ANSWERED?

A. There Are Two Conditions For Prayer To Be Answered

1. I John 5:14. “...according _ _ _ _ _ _ ...”
   How do we know God’s will? (See: John 15:7.) ____________________________

2. Matthew 21:22. “... _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ...”
   Why is it necessary to exercise faith when we pray? (See: Hebrews 11:6.)

B. God Always Answers Real Prayer, But In Three Possible Ways

   □ YES - Psalm 84:11c - Good things.
   □ NO - James 4:3 - Harmful things
   □ WAIT - Luke 11:8 - How much do you desire it?

WHAT ARE SOME HINDRANCES TO ANSWERED PRAYER?

B. S _ _ _ ISH motives . James 4:3.
C. Failure to _ _ _ _ _ _ others. Mark 11:24-25.
D. Poor relationships in M _ _ _ _ _ . I Peter 3:7.
E. Failure to L _ _ _ _ to God’s Word. Proverbs 28:9.

G. Stubbornness. *Zechariah 7:8-14.*


**WHAT THINGS SHOULD I PRAY FOR?**

A. Look up *Romans 10:1.*
   1. For whom was Paul concerned? _____________________________________________
   2. What was his prayer for them? _____________________________________________

B. Look up *I Timothy 2:1-4.*
   List three groups of people we are to pray for:
   1. _____________________________________________________________
   2. _____________________________________________________________
   3. _____________________________________________________________

C. What does the Lord want us to pray for, according to *Matthew 9:37, 38?*
   _____________________________________________________________

D. According to *Ephesians 6:19, 20,* what should we pray for those who serve the Lord in the Gospel ministry? _____________________________________________________________

E. *Matthew 5:44* instructs us to pray for whom? _____________________________________________________________

F. According to *I Samuel 12:23,* failure to pray for others is ____________.

G. Look up the following Scriptures and make a “prayer list” of things we should ask for ourselves.
   *Matthew 6:11*
   *James 1:5*
   *Matthew 26:41*
   *Psalm 19:14*
   *Psalm 37:5*
   *Psalm 34:4*
   *Psalm 51:2, 10*
   *Psalm 119:18*
   *Psalm 119:34*
Psalm 119:133

MEMORIZATION:
Try to commit to memory John 16:24.

Q  Questions Often Asked

Lesson Commenced: _______________  Lesson Checked: _______________

This series of Bible studies in the ABC’s Of Christians Growth program is specifically designed to teach you the basics of the Christian life. But as with most things in life, we never stop learning, and you will most certainly find yourself asking questions like, “What does the Bible say about…?” or “How may I...?”

Many answers to many questions will be found in the studies you have already done – or will yet do. It is strongly recommended that you review your past work from time, and especially anytime you have a question.

In this particular study, you will find Bible answers to a number of commonly asked questions that are not covered in this series. This is one study which will no doubt expand as different questions are asked – so don’t hesitate to ask your Older Brother (Older Sister) or the pastor anything you want to know from the Bible!
THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND WHEN ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE

1. The Bible is God’s **complete** revelation of Himself to man

2. **The Bible has the answer** – sometimes it requires diligent and searching study to find it, not because God wants to make things difficult, but because sinful, weak, finite, or perhaps just spiritually immature. Read: *Hebrews 5:11-14.*

3. There are some things we may never really understand, especially when it comes to His workings in our life and those around us. Most believers have a “list” of things they want to ask when they get to Heaven – but they know God already has the answer, and it’s the right one.

4. We are avoid _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ questions, *II Timothy 2:23,* along with _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and old _ _ _ _ fables, *I Timothy 4:7.*

   This really means our questions should pertain to faith, personal growth, godliness, and helpful Bible study. If all you want to do is “nail the preacher” or “trick your Older Brother, Old Sister,” you will likely succeed, but will not benefit anyone.

5. Be very careful you do not **MAJOR ON THE MINORS** or **MINOR ON THE MAJORS.** One of Satan’s traps is to get a believer to run off on some incidental hobby horse to the neglect of soul-winning, real Bible study, sweet fellowship, faithful Christian living, etc. Read: *I Timothy 6:3-5a.*

6. When you discover a Bible answer, put it into practice. Some answers you (your old nature) will not like. Nevertheless, put it into practice. Read: *James 1:22.*

**NOW TO SOME QUESTIONS:**

**WHAT HAPPENS TO INFANTS AND LITTLE CHILDREN IF THEY DIE?**

A. Read *Acts 13:22* and *II Samuel 23:1, 2.* Was King David saved? ________________________

B. Read *I Kings 2:10* and *Psalm 23:6.* Where did David go when he died? __________________________________________

C. Read *II Samuel 12:23.* When the child of David and Bathsheba died just one week old, David said, “I shall _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ him.”

This is Bible proof that little ones are safe in Jesus and will go to Heaven should they die. How sad that so many people have their babies sprinkled shortly after birth because they have been taught to fear dying “unbaptized.”

**WHAT IS THE “AGE OF ACCOUNTABILITY”?**

A. This is a non-Biblical term used to express the Bible teaching that a child is safe in Jesus until it reaches an age of understands right and wrong and is able to make deliberate choices in actions. At this point, a child can and needs to be saved.
B. There is not set age for this “age of accountability,” but the Bible indicates there is such an age for each child.

1. Read Deuteronomy 1:39. Children are “innocent” who have no knowledge between _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and _ _ _ _ .

2. Read Ezekiel 12:2. People are accountable for their actions when they have _ _ _ _ to _ _ _ _ and see _ _ _ _ , etc.

3. Read Matthew 19:16-20. The rich young man was to understand and keep the Ten Commandments from his _ _ _ _ _ on up.

Note: NEVER force or pressure your children into making a profession for Christ. ALWAYS pray they will be saved, guide them into spiritual paths, and be ready to lead them to Christ.

According to II Timothy 3:15, young children can learn the Scriptures which will lead them to the place of salvation.

According to I Samuel 3:1, 7, young children can even serve the Lord and be faithful. Great training for when they are saved!!

According to Mark 10:13-14, Jesus welcomes little children and taught the necessity of “child-like faith” – verse 15.

IS ABORTION RIGHT OR WRONG?

The act of terminating unwanted pregnancies is in epidemic stage around the world. The basic issue is whether life exists before birth; that is, in the womb.

A. Pro-abortionists argue that an embryo is just a mass of cells and tissue—simply a part of the mother’s body. To them, abortion is nothing different than a tonsillectomy.

1. Read Psalm 139:13-16. When did God take a vital interest in David?

_______________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

2. Read Psalm 51:5. When did David receive his sin nature? ______________________

_______________________________________________________________________

3. Read Jeremiah 1:5. When did the Lord first know Jeremiah? ______________________

_______________________________________________________________________

4. Read Luke 1:44. When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, her baby expressed the emotion of _ _ _ _ within her womb.


B. The conclusion of Scripture is that Life begins at conception.
Medical science supports this fact – an embryo has a separate heartbeat, brainwaves, and makes its own red and white cells. Abortion is murder.

Abortion is wrong.

DOES GOD PREDESTINATE PEOPLE TO SALVATION?

There is a very popular theory in religious circles which says that salvation is a matter of predestination. That is, you are saved because God predestined you to be saved. The logical, and often-stated corollary, is: “If some are predestined to Heaven, the rest are predestined to Hell.” This teaching (usually called “Calvinism”) says we have no choice in the matter; it was settled long before the world was created.

A. Calvinism says you are predestinated to receive Christ

B. The Bible says at the moment you receive Christ – as a Christian you have a great (pre-determined) destiny.

1. According to Romans 8:29, the believer is predestined to be _______________ to the ___________.

2. According to Ephesians 1:5, the believer is predestined to the _______________ of children; i.e., we become the sons (and daughters) of God.

3. According to Ephesians 1:11, the pre-determined destiny of each believer is called an I _______________.

Note: The moment Charles Philip Arthur George Windsor was born – he was predestined to become the King of England. No one would say he was predestined to be born!

IS HELL A REAL PLACE?

The doctrine of Hell and everlasting punishment is an unpopular subject today; and most cultured “churches,” as well as most of the cults, reject it.


1. Is this referred to as a parable? _______________

2. Was the rich man conscious in Hell? _______________

3. Could the rich man ever leave Hell? _______________

B. Read Matthew 25:41.

1. Hell was prepared for _______________.


1. The eternal region of the lost is called the _______________ of _______________.

2. Who are to be cast into this awful place? _______________

Who spoke these words?

**WHAT DID JESUS LOOK LIKE?**

Nobody knows! The religious artists centuries later portrayed Him as a pale-faced, long-haired, effeminate “hippy,” but this is nothing but wild imagination.

A. Read *Isaiah 53:2.* This prophecy of Christ says he would have no _ _ _ _ _ nor _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and no _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ that we should desire Him. He was not an “Adonis” – there was nothing physically attractive about Him.

B. Read *Matthew 26:48.* He did not stand out from the crowd. See also: *John 8:59* and *Luke 24:15-18.*

C. Read *I Corinthians 11:14.* Did Jesus have long hair?

D. It is certain Jesus looked like an average Jew. Olive complexion, short, dark hair and most likely a beard *Isaiah 50:6* – are more probable descriptions.

The fact that no Biblical description is given of our Savior is probably to prevent idolatrous worship of images and pictures. See: *Romans 1:23* and *I John 5:21.*

**SHOULD CHRISTIANS OBSERVE CHRISTMAS?**

Christmas has become a time of revelry and fleshly indulgence, and no Christian ought to join in such things – *Galatians 5:19-21; I Corinthians 5:11.*

Christmas is also a time given over to a lot of religious customs and ideas which have absolutely nothing to do with the Word of God. This is another area of danger for a Bible-believing Christian - *Colossians 2:8.*

In our Church we encourage God’s people to use this holiday time for evangelism. According to *John 3:16* the central message of the birth of Jesus Christ is “God seeking the salvation of man,” so there are two things we strongly suggest:

A. Use the opportunity of visiting with family and friends to share the greatest Gift there is with them. At least place a Gospel tract with every gift or card given.

B. Give sacrificially to missions at this time. Why not take up the challenge of giving to the Lord as much as you spend on Christmas giving to others?

When you think about Christmas, keep in mind the following Bible facts:

1. Jesus was **NOT** born on December 25. This was in the middle of winter, and shepherds would not have sheep out in snow!

2. There were **NOT** three wise men! Three men riding on camels over such a long distance through wild country infested with thieves and wild animals would have been fools!! There was a company of Magi-they brought three kinds of gifts.

3. The wise men did **NOT** meet with the shepherds in the stable.

   a) According to *Matthew 2:11* they came to a **H _ _ _ _** and saw Jesus as a **Y _ _ _ _ C**
b) Matthew 2:16 indicates the young child was almost __ __ __ years old at this time.

4. Telling our children the myth of Santa Claus is not wise. We are in fact telling a lie!

**SHOULD CHRISTIANS OBSERVE EASTER?**

In our society, Easter is the most solemn religious observance. The question is, does the Lord want us to set aside one time each year to remember His death and resurrection?

A. We remember these events when we meet on the __ __ __ __ day of the week. John 20:1; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2.

B. We remember these events when we meet to observe _____________________________________________. I Corinthians 11:24-26.

C. We remember these events when we witness Scriptural __ __ __ __ __. Romans 6:4.

Please keep in mind that the Lord Jesus Christ was crucified on a WEDNESDAY. He rose from the dead on a SUNDAY. Matthew 12:40. (This is the reason we never have a “Good Friday” service.)

