

**Christian Living - Leader's Edition** 



# TRAINING

Course 2. Christian Living

# Leader's Guide

Teacher's Name:

Name





# Dedicated to the men and women of Grace Community Church

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Cross Training, Course 2: Christian Living written & compiled by Pastor Stephen Hildebrandt first edition © 1999, second edition © 2002, third edition © 2003, fourth edition © 2005, fifth edition © 2010.

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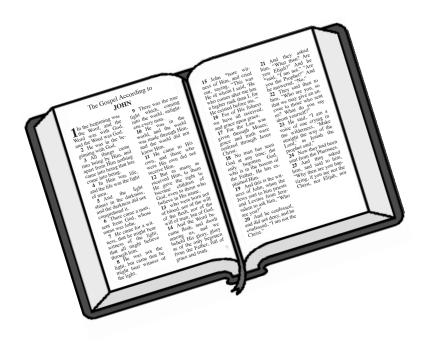
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# THE CROSS TRAINING SERIES

CROSS TRAINING 1. DOCTRINE & THEOLOGY

CROSS TRAINING 2. CHRISTIAN LIVING

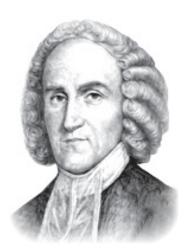
CROSS TRAINING 3. SPIRITUAL WARFARE



CHRIST-CENTERED STUDIES RESTING WHOLLY UPON THE INSPIRED AND INERRANT WORD OF GOD AS THE ONLY INFALLIBLE RULE FOR FAITH AND PRACTICE.

# Christian Living

Jonathan Edwards 1703-1758



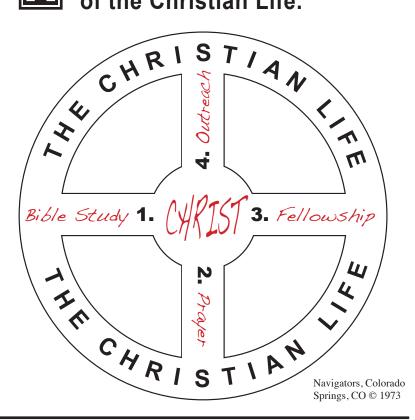
"The first and the great work of a Christian is about his heart. Do not be content with seeming to do good in 'outward acts' while your heart is bad, and you are a stranger to the greater internal heart duties. See that your chief study be about your heart — that there God's image may be planted; that there His interests be advanced; that there the world and flesh are subdued; that there the love of every sin is cast out; that there the love of holiness grows." —

# 1 BIBLE STUDY Study to Show Yourself Approved

A.	Four Foundations of the Christian Life	1
В.	Four Functions of Daily Bible Study	3
C.	Four Factors for Effective Bible Study	5



# Four Foundations of the Christian Life.



# Stop & Think

Which of the four spokes of the wheel on the left do you have the biggest struggle consistently doing and hope this study can help you with?	
-	

#### The Christian Life

"We do not segment our lives, giving some time to God, some to our business or schooling, while keeping parts to ourselves. The idea is to give all of our lives in the presence of God, under the authority of God, and for the honor and glory of God. That is what the Christian life is all about." -2

R.C. Sproul (1939-Present)





# Four Functions of Daily Bible Study.

## 1 The Bible is Profitable.

• 2 Timothy 3:16

"All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable ...

for teaching

for reproof

for <u>correction</u>

Define this term:

reprimand,

rebuke, or

criticism

for training in righteousness

# 2 The Bible is a Path-Finder.

• Psalm 119:105

"Thy Word is a ...

lamp to my feet, and a

light to my path."



#### Food for the Soul

"Now what is food for the inner man?... the Word of God; and here again, not the simple reading of the Word of God, so that it only passes through our minds, just as water passes through a pipe, but considering what we read, pondering it over and applying it to our hearts." -3

George Müller (1805-1898)



# Stop & Think

What do each of the four functions of daily Bible study imply about our character?

I need to let the Bible...

- <u>teach</u> me, because <u>I don't know</u> everything.
- <u>reprove</u> me, because <u>Sometimes I</u> <u>am wrong.</u>
- <u>correct</u> me, because <u>it is easy to</u> <u>get off course.</u>
- <u>sanctify</u> me, because <u>my practice</u> is not perfect.

What does it mean when the Bible says that the Word of God is a light to the Christian's path?

It helps me to keep from

tripping or falling in the dark

[world]. Like a street light,

to help me from running off

the road (i.e. narrow path)



# Four Factors for Effective Bible Study.

# 1 Read - It is Your Daily Bread.

- Matt. 4:4 "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God."
- Rom. 10:17 "faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the Word of Christ."
- <u>1 Peter 2:2</u> "like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the Word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation"

# 2 Study – Dig for Buried Treasure.

- Acts 17:11 "[the Bereans] received the Word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily, to see whether these things were so."
- <u>2 Tim. 2:15</u> "Study to show yourself approved to God, as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the Word of truth."

## 3 Meditate & Memorize - Hide it in Your Heart.

- Psalm 1:1-2 "How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers!
   But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night."
- Psalm 119:11 "Thy Word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against Thee."

# Apply – Lest We become Self-Deceived.

- Josh. 1:8 "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success."
- Matt. 7:21,24-25 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. ... 24 Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine, and acts upon them, may be compared to a wise man, who built his house upon the rock. 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and burst against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded upon the rock