**HOW CAN I KNOW GOD’S PARTICULAR WILL FOR MY LIFE?**

A. Every believer ought to pray. “L __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __.__

B. The Lord reveals His will for our lives through the following means:

1. The BIBLE. Psalm 119:105
   
   God will NEVER, EVER lead you contrary to His Word.

   
   This is through a firm witness in our hearts.

3. The C __ __ __ __ __ __ of others. Proverbs 11:14.
   
   ✤ Your Parents. Ephesians 6:1; Proverbs 3:1-4; 4:1-4; 13:1. The insights, wisdom, and advice of parents should be sought and considered.
   
   ✤ Your Pastor. Hebrews 13:17. Always feel free to talk to your pastor about anything.
   
   ✤ Your Church. Acts 15:25, 28a. In areas of major decision, especially in Christians service, the advice of your church should be sought.


   When these four things all harmonize and point in the same direction, we may be certain of God’s guidance.

**IS IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO REACH A STAGE OF “SINLESS PERFECTION”?**
A. According to Galatians 5:17, each believer experiences an inward battle between the ____________ and the ____________.

B. According to I John 1:8-2:1, anyone who says they no longer sin has __________________________________________.

C. One of the most victorious Christians of all time, the Apostle Paul, said that within his old nature (the flesh) dwelleth ____________. Romans 7:15-21.

D. The only time a Christian will be sinless and perfect is when delivered from the ____________. Romans 7:24.

E. Nevertheless, according to Titus 2:12 and I John 3:3, that kind of life should Christian strive to lead by God’s grace? __________________________________________.

WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT MY WORRIES?

A. According to Psalm 127:2, it is ____________ to worry.

B. According to Romans 8:28, God works in ____________ for our good.

C. Worry is a lack of faith or trust in a great God. Lack of faith is UNBELIEF. According to Romans 14:23 and Hebrews 3:12, unbelief is ____________.

D. What are we to cast upon the Lord? I Peter 5:7 __________________________________________.

E. We are to be careful (“full of care”, anxious) for ____________, but to bring everything to the Lord in ____________. Philippians 4:6-7. When we do this, God gives us the ____________ of God which passeth all ____________.

F. Read Matthew 6:25-34.

WHY DO I SOMETIMES GO THROUGH TRIALS?

All believers will pass through various trials in life. Some trials come from Satan, some from other people, some from our own doing, some from life in general, and some from the Lord.

A. According to I Peter 4:12, we are not to think such things ____________.

B. According to I Peter 1:7, trials are ____________ events in our lives because they purify our faith in God.

C. According to James 1:2-3, trials help us to be ____________.

D. Study I Corinthians 10:13 and II Peter 2:9. In your own words explain the promise God gives you when trials and temptations (testings) come. __________________________________________

E. Read Hebrews 13:5-6. Why can we fear not what men may do to us? ____________________
F. According to II Timothy 3:12, what is one reason we may suffer the trial of persecution or ridicule?

G. What did the apostles feel when they were persecuted? Acts 5:41

H. According to John 15:18-22, the S _ _ _ _ _ is not greater than his _ _ _ _ _.

I. What does Jesus give to the Christian that the world cannot know, understand, or have? _ _ _ _ _ John 14:27; John 16:33.

J. What are we to do in times of trouble? I Peter 5:7

QUESTIONS I WISH TO ASK

STUDY #18

R The Return Of Jesus Christ

Lesson Commenced: _________________ Lesson Checked: _________________

One of the greatest areas of Bible study deals with the subject of Bible PROPHECY and “things to come.”

It is such a large subject and so detailed that this particular study can only be introductory. As you grow in your Christian life, you learn many things relating to the future. The aim of this lesson is to give you a basic framework with which to build.

The Return of our Lord Jesus Christ is one of the fundamental teachings of the Word of God. For the believer, the coming of Christ is referred to in Titus 2:13 as the B _ _ _ _ _ H _ _ _.

THE PROMISE OF CHRIST’S COMING
B. Read Acts 1:11. The two angels said to the disciple, “This __ Jesus ...shall so __ in __ manner ...”
C. Read Hebrews 9:28. This promise states that Christ shall appear the __ T __ .
D. Read I John 2:28 and I John 3:2. Both this verses say “He (Christ) __ appear.”
E. The last promise of the Lord Jesus Christ in the Bible is:

THE FIRST COMING OF JESUS CHRIST

The first coming of Jesus Christ to earth (sometimes called the “first advent”) is now a fact of history. Yet, before His coming into the world – first as a babe in Bethlehem, then as the crucified, buried, and risen again Saviour –all of these wonderful events were themselves Bible prophecies.

There were hundreds of Old Testament prophecies relating to the First Coming of Jesus, each one was fulfilled exactly to the letter! There are EVEN MORE prophecies relating to His Second Coming, and they will also be fulfilled literally.

Below are some of the major prophecies concerning the First Coming of Christ – and their actual fulfillment. Read these, then write out what the prophecy was.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Testament Prophecy</th>
<th>New Testament Fulfillment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isaiah 7:14</td>
<td>Matthew 1:23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genesis 49:10</td>
<td>Hebrews 7:14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micah 5:2</td>
<td>Luke 2:11,15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zechariah 9:9</td>
<td>Matthew 21:4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 41:9</td>
<td>John 13:18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zechariah 11:12-13</td>
<td>Matthew 26:15; 27:9-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psalm 69:21</td>
<td>Matthew 27:34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psalm 22:1</td>
<td>Matthew 27:46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaiah 53:9</td>
<td>Matthew 27:57-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 16:8-11</td>
<td>Acts 2:27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 22:18</td>
<td>Matthew 27:35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE SECOND COMING OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IS IN TWO STAGES

In a sense, the First Coming of the Lord Jesus was in two parts:

CRADLE... 30years ...CROSS
So too, with His return, the coming of the Lord Jesus will be in **TWO** distinct stages. We use two words to distinguish these phases:

Rapture…7 Years…Revelation

Christ coming For His Saints

Christ coming With His Saints

**THE RAPTURE OF THE SAINTS**

This is the next event on God’s prophetic calendar.

A. The term “rapture” is not found in the Bible, but its meaning “caught up” most certainly is.

B. Read the following key Scriptures about the Rapture:

- [ ] I Thessalonians 4:13-18
- [ ] I Corinthians 15:51, 52
- [ ] Philippians 3:20, 21

Now, answer the following as either **TRUE** (T) or **FALSE** (F):

1. The Rapture is an instantaneous event. ( )
2. The Rapture concerns only deceased Christians, that is, only those who “sleep” in Christ. ( )
3. At the Rapture, the Lord sends His angels together the saints and bring them to Heaven. ( )
4. At the Rapture, believers (saints) will be caught up into the air to meet Christ. ( )
5. At the Rapture, all Christians, living and dead, will receive a glorified resurrection body. ( )
6. According to Matthew 24:42, the Rapture will be announced to give us time to get ready. ( )
7. According to II Peter 3:3-9, the only reason the Rapture has not yet taken place is that the Lord wants to save sinners. ( )

**THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST**

This is the **second phase** of the return of Jesus Christ.

A. Read Revelation 19:11-16. Here the Lord Jesus is called:

1. F _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and T _ _ _ (v. 11).
2. The W _ _ _ of G _ _ (v. 13).
3. The K _ _ _ _ of K _ _ _ _ _ and _ _ _ _ _ of _ _ _ _ _ _.
B. According to *Revelation 19:14* and *Jude 14,15*, the Lord Jesus Christ will return with ___________________.

C. Read *Zechariah 14:1-4*.
   When Jesus Christ returns, He will set His feet down on the M _ _ _ _ of O _ _ _ _.

D. Read *II Thessalonians 1:7-10*.
   The Revelation of Jesus Christ will be a time of V _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and D _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

**BETWEEN THE RAPTURE AND THE REVELATION**

A. The Old Testament prophet, Daniel, indicates there will be a seven-year period between the two phases of the Second Coming of Christ.
   1. *Daniel 9:24* speaks of a time period of 70 weeks.
   2. *Daniel 9:25* shows that these “weeks” are in fact “heptads” or seven-year periods.

   From the going forth of the Commandment to rebuild Jerusalem to Messiah (Christ) would be 69 weeks. From 445 B.C. to 30 A.D. equals 69x7, or 483 Jewish years, or 475 sidereal years. This part has been fulfilled.

   3. *Daniel 9:27* speaks of the 70th week yet to begin. The present Day of Grace has stopped God’s prophetic clock at the end of the 69th week when Messiah was cut off, i.e., crucified.

   4. The final seven years of Daniel’s prophecy will begin with the Rapture when the Day of Grace ends and Judgment begins.

B. The following diagram will show the main events that will occur during this time period:

   ![Diagram](image)

   - RAPTURE —— Judgment Seat ______ Marriage Supper —— REVELATION
   - Today —— Great Tribulation —— Millennium

**THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST**

This event takes place in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ after the Rapture.

A. According to *Romans 14:10*, who will take part in this Judgment? ___________________
B. According to Romans 14:12, what will we do in this Judgment? ________________________

C. According to II Corinthians 5:10, what aspect of our lives will come under scrutiny at this Judgment? ________________

D. Read carefully I Corinthians 3:11-15.
   1. The fire of this Judgment will try the W _ _ _ _ of the Christian.
   2. According to verse 12, these works are likened to _ _ _ _ , _ _ _ _ _ _ , precious _ _ _ _ _ ; _ _ _ _ , _ _ _ _ , _ _ _ _ _ _ .
   3. According to verse 15, can a Christian who has never acceptably served the Lord now be lost and cast into Hell? ________________________________
   4. According to verse 14, what will the Christian who has acceptably served the Lord receive? ________________________________

E. The Bible speaks of these rewards as “crowns.” There are five crowns we can receive as a reward for our life as a Christian:
   1. The Crown of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . I Thessalonians 2:19 This is the “soul-winner’s” crown!
   2. The Crown of _ _ _ _ . James 1:12 This is the “faithful Christian’s” crown.
   3. The Crown of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . II Timothy 4:8 This is the crown for those who live and look for the Lord return.
   4. The I _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Crown. I Corinthians 9:25 This is the crown for the “victorious Christian.”
   5. The Crown of _ _ _ _ _ _ . I Peter 5:4 This crown is for the “faithful pastors.”

THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB

A. According to Ephesians 5:22-32, the relationship between the Lord Jesus Christ and His churches is likened to that between H _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and W _ _ _ .

B. According to II Corinthians 11:2, the Church at Corinth was E _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (engaged) to one Husband – Christ.

C. From John 3:29 and Revelation 22:17, one of the metaphors used of New Testament churches is “The B _ _ _ _ of Christ.”

D. The union of Bride and Bridegroom occurs at the Rapture and the wedding is called in Revelation 19:7-9 the M _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of the _ _ _ _ _ .

THE GREAT TRIBULATION
While the Judgment Seat of Christ and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb are taking place in Heaven, on earth is an entirely different scene.

A. Read Matthew 24:15-24. According to verse 21, this awful time is called the **Great Tribulation**.

B. According to Daniel 12:1, this period will be “…such as _ _ _ _ _ _ W _ _ since there was a nation.”

C. According to Jeremiah 30:7, this will be a time of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ; i.e., it has specifically to do with the Jews and the Nation of Israel.

D. According to Revelation 12:9, _ _ _ _ _ _ will be cast down to the earth.

E. According to II Thessalonians 2:3-9, the **Mystery of Iniquity** will be revealed during this time. This person is commonly referred to as The Antichrist. He is the Devil incarnate. See: I John 2:18.

F. The Book of the Revelation, Chapters 6 through 18, deals with the events that will take place during Daniel’s 70th Week, The Great Tribulation. It is a horrifying record of war, rebellion, catastrophe, and desolation.

This is a study on its own. Please ask the pastor if you desire further studies or information in this area. There are many books available today, but **not all** can be fully recommended.

G. According to Matthew 24:29-30, the Second Coming of Christ to the earth occurs at the:

- [ ] BEGINNING
- [ ] END 
- [x] MID-WAY POINT 

of the Great Tribulation.

---

**THE MILLENNIUM**

A. Following the return of Christ in glory, He will judge the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . Matthew 25:31-32

B. According to Joel 3:12-16, this judgment will take place in the Valley of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

C. According to Revelation 20:2-3, Satan will be bound for __________ years.

D. According to Revelation 20:4, Christ will reign on the earth for __________ years.

E. According to Isaiah 2:4, the Millennium will be a time of ________________ ________________

F. According to Isaiah 11:1-10, the Millennium will be a time of ________________ ________________

G. According to Zechariah 14:16, the Millennium will be a time of ________________

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*ABC’s Of Christian Growth*
MEMORIZATION:

Try to commit to memory Titus 2:11-13.

STUDY #19

S  Separation

Lesson Commenced: ________________  Lesson Checked: ________________

The issue of “separation” is one of the distinguishing features of fundamental Baptists. It is subject which has to do with the way we live, the way we conduct ourselves as a Church, and – yes – standards.

Such a study could quite easily become just a list of “taboos” – but that is only part of what the Lord intends. As you enter into this study of the Bible, it is important for you to grasp the principles involved as well as the practices outlined.

We are living in a world of rapidly declining moral and spiritual standards. This decay is seriously affecting Christians and churches to the point that it is difficult to tell Christians and non-Christians apart.

EXACTLY WHAT IS MEANT BY “SEPARATION”?

There are three things for you to understand.
A. There Are Four Words Used In The Bible Which Have The Same Meaning:

“Separation” “Santification” “Holiness” “Saints”

All have the basic meaning of “Set Apart”

1. When we say that God is Holy, that means He is “set apart” from all His creation in righteousness.
2. When we say the Bible is Holy, we mean it is “set apart” from all other books.
3. When we are taught to sanctify the Lord is our hearts, this means we are to set God apart from other idols.

Remember this definition.

B. There Are Two Aspects To Separation In Your Life:

Positional Separation Practical Separation

In Christ, I have been set-apart unto God As a Christian, I am to live as set apart unto God

Hebrews 10:10 I Peter 1:15

C. There Are Two Important Features To Separation, Two Sides Of The One Coin:

Separation to the Lord Separation from Ungodliness

(Romans 12:1) (Romans 12:2)

WHAT IS THE BASIS OF PRACTICAL SEPARATION?

A. The Basis Of God’s Nature

I Peter 1:16: “Be ye _ _ _ _ ; for I am _ _ _ _ .”

B. The Basis Of Redemption

Read I Corinthians 6:19-20. Complete the following:

1. “Ye are not _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .”
2. “Ye are _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ with a _ _ _ _ _ _ .”
3. “Therefore _ _ _ _ _ _ God in your _ _ _ _ and in your _ _ _ _ _ _ 
which are _ _ _ ’.”

C. The Basis Of Regeneration

Look up *II Corinthians 5:17*.

1. Christians are described as being a _ _ _ creature.
2. Old things (ways, etc.) have _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

D. The Basis Of God’s Word

Scriptures such as *II Corinthians 6:17* plainly command us to “come out from among them 
and be ye _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.”

**SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD**

A. According to *John 15:19*, the believer is IN the world, but ought not to be _ _ _ the world –
because the Lord has chosen us _ _ _ _ _ _ _ the world.

B. According to *I John 2:15*, the believer is to “_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ the world, neither the 
_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
SOME AREAS OF PERSONAL SEPARATION

A. The Things I Will Allow My Eyes To See

1. Psalm 101:3: “I will set _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ before mine eyes.”
2. Job 31:1, 7. In this verses we learn that Job made a C _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ with his eyes never to look upon evil.

This area of personal separation will make a difference in your life in the area of:

- **Attending Movies:**
  Almost all Hollywood-style movies – even those rated “G”- spew out violence, adultery, drunkenness, and ungodly living. Christians ought not support this industry.

- **Watching Television:**
  If you own a T.V. set, the most important control is the “OFF” switch. The garbage that is brought into your home, the laziness it promotes, and the influence it exerts over young minds requires real wisdom and firm control.

- **Books & Magazines:**
  Filthy and pornographic publications should never be in the possession of a Christian. Don’t pay any attention to women’s magazines with their horoscopes, fashions, and “romance”.

B. The Places I will Allow Myself To Go

We are taught that the Lord Jesus may come at any moment, and that we should never be ashamed to meet Him. (I John 2:28) there are many places where Christians ought not go – the dance hall, the liquor outlets, the gambling establishments, etc. (The spiritual reasons why will be covered in Study #24.)

C. The Things I Wear

The area of fashions is a difficult one the Christian. This is because fashions go through cycles of extremes – from weird to conservative, from short-short to ankle length, from modest to provocative, etc. The Bible does, however, give, instruction in this area.

1. The fashion of the world “_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _” I Corinthians 7:31.
2. The standard for Christian women is _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ apparel. I Timothy 2:9.
3. Bare thighs (as with mini-skirts and shorts) is equated with nakedness, according to Isaiah 47:2-3.
4. Short hair on women is a _ _ _ _ _ _ , according to I Corinthians 11:6. This passage goes on to teach that a woman’s long hair is a token of her subjection to her husband and to God – verse 15.
5. Likewise, long hair on men is improper. I Corinthians 11:14.
6. **What about pants and slacks on women?** Current fashions dictate that women get around in pants as an acceptable means of dress. This is unwise for the following reasons:
a) The Bible teaches that from the beginning God intended men and women to be separate. This is the basic of Deuteronomy 22:5 in which the Lord forbids “unisex.” Women should dress like ladies; men should dress like men.

b) God made men and women sexually different, but mutually attractive. Men are enticed by the sight of a women’s body (hence the use of scantily-clad females in advertising). When a women wears pants (or any tight-fitting or low-cut clothing), the shape of her body is accentuated and is provocative to a man. See: Matthew 5:28 and I Thessalonians 4:4-7.

c) It is often stated: “Slack-suits are women’s clothing” – which is corrects from a fashion-world point of view. However practice shows when women wear slacks, teenagers wear tight levis – it’s hard to point out the differences.

D. The Things I Say

1. Ephesians 4:29 teaches against _ _ _ _ _ _ speech.

2. Ephesians 5:19 teaches us that a Christian’s conversation ought to be Christ-centered.

3. Colossians 4:6 says our speech should always be with _ _ _ _ _ _.

Note: Every language has a list of curse words. Christians should not use them! Never be heard using the precious Name of the Lord Jesus Christ (Philippians 2:9) or God in careless speech. Euphemisms (words used in place of curse words, such as “Gees,” “By Jove,” “Gosh,” etc.) should be avoided also.

E. The People I Associate With

1. According to Psalm 1:1, a man is blessed when he walketh _ _ _ _ in the C _ _ _ _ _ _ of the U _ _ _ _ _ _ .

2. According to I Corinthians 5:11, we are not to keep _ _ _ _ _ _ with Christians who are worldly and backslidden.

3. According to Proverbs 22:24, we should steer clear of the _ _ _ _ _ _ man.

SEPARATION IN CLOSE PARTNERSHIPS

A. II Corinthians 6:14 warns the Christians against being unequally _ _ _ _ _ _ together with _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

B. The greatest application of this principle is in the area of marriage. It is wrong for a young person who is a Christian to date an unsaved person. It is a sin for a Christian to marry a non-Christian.

Young Person – If you are planning to get married, first pray and ask God to give you the partner of His choice, then look for God’s answer in your own Church (or Churches of like faith and order).

SEPARATION IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD
We are living in an ecumenical age where all religions and branches of Christendom are coming together in religious unity.

When fundamental Baptists refuse to have any part with the World Council of Churches, or fellowship with non-Baptist religious groups, or even work together with other Baptists, they are often called “narrow-minded,” “unloving,” “breakaways,” and “extremists,” etc.

A. The Bible says in Ephesians 5:11 we are to have _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ with the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ works of darkness.

B. Amos 3:3 asks, “Can two walk together except they be _ _ _ _ _ _ ?”

C. II John 9-10 states that we are to have nothing to do with those who abide not in the doctrine of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

D. According to Romans 16:17, we are to _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ those which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ which we have learned, and _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ them.

THREE EXCUSES CHRISTIANS OFTEN USE FOR NOT LIVING SEPARATED LIVES

A. Other Christians Don’t Have Your Standards

It is true that many Christians see nothing wrong with rock music, worldly fashions, questionable amusements, etc. – but that doesn’t make them right. We need to study the Bible and form Bible-based convictions; then live by them.

Read James 4:17.

B. The Most Important Thing Is To Win Souls, and to do this I have to be acceptable to the lost

No! You need to be acceptable to your Lord. It is NEVER right to do wrong in order to accomplish a right!

I Thessalonians 5:22 says, “ _ _ _ _ _ _ from _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of evil.”

C. I Have Liberty In Christ

1. True, but liberty is NOT license. Liberty is the freedom to do RIGHT (not the freedom to do anything).

2. We are not to use our liberty as an occasion to the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . Galatians 5:13.

3. Our liberty is not to be used as an excuse for enslaving habits. I Corinthians 6:12 says we ought not be brought under the _ _ _ _ _ _ of any.

4. Our liberty is restricted to the things that E _ _ _ _ _ . I Corinthians 10:23.

5. Liberty is not an excuse for hiding sin. It is not to be a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . I Peter 2:16.
6. Our Christian liberty is never to be a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to a weaker Christian. *I Corinthians 8:9.*

**PRINCIPLES FOR LIVING A SEPARATED LIFE**

There are many particular activities not named specifically in the Bible – such as smoking, drugs, mixed swimming, etc. Here are some principles or guidelines you can use when faced with a questionable practice:

A. **Is It Scriptural?**

Does the Word of God have anything directly to say on the matter? Read *Psalm 119:15, 105.*

B. **Can I Do This In The Name Of The Lord?**

Write out *Colossians 3:17_____________________________ ____________________________
_______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

C. **Will Others Be Hindered In Their Salvation Or Spiritual Growth by what I do?**

Read *Romans 14:21.*

D. **Do I Have Some Doubts About It?**

An old saying: “When in doubt – don’t!”

*Romans 14:22-23* says doubt is a lack of faith, which is _ _ _ _ .

E. **Would What I Want To Do Be Acceptable To The Lord?**

Read *Ephesians 5:10.* Always ask the questions:

“Can I take the Lord Jesus there?”

“Would He join in with me?”

“Would He do it?”

This will solve most of your problems.

**MEMORIZATION:**

Try to commit to memory *I Thessalonians 5:22.*
STUDY #20

T \hspace{1cm} Tithing and Stewardship

Lesson Commenced: ____________ Lesson Checked: ____________

This lesson goes right to the heart of your relationship with God. Many Christians are “found out” here because their lives are motivated by \textit{SELF} rather than the \textit{SPIRIT} of God.

Salvation is a free gift from God! Eternal security is a sure promise of God! In other words, we \textit{DO NOTHING} to get saved or remain saved. Praise God for this!

When we are born again, we are adopted into the family of God. We are His children, and He is our Heavenly Father. In any family the children have responsibilities. In this study you are going to learn about your own responsibilities as a member of God’s family.

\textbf{PRINCIPLES OF STEWARDSHIP}

Before you progress into this lesson, it is absolutely vital that you see and understand these principles:
A. Read Psalm 24:1. “The earth is the ___’_.”
   Read Haggai 2:8. “The ___ is mine, and the ___.”
   Read Exodus 19:5. “… for all the ___ is ___.”

   **PRINCIPLE #1: EVERYTHING BELONGS TO ________**

   1. Who was the master in this story? ________________________________
   2. Who was the servant in this story? ________________________________
   3. According to v.4, what was Joseph made? __________________________
   4. According to v.4, what was put into Joseph’s hand? ____________________

   **PRINCIPLE #2: STEWARDSHIP IS THE MANAGEMENT OF THE AFFAIRS OF ANOTHER.**

   To whom did the Lord entrust His wealth? ________________________________

   **PRINCIPLE #3: ______________ CHRISTIAN IS A STEWARD.**

D. Read I Corinthians 4:2.

   **PRINCIPLE #4: IT IS REQUIRED OF STEWARDS THAT THEY BE __________.**

**AREAS OF STEWARDSHIP**

Stewardship is often misunderstood – many think it relates only *MONEY*. Money is *part* of God’s plan for stewardship, and it is important enough to be considered in some detail later, but it is only part of God’s overall plan for you.

Before looking at some of the areas requiring our stewardship, write down the four principles you have just studied.

   #1:
   #2:
   #3:
   #4:
Every good thing we have is called a _ _ _ _ which comes from God (James 1:17). As stewards, you and I are responsible to God in the use of such things. Below are some of the more obvious areas over which we have been made stewards:

A. Stewardship Of TIME

1. According to Ephesians 5:16, we are to _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ the time. This means to make every minute count for God.

2. According to James 4:14, our time on earth is compared to a V _ _ _ _ (in the light of eternity).

3. According to Romans 13:11-12, what kind of Christian do you think the Lord wants you to be? __________________________________________________________________ __________________________________________________________________

4. According to II Timothy 2:4a, what is one of the greatest stumbling blocks for Christians in the management of God-given time? __________________________________________________________________

5. According to Hebrews 10:25, what is one area in which we are to give back to God the time He gives to us? __________________________________________________________________

6. How much time do you really give to God??

Consider the opportunities presented in our Church:-

□ Sunday School .................1 hour.
□ Morning Preaching .............1 hour.
□ Training Hour ..................1 hour.
□ Evening Preaching .................1 hour.
□ Mid-week Prayer ..................1 hour.
□ Visitation ...............................1 hour.

TOTAL: ................................7 hours.

(7 hours per week is less than 5% of the total time God gives us. It is about 7% of our total hours awake, and if we have a 40-hour-a-week job, it is about 10% of our “available” time.)

B. Stewardship Of Our TALENTS

Read Matthew 25:14-30. This is a parable the Lord Jesus told to teach us about stewardship.

1. What did the Lord give to His servants? T _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
   (In Bible days a talent was an expensive coin, but today it refers to natural God-given abilities.)

2. Did every servant receive a talent? __________________________

3. Did every servant receive the same number of talents? ________________
4. What was the basic of the Lord’s dispensing of responsibility to His servants? See v.15 - “… each man according to his several _ _ _ _ _ _ _.”

5. According to verse 19, what did the Lord do when He came back? ______________

6. What did the Lord say to those who had been good stewards? ______________

7. Answer the following questions as either TRUE (T) or FALSE (F):
   a) I have been given at least one talent. (   )
   b) I am to use my talent(s) for Christ. (   )
   c) I will not have to give an account to the Lord for my talents. (   )
   d) If I don’t use it, I’ll lose it. (   )
   e) My major concern should be to see how many talents I have been given. (   )

8. Many Christians throw up their hands and say, “I CAN’T do anything for the Lord in my Church!” What does Philippians 4:13 have to say about such an attitude?

9. Read I Corinthians 12:12-27. This passage likens our Church to a “body,” and calls it the “Body of Christ.” Each individual member is like a part of the human body.
   a) We cannot all be the same thing – verse 19.
   b) God has put you into a church for a definite function – verse 18.
   c) Every member of our Church is N _ _ _ _ _ _ _ -verse 22.

C. Stewardship Of Our TESTIMONY
   1. According to Philippians 2:15e, we are to ”shine as _ _ _ _ _ _ _ in the world.”
   2. According to Matthew 5:14-16, good stewardship involves ______________

STEWARDSHIP OF OUR TREASURE

The same principles of stewardship which apply to our time, talents, and testimony are given for the management of our MONEY.

ALL the money you have and receive IS FROM GOD, and IS GOD’S.

Look up Deuteronomy 8:18. Even through we may earn our money through the labor we put forth, this verse tells us it is the _ _ _ _ _ _ thy _ _ _ _ Who gives us power (ability) to get it.

The stewardship of God’s money is usually referred to in the Bible as:-
The following Scriptures will teach you what the Bible says concerning tithes and offerings:

A. Look up and compare Genesis 14:20 with Hebrews 7:2. What is a tithe? __________________

____________________________________________________________________________

B. What would be a tithe from $200.00? _____________________________________________

C. Is the practice of tithing for New Testament Christians? _____________________________

1. Some people (who do not want to tithe) say tithing was an Old Testament practice for Jews only. It was given under the Law, and the Christian is not under Grace – Romans 6:14b. However, study the following Scriptures:

   A _ _ _ _ _ _ Commencend it – Genesis 14:18-20.
   J _ _ _ _ Continued it – Genesis 28:20-22.
   M _ _ _ _ Confirmed it – Leviticus 27:30.
   M _ _ _ _ _ _ Commanded it – Malachi 3:10.
   J _ _ _ _ Commissioned it – Matthew 23:23.
   P _ _ _ Conformed it – I Corinthians 16:2.

2. A study of these Scriptures shows that tithing is a SCRIPTURAL PRINCIPLE. Abraham and Jacob tithed 500 years BEFORE the Law was instituted. Moses, Malachi, and Jesus spoke of tithing DURING the period of the Law. The Apostle Paul explained tithing AFTER the Law.

   **Christians ought to tithe!**

D. How should Christians practice tithing?

1. Look up II Corinthians 5:14. Under the Law tithing was commanded. Under Grace, we do not tithe legalistically, but because we love the Lord. “For the _ _ _ _ _ of Christ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ us ...”

2. Do you think God would ask less love, less faith, and less cheerful giving from a New Testament Christian that from a Jew under the Law? Tithing, for the Christian, is not a matter of bondage.

E. Where should a Christian place his or her tithe?

1. According to Malachi 3:10, the tithes were to be brought into the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . For the Jews, this storehouse was the Temple at Jerusalem.
2. According to Acts 4:35, 37 and Acts 5:2, the Christians brought their tithes and offerings to the A_ _ _ _ _ _ F _ _ _ _.

3. According to I Corinthians 16:2, we are to lay up our giving in S_ _ _ _ _ _ . Subsequent verses show this store was the Church at Corinth, to whom the Epistle was first addressed.

4. Today the storehouse for your tithe is your CHURCH. It is not God’s plan for you to give your tithe wherever you decide.

F. Why are we to place our tithe into our Church?

1. Malachi 3:10 says, “…that there may be _ _ _ _ _ _ in my _ _ _ _ _ _ .” The tithes and offerings were used for the Temple and the Temple ministry (i.e., the priests, etc.).

2. Read I Corinthians 9:13-14. Verse 13 relates to the Old Testament practice. Verse 14 carries this practice over to New Testament churches. Your tithes and offerings are for the support, upkeep, and ministry of your Church. Tithes should never be designated—they are to be left free for use as the church body decides.

G. What does God call us if we refuse to tithe?

Malachi 3:8 ________________________________________________________________

H. What is the promise God gives to those who faithfully tithe? Malachi 3:10b ________________________________________________________________

I. Whose is the tithe?

Leviticus 27:30. The _ _ _ _ _ _ ’ _ . Ten percent of your gross income IS NOT YOURS – it belongs to God.

J. How can I please my Lord when tithing?

1. Matthew 6:33: Give the Lord _ _ _ _ _ _ place in everything.

2. Proverbs 3:9: Honor the Lord with my _ _ _ _ _ _ fruits.

   (This means to set aside the tithe first – before all other bills and expenses. If you leave the tithe until last, God usually misses out.)

3. I Corinthians 16:2: Bring the tithe on the _ _ _ _ _ _ day.

WHAT ABOUT AN “OFFERING”?

Many people would feel they have done God a great favor just by tithing! But we do not GIVE the tithe – it’s not ours give. Only after we have faithfully tithed can we give an offering unto the Lord.
- Malachi 3:8 speaks of “tithes AND ________.”
- Tithing requires an **obedient** heart, but giving requires a ________ heart - Exodus 35:5.
- Study Ezra 1:4; 3:5; 7:16; 8:28. The Bible refers to offerings as ________ offerings.
- According to II Corinthians 8:5, the people in the churches of Macedonia first ________ to the Lord.
- According to II Corinthians 9:7, what kind of giver does God love? ______________________

If we tithe and also give an offering, will the Lord allow us to suffer and go without the necessities of life? *II Corinthians 9:8* ________________

**MEMORIZATION:**

Try to commit to memory *Luke 6:38*

Having studied the Word of God concerning the subject of Tithes and Offerings, and realizing it is God’s perfect will for me to obey Him by tithing systematically on my income, I now resolve to make tithing a practice in my life – and to give an offering to the Lord as He speaks to my heart.

Signed: ____________________________ Date: _______________________  

**STUDY #21**

**U** Unity

LessonCommenced: _________________ LessonChecked: _________________

We hear a lot of talk about **UNITY** today.

On the world political scene we have the **UNITED NATIONS**, and we note the many suggestions and moves toward a “**ONE WORLD**” system – involving the monetary system, and even a common language.

More importantly, we see taking place in our day the **Ecumenical Movement** which seeks to unite **Christians** and “churches” under the banner of a **ONE-WORLD RELIGION**.
Because there is so much talk about Christian unity these days, and because our Church is not involved at all in the ecumenical movement, the purpose of this study is to teach you what the BIBLE has to say about unity – the true and the false.

MAN’S FIRST ATTEMPT AT “UNITY”

Turn in your Bible to Genesis 11. Here you will read about events which took place soon after the great world-wide flood of Noah’s day – about 2300 B.C.

A. According to Genesis 9:1, God’s command to Noah and his sons was to replenish the _ _ _ _ _ _ .

B. According to Genesis 11:2, instead of obeying God, the descendants of Noah remained in one place called the Plain of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

C. According to Genesis 11:1, the whole earth was of ONE _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and of ONE _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (I.E., they were all talking about one thing – unity!) See: Genesis 11:4f.

D. According to Genesis 11:4, the inhabitants of the world decided to build two things.

1. A _ _ _ _ _ _ : an attempt to have political unity.

2. A _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ : an attempt to achieve religious unity. Archaeologists have identified this as a “ziggurat” – a tower for religious purposes.

E. According to Genesis 11:5-8, would you say the Lord God was pleased with man’s attempt to bring about a “one-world” situation? ____________________________

F. What was the name given to this attempt? Genesis 11:9. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

MAN’S FINAL ATTEMPT AT “UNITY”

In the last book of the Bible – the Book of The Revelation – Chapters 6 through 19 cover future events which will take place upon the earth after the Rapture, and over a seven-year-period referred to as the Tribulation.

Without going into a detailed study of Bible prophecy, it becomes apparent that in these godless days there will come about some form of unity.

A. According to Revelation 13:7, the “Beast” (the Antichrist) will exercise political power over ALL kindreds and tongues and _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

B. According to Revelation 14:8, the center of this political unity is called _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

C. According to Revelation 17:1, the great “one-world” religious system of the last days is referred to as the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

(We identify this as a religious system because of Revelation 2:20-22 and because the Lord’s true churches are likened to “pure, chaste virgins” by way of contrast – II Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:25-27; Revelation 19:7-8.)

D. God identifies this one-world “church of the Antichrist” as M _ _ _ _ _ _ _ , B _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . Revelation 17:5.
E. According to Revelation 17:1, 15, this religious system sits upon “peoples, and multitudes, and __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ ___
This refers to the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (I Thessalonians 4:8), who is referred to in John 16:13 and I John 4:6 as the _ _ _ _ _ _ of _ _ _ _ _ _.
He will never mix together truth and error.

Departure from the Word of God is giving heed to seducing _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (I Timothy 4:1)
Babylon will be the hold of every foul _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Revelation 18:2)
Believe not _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (I John 4:1)
The greatest “ecumenical spirit” today is the Charismatic Movement!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ONE _ _ _ _ (Ephesians 4:4)</th>
<th>The World council of Churches espouses its “mission” of the social Gospel. It seeks to bring about the utopian dream society through liberation theology and Marxist revolution. The W.C.C. seeks to fulfill Revelation 21:1 through its own agency.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The one hope (for the believer and this world) is the glorious _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Titus 2:13)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONE _ _ _ _ (Ephesians 4:5)</td>
<td>The Church of Rome seeks to unite all Christendom under the Lordship of the Pope! Many within the ecumenical movement only pay lip-service to Jesus Christ, calling Him “Lord”, but denying the reality when they do not the _ _ _ _ _ _ which He says. (Luke 6:46; John 14:15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This refers to _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ according to Philippians 2:11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONE _ _ _ _ (Ephesians 4:5)</td>
<td>The official “Statement of Faith” of the W.C.C. is quite short and very general – it has to be, in order to accommodate such a wide spectrum of beliefs held by the various denominational constituents. Because this organization rejects the Bible as</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jude 3 tells us this faith was once _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ unto the saints. It is the complete body of doctrine taught in the Word of God.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ts absolute final authority in all matters of faith, we can understand why this is the case.

| ONE _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Ephesians 4:5) | The variety of so-called “Baptisms” practiced amongst the member denominations of the ecumenical community is staggering, and presents a real difficulty for the movement in achieving unity. They practice sprinkling, pouring, immersion and no baptism – on infants, adults, believers, unbelievers, and the dead – for salvation, with salvation and after salvation!! |

According to Matthew 28:19, this is the immersion of a believer in water to set forth symbolically the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ – and ordinance given to the Lord’s churches to keep.

Someone said, “There is a difference between church union and church unity. You can tie a dog’s tail and a cat’s tail together, then toss them over a clothes line. You may have union, but you certainly won’t have unity.”

Spurgeon said, “UNITY AT THE EXPENSE OF TRUTH IS TREASON.”

Criswell said, “Ecumenicity is another name for Death to our Baptist faith.”

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**THE UNITY WE NEED TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT**

A. Those involved in the ecumenical movement will often quote John 17:21 as a “proof text” that such a movement is of God. This whole chapter in the Bible is the real Lord’s prayer.

1. Do you think God would have answered this prayer of His Son – or is it up to man to answer it? ___________.

2. Read carefully John 17:21-23 and check the real desire of the Lord’s prayer.

   ☐ Union of all Christians, no matter what their beliefs or denomination.

   ☐ Unity between the believers within each particular church.

3. To whom was the Epistle of I Corinthians initially addressed? I Corinthians 1:2.
   The _ _ _ _ _ _ _ at Corinth.

4. What was a real problem in this Church? I Corinthians 11:18? D _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.
5. God’s will for the Church at Corinth (and every New Testament Baptist Church) is that there be NO _ _ _ _ _ _ in the body. I Corinthians 12:25.

6. Look up the word “Schism” in a dictionary. Write down the definition.

7. What is the Lord’s desire concerning all the members within our church? Ephesians 4:13. That we all come in the _ _ _ _ _ _ of the _ _ _ _ _ _.

B. Real Church Unity
1. It is significant to note that both Ephesians 4:16 and I Corinthians 12:12-27 liken our church to a human body, and call it the Body of Christ.”

2. Ephesians 4:16 sees the goal of our Church to have every member working together just as a fit athlete has every joint and muscle toned to perfection.

3. I Corinthians 12:26 sees the danger of our Church having suffering members – this causing the work of the Lord to be “hamstrung.”

4. True church unity then is not having a group of “cloned” Christians – all thinking the same, doing the same, liking the same things, etc. – it is having a spiritually fit body with EVERY member (yes, you too!) matured, ministering and multiplying.

C. The Aid to Church Unity.

According to Ephesians 4:11-12, the Lord gives to the churches apostles and prophets (ministries which ceased with the completion of the Word of God) and E _ _ _ _ _ _ _, and P _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and T _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

D. The Attitude for Church Unity.

List the godly attitudes needed in all members of our Church. Ephesians 4:2,32.

_________  ___________  ___________  ___________

_________  ___________  ___________  ___________

READING ASSIGNMENT: Read John chapter 17.

MEMORIZATION: Try to commit to memory Psalm 133:1
STUDY #22

V Victory

Lesson Commenced: ________________  Lesson checked: _____________

The greatest single need in the lives of the majority of Christians is that of VICTORY! Not simply a victory here and there, but the experiencing of consistent, daily, victorious living. Sadly, so many believers are living defeated lives.

You have been saved for some time now. You have been working through these lessons for many weeks. Ask yourself this question – “Am I living victoriously?” Please be honest with yourself.

If you are defeated, or if your life consists of a roller coaster path of spiritual “ups and downs,” this lesson will be of immense value to you. But studying it will not be enough – it has to be applied!

DOES GOD WANT HIS CHILDREN TO HAVE VICTORY??
A. According to John 10:10b, the Lord wants me to have an A _ _ _ _ _ _ _ life.

B. According to Psalm 16:11, the Lord intends me to experience F _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of J _ _.

C. According to John 8:31,32, the Lord intends the truth (His Word) to make you His disciple (salvation) – but also to M _ _ _ _ _ _ you F _ _ _.

This freedom from sin does not mean the absence of sin – but as Romans 6:14 says, freedom from the power of sin.

D. Does God want me to experience a life of victory? ________

_________________________

**STEPS TO VICTORY IN YOUR LIFE**

a. To enable you to enjoy the victorious life, the following steps, shown on the diagram below, need to be understood:

```
   VICTORY
      4
   TRANSLATE
   VICTORY INTO
   YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE
  
  3

   REALIZE GOD'S PROVISION
   FOR VICTORY

  2

   UNDERSTAND YOUR
   ENEMY

1

   IDENTIFY YOUR ENEMY
```

B. The Bible teaches there are THREE enemies you will face as a child of God – each seeking to rob you of the joy of the Lord.

These three enemies are the:

* WORLD    * FLESH    * DEVIL *

We will now take each one of these enemies and apply the four steps to victory.

_________________________

**HOW TO HAVE VICTORY OVER THE “WORLD”**

A. Identify Your Enemy

When the Bible speaks of the “world” in the context of opposition to you, it is not referring to God’s creation – but to the “world system” which is organized on selfish principles, improper motives, ungodly standards, and is opposed to the things of God.
1. Jesus said His ______ is not of this ______. John 18:36.

2. Jesus said the world system would ______ the Christian as it did Him. John 15:18.

3. Jesus also said the believer is not ______ the ______. John 15:19.

   This does not mean we are to shut ourselves away from any worldly contact. We are IN the world, but not OF the world.

4. According to James 4:4, for a Christian to be worldly only brings ______ with God.

5. In the light of these Scriptures, do you think there is any common ground between God and the world upon which the believer may stand? __________. See Matthew 6:24

6. According to II Timothy 4:10, what happens to a Christian when he or she is defeated by the world? _____________________________.

B. Understand your Enemy

1. How does the “world” attack the Christians? Answer: It ENTICES the Christian away from the Lord.

2. Look up I John 2:15-17. According to verse 16, what are three ways the world will attempt to entice you?

   a. The ______ of the ______.
   b. The ______ of the ______.
   c. The ______ of ______.

3. According to verse 15, what is the “world” seeks to gain from you? My ______.

C. Realize God’s Provision for Victory.

1. Look up John 16:33. What did Jesus say to His disciples? “Be of ______, I have ______ the world.”

2. The Lord Jesus Christ said He has won the victory for you!

D. Translate Christ’s victory into your own experience.

   It’s all very well to see that the Lord Jesus won the victory over the world, but you and I need to appropriate this victory into our own lives so that we too can be overcomers.

Here’s how:

1. Acknowledge you are on the victory side.

   a. I John 5:5 – Who is He that overcometh the world? ______ ______ ___________ that Jesus is the ______ ______.

   b. Are you a believer on the Lord Jesus Christ? ______________

2. Claim your victory by FAITH.

   a. I John 5:4 “…and this is the victory that overcometh the ______, even our
b. What is faith? Faith is simply believing what God says in His Word and acting upon it – total reliance upon God.

3. Do the will of God always.
   “The world __________ away: but he that doeth the __________ of __________ abideth __________.”
   I John 2:17

4. Set your affections on heavenly things.
   If you think about worldly things, wrong things, etc, you will be easily enticed.
   a. Colossians 3:1 “Seek those things which are __________.”
   b. Colossians 3:2 “Set you __________ on things above.”
   c. Matthew 6:21 “For where your __________ is, there will your __________ be also.”

HOW TO HAVE VICTORY OVER THE “FLESH”

A. IDENTIFY YOUR ENEMY

1. When the Bible speaks of the “flesh” in the context of opposition to you, it is not referring to your literal body – but to the old sin nature, the “old man,” the corrupt Adamic nature which belongs to all men.
   a. When you were saved, you were made a __________ of the __________ nature, II Peter 1:4b, but the old sin nature was NOT removed.
   b. In the flesh (your old nature) dwelleth __________. Romans 7:18

2. As a Christian, you have TWO NATURES – the flesh and the spirit – the old and the new – the sinful and the divine.

B. UNDERSTAND YOUR ENEMY

How does the ‘flesh’ attack the Christian? Answer: It produces CONFLICT and inner turmoil. It co-operates with the world and the Devil.

1. According to Romans 7:21, what did the Apostle discover?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………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D. Translate Christ’s victory into your own experience.
1. Galatians 5:16 “__ __ in the __ __ __ __.”

2. II Corinthians 5:7 “For we walk by __ __ __.”

These Scriptures show the importance of walking constantly with the Lord in His Word.

3. Romans 13:14 “But __ __ __ __ the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not __ __ __ __ for the __ __ __, to fulfill the lust thereof.” This verse teaches you to “blockade the Flesh” – don’t feed it.

4. Recognize your position in Christ.
a. Galatians 5:24 – My old nature (flesh) has been C __ __ __ __.
b. Galatians 2:20 “I am __ __ __ __ __ with Christ.”
c. Romans 6:6 My old man (the flesh) is __ __ __ __ __ with Christ.

This is a fact. Your old nature was dealt a death blow when it was crucified with Christ, but crucifixion is a slow and painful death, and what you experience in the inner conflict is a doomed enemy still trying to raise its ugly head and control your life.

5. Reckon this fact into reality each day of your life. Write out Romans 6:11.

6. According to I Peter 2:11, you are to __ __ __ __ from fleshly lusts.

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**How to Have Victory Over the “Devil”**

A. Identify Your Enemy
1. Before going on, review study #5 which deals in more detail with Satan.
2. According to I Peter 5:8, the Devil is your __ __ __ __ __.

B. Understand Your Enemy
How does Satan attack the Christian? Answer: He uses a number of devices to attack us. See: II Corinthians 2:11.

1. He uses T __ __ tation – I Thessalonians 3:5. Satan is a master at using the world to entice you.
2. He uses W __ __ - Ephesians 6:11b. This means crafty deception.
4. He uses discouragement. See Deuteronomy 1:21,28.
5. He uses F __ __ __ of opposition. Ephesians 6:16.
C. Realize God’s Provision for your Victory

1. What was the reason the Lord Jesus Christ came? I John 3:8b

2. How did the Lord Jesus defeat Satan? Hebrews 2:14

D. Translate Christ’s Victory into your own experience

1. Remember you are on the winning side – I John 4:4. “Greater is He that is __ __ __ __, than he that is in the __ __ __ __.”

2. According to I John 2:14, we overcome the wicked one when the __ __ __ __ of __ __ abides in us.

3. You are to put on the __ __ __ __ __ __ __ of God – Ephesians 6:13.

4. List the DEFENSIVE items of this spiritual armor as listed in Ephesians 6:14-18.

5. What is the part of this armor of God that is OFFENSIVE, i.e. with which we may fight?

6. According to James 4:7, we are to __ __ __ __ Satan.

7. According to Ephesians 4:27, we are to give NO __ __ __ __ to the Devil.

THE PROMISE OF VICTORY

A. Romans 8:37 “In __ __ these things we are more than __ __ __ __ __ __.”

B. I Corinthians 15:57 “But thanks be to God which __ __ __ __ us the __ __ __ __.”

C. II Corinthians 2:14 “Now thanks be unto God, which __ __ __ __ causeth us to __ __ __ __.”

D. Philippians 4:13 “I __ __ do __ __ things…”

THE PERSON OF VICTORY

A. Romans 8:37 “…through __ __ that loved us.”

B. I Corinthians 15:57 “.through our __ __ __ __ __ __ __.”

C. II Corinthians 2:14 “…in __ __ __ __.”

D. Philippians 4:13 “…through __ __ __ __ which __ __ __ __ __ __ me.”
THE PATH OF VICTORY

Did you notice??
As you studied the Steps to Victory over the World, the Flesh, and the Devil, there was a common theme to translate the victory into your own experience:

\[ \text{FAITH} + \text{Believing God’s Word and putting it into practice in your life} = \text{Victory} \]

A. According to Psalm 119:9,11, what will hiding God’s Word in your heart do for you?
…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

B. According to Matthew 26:41, what two things should we do to avoid falling into temptation?
_ _ _ _ _ _ _ and _ _ _ _ _ _ _

MEMORIZATION: Try to commit to memory I Corinthians 10:13

STUDY #23
W Witnessing

Lesson commenced: ________________ Lesson checked: ________________

Without any doubt, the greatest and most notable difference between apostolic New Testament Christianity and present-day New Testament Christianity is witnessing! The early
churches were most noted for their witnessing of Christ – many 20th Century churches are characterized by their lack of witness.

In this lesson you will learn that it is God’s will for you to witness and be a soulwinner for Him. You will also learn how to be a soulwinner; that is, how to lead someone to Christ.

All the other lessons you have studied and learned will be greatly diminished in value if your life does not bear fruit.

WHAT DOES WITNESSING MEAN?

A. A witness in a courtroom trial is expected to tell what he knows, what he has seen, or what he has heard. He cannot tell what others have said – he must relate his own personal experience in his own words.

Witnessing for the Lord Jesus healed the blind man in John 9:1-38.


1. When questioned by others, do you think this man was able to give a detailed explanation of what had happened? ________________

2. What was this man able to say? See: John 9:25b. “One thing I know, ____________________________________________.

3. Read the story of how Jesus won a woman to Himself in John 4:5-30. What was the first thing this woman did when she realized she had actually met Christ? (vs 28-30)

________________________________________________________.

ARE “WITNESSING” AND “SOULWINNING” THE SAME THING?

A. You will often hear these two words used – they are both Bible words.

1. WITNESSING = relating your own personal experience of salvation.

2. SOULWINNING = using your witness to bring others to salvation.

B. You cannot separate witnessing and soulwinning.

1. John 15:8 - “Herein is my Father glorified, that ye _ _ _ _   _ _ _ _    _ _ _ _ _ .”

2. Proverbs 11:30 – “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ is _ _ _ _ .”

WHY SHOULD YOU BE A WITNESS AND A SOULWINNER?

ABC’s Of Christian Growth Page 121
Here are nine Bible reasons why YOU should endeavor to tell others of Christ and seek to win them for Him.

You ought to win souls because:

A. It is a Command.
   Look up Acts 1:8. “…and ye ___ ___ ___ be witnesses ….”

B. It is a Duty.
   Look up Matthew 4:19. “F ___ ___ Me, and I will make you ___ ___ ___ of ___.”

C. It is a Debt.
   1. Paul said, “I am ___ ___ ___ ….”
   2. The gift of salvation is free, but a moral debt exists for us to tell others.

D. It is a Responsibility.
   Look up Ezekiel 3:17,18.
   1. In a real sense, God has made you a W ___ ___ ___.
   2. The duty of a watchman is to W ___ ___ those in danger.
   3. When we fail to tell others of Christ:
      a. The wicked man shall die in his ___ ___ ___.
      b. God will require His ___ ___ ___ at your hand.

E. It is a Calling.
   Look up II Corinthians 5:20.
   1. Each believer is called an ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ for ___ ___ ___.
   2. This is a very important position to be entrusted with.

F. There is a Need.
   Look up Mark 8:36. Why is soulwinning so important?

G. There is a Reckoning.
   Read II Corinthians 5:10,11a.
   1. One day you will stand before your Lord at the ___ ___ ___ ___ ___.
      (This is a judgment of how you serve the Lord.)
   2. What was Paul’s motivation for persuading men? ____________________________

H. It is Caring.
   1. So much of today’s caring centers on the physical needs of man. Real, godly caring focuses on the eternal needs of a man.
2. Look up Psalm 142:4. This verse expresses a real tragedy – “no man ____________________________ for my ____________________________.”

I. It brings Joy.
1. Look up Acts 8:5,8,35,39. There is JOY on the part of _____________________________.
2. Look up Luke 15:7,10. There is JOY on the part of _____________________________.
3. Look up Psalm 126:5,6. There is JOY on the part of _____________________________.

---

IS WITNESSING THE DUTY OF EVERY CHRISTIAN?

A. Some people have it in their minds that witnessing and soulwinning are to be the duty of the Pastor, the deacons, the Sunday School teachers, or those with the “gift of the gab.”

B. The Bible clearly shows it is for EVERY Christian to be a witness.

1. Psalm 107:2 – “Let the __________ of the Lord __________.”
2. Acts 8:4 “Therefore __________ that were scattered abroad __________ everywhere __________ the __________.”
3. Look in Acts 8:1. Did this group of people referred to in verse 4 include the apostles (pastors)? __________

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HOW OFTEN SHOULD YOU WITNESS?

According to Acts 5:42 and Acts 20:31, the apostolic New Testament Christians testified of Jesus Christ ______________.

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WHAT ARE GOD’S REQUIREMENTS FOR YOU TO BE A WITNESS?

A. God requires you to have a burden for Souls.
   Read Esther 8:6; Romans 9:1-3 and Romans 10:1.
   As you read these Scriptures, ask God to burn their message upon your heart. Most Christians don’t witness and win souls because they have no real burden.

B. God requires you to have a love for souls.
   1. Read Jude 21,22; II Corinthians 5:14a; and Psalm 126:5.
   2. It was love that sent Jesus Christ into this sin-cursed world to die on the cross (John 3:16) – and it is love that will motivate you to bring Christ to the lost.
C. God requires you to live a clean, separated life.
   1. Read II Timothy 2:21; Jude 23; and Philippians 2:15.
   2. The saying “Actions speak louder than words” has no greater relevance than in the matter of soulwinning.

D. God requires you to be filled with the Holy Spirit.
   1. Read Acts 1:8 and Ephesians 5:18.
   2. God’s work must be done in God’s way in God’s POWER.

E. God requires you to have Perseverance.
   2. Not everyone will listen. Not everyone will be saved. But soulwinning is one task in which God PROMISES success.
   3. Psalm 126:6 – “…shall d__d__d__d__ come again…”

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FOUR STEPS TO A WINNING WITNESS

The most common illustration of soulwinning found in the Bible is that of a “plant” – See Psalm 126:6; Matthew 13:3-9; John 4:35-38; and I Corinthians 3:6-8.

There are several steps to be undertaken before getting a harvest:

STEP #1 – GO

No farmer reaps a harvest apart from a lot of preparation and hard work.

You will never win a soul for Christ without this preliminary step!

Psalm 126:6 – “He that _ _ _ _ _ forth…”

Mark 16:15 – “_ _ ye into all the world and preach …”

Acts 5:20 – “_ _ stand and _ _ _ _ _”

This lesson will be useless to you unless you determine in your heart to take this first step in reaching a precious soul.

How may I “go”

A. Our Church has set times of “visitation” when people go out into the community to do either of two things – knock on doors to invite people to the services (gain prospects), or visit in homes of prospects (to win them).

B. All visits are conducted on a two-by-two basis – and a young or inexperienced Christian is teamed up with a mature and experienced Christian. You learn as the “silent partner”.

C. In addition, you need to sit down and make a list of people in your own circle of influence who are lost – relatives, neighbours, friends, workmates, etc. They are all going to spend eternity somewhere. Then begin a plan of action to witness to them and win them to Christ.
Step #2 – SOW

You many need to go out of your way to help somebody. You may have to invite someone into your home for a meal. You may have to win the confidence and trust of a person first— but before they can be saved, the seed must be sown.

Psalm 126:6 – “…bearing precious _ _ _ _…”
Luke 8:11 – “…the seed is the _ _ _ _ of _ _ _.”
I Peter 1:23-25 – This Scripture says the incorruptible seed is _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

It is absolutely imperative that you use the Bible when witnessing and leading a soul to Christ. The salvation of a soul is the work of God (not you); thus you need to use the “weapon” of God.

(Warning!! You cannot expect fruit if you plant corrupted seed. Be sure to use only the pure, Authorized, King James Version of the Bible!)

According to Ephesians 6:17, the Sword of the Spirit is the _ _ _ _ of _ _ _. It is unnecessary for you to use logic, philosophy, theology, or salesmanship when it comes to soulwinning. God’s Word works!!

HOW MAY I “SOW”?

A. Get into the habit of carrying sound Gospel tracts with you – in your pocket, your purse (ladies), your car. Leave a tract with those you meet – shop assistants, garage attendants, friends. Leave a tract in the phone booth, on the restaurant table, in the waiting room. Include a tract with every letter you mail. Many have been saved through the silent witness of a tract.

Note: Always make sure our church name and a phone number is on the tract.

Note: Be careful not to litter or violate reasonable ordinances by indiscriminate use of tracts.

B. Invite people to the services of our Church. Don’t give up when people at first decline or make excuses. Work on bringing someone with you each Sunday.

C. Be “soul-conscious.” Ask God to help you become aware that everyone you meet is a soul that will spend eternity somewhere. Cultivate the ability to insert some witness into every conversation – share a blessing, a verse, a warning, etc. Don’t be pushy or over-bearing, but don’t be silent either.

D. Learn the “Romans Road to Heaven.” This is a plan of salvation taken from the Book of Romans in the New Testament. There are many other Scriptures you can use (and you will in time), but this is a good starting point. With these four Scripture references you can show a person how to be saved.
Romans 3:23 – the FACT of sin.
Romans 6:23 – the CONSEQUENCES of sin.
Romans 5:8 – the REMEDY for sin.
Romans 10:13 – the HOW to be saved.

STEP #3 – WATER

There must be water before the seed can come up.
Psalm 126:5 – “They that sow on _ _ _ _...”
Psalm 126:6 – “He that goeth forth, and _ _ _ _...”
Acts 20:31 – “…night and day with _ _ _ _.”

This refers to the need for prayer. When you have sown a seed in the heart of someone, pray for them earnestly and fervently until they are saved.

One of the characteristics of a soulwinning Christian is a broken and compassionate heart. Many tears are often shed over a lost loved one.

STEP #4 – REAP

The second greatest joy of the Christian life, after the joy of salvation itself, is the joy of actually leading a precious soul to Christ – to be a kind of “spiritual midwife” and witness the miracle of the new birth. God promises you a harvest.
Psalm 126:5 – “…shall _ _ _ _ in joy.”
Psalm 126:6 – “…shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his _ _ _ _ _ _ _ with him.”

Have you ever seen a “self-harvesting” plant? No! No crop will ever pick itself. Harvesting requires labor and method.

HOW MAY I “REAP”?

A. Plan to! It’s amazing how many Christians fail to win those they witness to simply because they don’t expect to. Act in faith – take God at His Word, and expect to reap a harvest.
B. Make certain (by asking questions) that the one you are dealing with fully understands the plan of salvation. Do not proceed to reap if there is no conviction of sin or if there is no understanding of what Christ has done. Human nature expects to “work” for salvation. If it is not time to reap, ALWAYS leave the door open.
C. Explain carefully that salvation is BELIEVING, that this means RECEIVING (Christ), and that this is done by a simple prayer.
D. The “sinner’s prayer” has no set format, but needs to include two important elements – ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of the facts – and – RECEIVING the Saviour.

E. After you lead a soul to receive the Lord – pray with them, rejoice with them, encourage them to come to church at the next opportunity. Get others to pray for the new babe in Christ, and talk to the Pastor about getting them on this “ABC’s of Christian Growth” program.

ASSIGNMENT #1:
The opportunity my church offers me to engage in visitation is on _____________ (Day) at ___________ (Time).

ASSIGNMENT #2:
I have obtained the following Gospel tracts to use as a means of sowing the seed:

ASSIGNMENT #3:
List two or three people the Lord would have you pray for and make opportunity to witness to in the next four weeks. (Take time to pray before writing.)

______________  ______________  __________________

ASSIGNMENT #4:
On a separate sheet, write out your own testimony as though you were telling someone of what Christ has done for you.

A testimony should be divided into three parts:

☐ Your life before you were saved.
☐ How you came to be saved, and what you did.
☐ Your life since you were saved.

I accept that the Bible teaches I am to both witness and seek to win others to Christ. I now dedicate my life to involve myself in this Christian duty, first by seeking to study and
memorize the Scriptures, and pray for the lost, then involve myself in the opportunities presented by the Church to train and visit.

Signed:__________________________ Date: __________

STUDY #24

X

“X-RATED” FOR CHRISTIANS

Lesson commenced: ______________ Lesson checked: ______________

There are some things a Christian ought not do.

As this world staggers toward the return of the Lord Jesus Christ, things are going to get worse, not better. According to II Timothy 3:1, these last days will be characterized by ___________ times. Matthew 24:12 predicts that ___________ shall abound.
Were it not for the clear teachings of the Word of God, it would be easy for the believer to be swept along by the tide of sin. Thank God we have the Bible!

One of the “criticisms” of the Bible is that it is NEGATIVE – full of “thou shalt not’s.” It is true that the Bible is negative in the majority of its teaching, but that is because man has a POSITIVE tendency toward sin.

This study will look at some of the current “sociological sins” facing you today. They are widespread and generally acceptable in the community today. That doesn’t make them right. – it’s what the Bible says that counts.

PREPARATION FOR THIS STUDY

Review Lesson #19 – Separation

1. What are the two aspects of separation?
   ___________ and ___________.

2. What is our liberty in Christ restricted to? ______________

Review Lesson #22 – Victory

1. What does the “world” seek from you? ______________

2. According to Colossians 3:1,2, where are you to place your affections? ______________

WHY BAPTISTS DON’T DRINK ALCOHOL

A. Drinking is a real problem in this country – hundreds of lives are lost, thousands of homes are destroyed, and millions of dollars are wasted annually as a direct result of the liquor industry. And yet, for all of that, consuming alcohol is one of the most socially acceptable (and expected!) pastimes in the nation.

B. The Bible has much to say concerning liquor and is very clear in its teaching on the subject.

C. Before studying the Scriptures, it is vital to keep in mind the fact that the word “wine” in the Bible is a generic word which applies to all products derived from grapes – both natural grape juice and man-made alcoholic wine. The context of the passage determines what is meant in each case.

1. Proverbs 20:1 - 2: “Wine is a ___________.”
2. Proverbs 23:20,21 – Drunkenness leads to p__________.
3. Isaiah 5:11 – The Bible pronounces __________ upon drunks.
5. Habakkuk 2:15 – God hates us giving our n__________ a drink.
6. Proverbs 31:4,5 – Liquor perverts j__________.
(Proverbs 31:4,5 refers to the practice of “drinking to drown your sorrows” – but drink NEVER removes the sorrows, it only compounds them, as Proverbs 23:29,30 teaches.)

7. Isaiah 5:12,14 – Drink is a sure path to h_ _ _.
8. Isaiah 28:7 _ drink causes us to e_ _.
9. Mark 15:23 – Jesus refused a stupefying drink of _ _ _ _ as He was being crucified.

D. The temptation for the Christian is to drink “socially.” To this we answer:
1. Every drunkard began with just one drink.
2. First, man takes the drink – then, drink takes the man.
3. Liquor is deceiving – Proverbs 20:1 says so!

E. Keep in mind that alcoholic beverage is a man-made product. The process of fermentation requires special conditions and human intervention. The exact proportions of sugar, yeast and water must be present, and a temperature range of between 10 degrees and 22 degrees maintained – otherwise vinegar will be produced.

F. Many try to argue for drink by citing the first miracle of the Lord Jesus Christ where He turned the water into wine. But oriental weddings were religious occasions, not festive – and God never contradicts His Word. This wine was grape juice.

WHY BAPTISTS DON’T GAMBLE?

A popular slogan promoting a lottery says, “millions won weekly” – but fails to tell the other side of the story – “countless millions lost weekly” – not to mention ruined lives, broken homes, hungry children, and the accompanying rise in organized crime, prostitution and theft.

Our country is becoming a nation of gamblers. From bingo, lotto to racing and casinos, many opportunities are presented to the child of God.

What does the Bible have to say on this matter?

A. Gambling is an insult to God
1. Philippians 4:19 – God shall supply _ _ _ our _ _ _ _.
2. II Corinthians 9:8 – God will see to it that His children will have all _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ in _ _ _ things.

When we gamble we are in effect saying to the Lord, “I do not think you will keep your promise.”

B. Gambling is spiritually dangerous – a sin which has drowned many a man in destruction and perdition (Hell).

I Timothy 6:9 – To those that will (want to above all else) be rich, the danger is that they will experience:
T _ _ _ _ _ _ _
A S _ _ 
F _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and H _ _ _ _ _ _ lusts.

C. Gambling is basically selfish. To gamble requires seeking prosperity at the expense of others.

1. Exodus 20:7 – “Thou shalt not _ _ _ _ _ _ .”
   No one gambles to lose. The prime motivation for all forms of gambling is to gain what is not owned. That is covetousness.

2. I Timothy 6:10 – This verse does not teach that money is a problem, but rather the _ _ _ _ of money.

3. Genesis 3:19 – God intends man to live by the _ _ _ _ _ _ of his face; i.e., to work for a living.
   It is a principle of God that there must be:
   • WORK BEFORE WEALTH
   • SOWING BEFORE REAPING
   Gambling abrogates God’s natural law because the gambler seeks to reap what others have sown.

D. Gambling is poor stewardship
   1. Nobody ever really wins nu indulging in gambling.
   2. According to I Corinthians 4:2, God requires each Christian to be _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ over all that has been given to him from God’s hand.

E. Gambling is often plain “superstition” – involving “lucky numbers,” “lucky systems,” “keeping your fingers crossed,” etc. Read what God has to say about such things in Isaiah 47:12,13.

F. Gambling makes one insensitive to God’s will
   According to John 19:23,24, the Roman soldiers gambled for the clothes of the crucified Lord. They were completely unaware of the event transpiring in their presence. When anyone is consumed with self-interest, they are most insensitive to the things of the Lord.

Resist any temptation to win something. Avoid gambling as an enemy of your soul. Lean wholly upon the Lord for everything good.

WHY BAPTISTS DON’T SMOKE?

Smoking (like many other drugs) is addictive. That’s why so many Christians have a real problem in this area.

Smoking (and other harmful drugs) should be absent from your life – for three basic reasons:

A. For PHYSICAL reasons.
It is common knowledge that smoking is harmful and even deadly. Unsaved people quit smoking for this reason, but more so should the Christian.

1. I Corinthians 6:19 – The believer’s physical body is the ___ of the ___.
   It is scared, and ought not to be defiled by any known harmful substance.

2. I Corinthians 9:27 – The apostle Paul kept his physical body well by bringing it into ___

Remember – it is with your body that you serve the Lord. Harming the body hinders effective service.

B. For EMOTIONAL reasons.

1. Many people take up serious smoking (and drugs) because of underlying emotional causes – insecurity, anxiety, etc. It becomes a deadly crutch. Addiction is a terrible thing.
2. The believer is to be “…C___ (full of care, anxious) for nothing…,” Philippians 4:6, but to learn to trust in the Lord for all things.
3. Experiencing Philippians 4:7 does away with any need for drugs of addiction.

C. For SPIRITUAL reasons.

1. A smoking Christian is a poor testimony because, rightly or wrongly, the world perceives the Christian to be clean in his habits.
2. One of the great obstacles to winning a soul for Christ is a stale tobacco breath (or any bad breath, for that matter).

WHY BAPTISTS DON’T DANCE?

A. Dancing Is A Practice With Strong Sexual Overtones – be it “ballroom” style with its intimate embrace, or latest body-shaking “gyrations” which flaunt the flesh and lower God-given inhibitions. If dancing has any place whatsoever, it can only be between husband and wife in privacy of their marriage relationship.

B. The Bible Associates Dancing With Evil.

1. Read Exodus 32:1-29. Dancing is mentioned here in verse 19. Notice the things associated with the dance:
   a. verse 4 ______________________________.
   b. verse 6: D __ __ __ ING.
   c. verse 25: N __ __ __NESS

2. Read Matthew 14: 1-12. Dancing was the means of getting the adulterous Herod to put John the Baptist to death. Who danced here? ________________
C. Some Christians (usually those who want to dance) point out that king David danced before the Lord, as recorded in II Samuel 6:12-21.

It is important to understand some facts relating to this case.

1. David danced alone.
2. David danced out of extreme joy before the Lord.
3. Even so, it seems this kind of dancing led David to uncover himself. (v20)

As innocent as this dance of child-like excitement and praise to the Lord may have been, it was nothing like the kind of dancing seen in today’s society.

WHY BAPTISTS DON’T LISTEN TO ROCK AND ROLL MUSIC?

Many Christians believe the issue of music is simply a matter of personal taste. Some like classical; others prefer jazz; many love “country & western” and a lot go in for rock and roll. However this is not the case!

There is much more to rock and roll than meets the ear, as any careful study of the subject will reveal. Rock and roll especially is a downright dangerous music form. Not only should Christians avoid listening to it, but our young ones must be protected from Satanic influence.

According to Ephesians 5:10, believers are to prove what is ______ to the ______.

A. God’s standards for Music

1. Ephesians 5:19,20 The three forms of music listed are:
   a. P______ = Scripture set to music
   b. H______ = Songs based upon Scripture
   c. S______ S______ = Christ exalting music which speaks to the spiritual man, not the old nature.

2. Colossians 3:16

   Christian songs should t______ and a ________ one another.

Music Profoundly Affects Us

1. Think of how a stirring march picks us up – how soft organ music makes many people feel “religious” – how a love ballad can make you melancholy. Music can give a man courage in battle, or reduce him to tears. Thus we see the importance of the right kinds of music.

   The following diagram will explain the effect of music upon a man.

   MUSIC
   3 Parts
   MELODY affects the SPIRIT

MAN
3 Parts

ABC’s Of Christian Growth
HARMONY affects the SOUL
RHYTHM affects the FLESH

2. The difference between godly music and rock and roll is that godly music emphasizes the melody and controls the harmony and rhythm – whereas rock and roll is heavy on the beat, with little attention to the melody. In doing so, rock and roll arouses the flesh.

C. Why Rock and roll music is harmful.
1. Its emphasis is on the beat, and the kind of beat (throbbing, pulsating) appeals to the flesh; and in conjunction with everything else about rock and roll, it arouses impure thoughts and actions.
2. The lyrics of rock and roll music are usually wicked, perverse, immoral and just plain ungodly. With so-called “heavy metal” rock, they are occult.
3. Many heavy metal rock recordings contain “back-masking” or subliminal (unheard) sounds which the brain unscrambles. Experts say these messages preach rebellion and Satanism.
4. The “Rock Culture” is hardly a model for Christians to follow. The majority of “performers” are living immoral lives, associated with drugs, sex, sadism, etc. Many commit suicide.

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION:
Try to commit to memory Philippians 4:8

STUDY #25

Y YOUR CHURCH HOME

Lesson commenced: ______________________ Lesson checked: ___________________

For this lesson you will need to do the following:
1. Review study #3 – “The Church.”
2. Read your copy of the “Church Covenant.”

3. Read your copy of the “Church Constitution.”

QUESTIONS RELATING TO YOUR REVIEW OF STUDY #3 – THE CHURCH.

A. Write out the definition of a New Testament Baptist Church.

B. How would you answer the question, “Who is the head of this Church?” 

C. What are the three things you can do to receive many blessings from your church?

QUESTIONS RELATING TO YOUR READING OF THE CHURCH COVENANT.

Note: These questions are based on a church Covenant it seems most Baptist churches have adopted.

A. Who are the people voluntarily entering into this Covenant?

B. Paragraph 2 of the Covenant deals with your relationship to ……………………

C. Paragraph 3 of the Covenant deals with your relationship to ……………………

D. Paragraph 4 of the Covenant deals with your relationship to ……………………

E. What practical steps do you think you can take to make the statements of paragraph 4 a daily reality in your life? ……………………………………………………………………………………………

F. What is your responsibility should you move from your current address to an area far away?

QUESTIONS RELATING TO YOUR READING OF THE CHURCH CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

Note: Since Baptists churches are only governed by the Word of God, and the NT in particular, the document known as the “Constitution & By-laws” has been devised primarily for legal purposes and is a reflection of NT principles and practices. Accordingly, there is no standard “Constitution & By-laws” for Baptist churches, and some of the questions below may not relate completely to the Constitution & By-laws of this church.

A. What is the limit to this Church’s joining together with other churches?
B. Who is to act as a signatory on behalf of the Church in legal matters?

C. What is the age limit for voting on business matters?

D. What is the duty of the Church Treasurer?

E. What is the duty of the Church Clerk?

F. In what ways may a Church business meeting be called?

G. What are some requirements for all officers and workers?

H. At the date of this study, list the names of those in our Church performing tasks:
   Pastor: ........................................
   Associate Pastor: .........................
   Treasurer: .................................
   Clerk: ...........................
   Deacons: ................................

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION:
   Try to commit to memory I Corinthians 14:40

STUDY #26

ZION (YOUR ETERNAL HOME)

Lesson Commenced: ________________ Lesson checked: __________

Heaven! The very word whispers peace to our soul. This old troubled world has nothing for the child of God – it brings no peace, no lasting joy, no fellowship – nothing but sorrow, heartache, disappointments …and death. Ah, but Heaven!!
WHAT IS HEAVEN?

A. We often use the term “Heaven” loosely. The Bible actually refers to three heavens.

1. Look up and read Genesis 1:8, 20; Jeremiah 4:25; and Daniel 4:12.
   In these Scriptures, the Heaven referred to may be called the First Heaven. In your own words, what is the First Heaven? …………..

   These Scriptures refer to the Second Heaven. In your own words, what is the Second Heaven? ………………………

3. Look up I Kings 8:27, 30 and II Corinthians 12:2.
   These Scriptures refer to a Heaven which is the ABODE OF GOD. What is this Heaven called? ……………………………

In this lesson, the Heaven to which we refer is the last of those above – the place where God is.

B. What is ZION?
   Zion is another name for Jerusalem. It is used three ways.
   1. II Samuel 5:7 – the City of _ _ _ _ _ _ .
   2. Isaiah 2:2–4 – the Jerusalem of the M _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (the 1,000 year-reign of Christ on earth).
   3. Hebrews 12:22 – the H _ _ _ _ _ _ _ City.

In this lesson, the Zion to which we refer is the last of those above – the New Jerusalem of Heaven.

WHAT DOES DEATH MEAN FOR THE CHRISTIAN?

A. Look up II Corinthians 5:6–8. These verses teach that:
   1. To be at HOME in the body is to be _ _ _ _ _ _ from the Lord.
   2. To be ABSENT from the body is to be _ _ _ _ _ _ _ with the Lord.

B. Look up Philippians 1:23, 24. If Paul was to die, he would be with Christ. These Scriptures clearly teach that when a Christian dies his soul is immediately transported into the very presence of Christ (the body returns to the dust, awaiting the Resurrection).

C. Look up Revelation 6:9–11.
   Where does this passage teach the souls of slain and departed believers are?

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

D. Look up Luke 16:22. How was the souls of Lazarus transported to Paradise?

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

Note: These Scriptures give the lie to such common teachings as: Purgatory, Soul Sleep, Reincarnation
Should the Lord tarry His coming and you pass through the valley of death, you will go to be with the Lord! Death is graduation to Glory! Along with millions of believers gone home before you, the words of Psalm 23:4 will be a reality:

“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the ______ of ______, I will fear no ______, for ______ art ______ me…”

WILL WE KNOW ONE ANOTHER IN HEAVEN?

The Bible indicates that we will recognize each other – our loved ones, friends, etc, throughout the eternal ages.

A. In Heaven We will all have Glorified Bodies.

Read: I Corinthians 15:35-53. We shall receive this glorified body at the Rapture – the time when our Lord will come in the air and “Catch up” Christians.

B. What will this Glorified body look like?

The best way to answer this is for us to consider the Lord Jesus Christ after His resurrection and in His Glorified Body:

1. John 20:20 – Was He recognizable? ______
2. John 20:27 – Was He touchable? ______
3. Acts 1:3 – Was He able to communicate? ______
5. Luke 24:36-43 – Was He able to eat? ______

C. According to Philippians 3:21, what will happen to our body at the time of the Rapture?

D. Write out I John 3:2 ……………………………………………………………………..

WHAT IS HEAVEN LIKE?

A. According to I Corinthians 2:9, is it possible to adequately describe what Heaven will be like? ……

B. Read II Corinthians 12:2-4. Evidently the Apostle Paul was given a “sneak preview” of Heaven. Why didn’t Paul give us a detailed description of Heaven? ……………………………………………………

C. According to Hebrews 9:24, the very presence of ______ is in Heaven.

D. Revelation 4:2-10 describes God’s T ______ which is located in Heaven.

E. Read Hebew 12:22-24. List the seven things to be found in Heaven.

1. ……………………………………………
2. ……………………………………………
3. ……………………………………………
4. ……………………………………………
5. ……………………………………………
6. .................................................................

7. .................................................................

F. The “Centerpiece” of the Eternal Heaven is the Holy City of God, the ______________. Revelation 21:2.

WHAT IS THE HEAVENLY JERUSALEM GOING TO BE LIKE?

A. According to John 14:2, it is currently being p____________ by the Lord Jesus.

B. Hebrews 11:10,16 tells us the Builder of this great City is ______________.

C. If there are 8 furlongs in 1 mile (or 5 furlongs in 1 kilometer) according to Revelation 21:6, what are the dimensions of this City?
1. Length =
2. Breadth =
3. Height =

D. According to Revelation 21:21, the City has ........... gates, and each gate is one ____________.

E. This same verse tells us the streets of this City are of ____________ ____________.

WHO SHALL INHABIT THE HEAVENLY CITY?

A. Revelation 21:24 – The nations of them which are ____________.

B. Revelation 21:27b – They which are written in the ____________ of ______________.

WHAT WILL BE MISSING IN HEAVEN?

Revelation Chapters 21 and 22 give us the most detailed description of our future home. (Of course, like any real estate advertisement, you have to actually see it before you can fully appreciate it!)

There are some things which will not be found in Heaven.

A. No more D____________. (v4)
B. No more S____________. (v4)
C. No more C____________. (v4)
D. No more P____________. (v4)
E. No more T____________. (v22)
F. No more S____ or M____. (v23)
G. No more N____________. (vs25 and 22:5)
H. No more C____________. (22:3)

WHAT SHALL WE DO IN HEAVEN?

Don’t be led astray by the common notion that we shall be floating around on clouds, dressed in white gowns, flapping a pair of wings, and strumming a harp for all eternity. The Bible teaches NO SUCH THING!
A. In Heaven, we will sing Praises to God.
   According to Revelation 5:9, the redeemed of all ages will sing N_ S_ _ _ _.

B. In Heaven, we will serve God continually.
   See: Revelation 7:15 and 22:3,5

C. In Heaven, we will fellowship continually.
   According to Revelation 3:21, we will _ _ _ with the Lord Jesus Christ at His _ _ _ _ _ _.

**CAN I HAVE ‘HEAVEN ON EARTH’?**

The happiest, most memorable, most joyful and loving experiences on earth will pale into insignificance when compared with the bliss of Heaven.

Nevertheless, God intends for three things NOW to be a foretaste of Heaven to come.

- [ ] Your HOME
- [ ] Your CHURCH
- [ ] Your personal WALK with the Lord.

Each of these should reflect (albeit in an incomplete way) the concept of Heaven.

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**READING ASSIGNMENT:**

Read the last two chapters of the Book of Revelation.

**SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION:**

Try to commit to memory John 14:2

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**GOD BLESS YOU AS YOU STUDY AND GROW IN CHRISTIAN MATURITY AND BE A TRUE DISCIPLE OF CHRIST!**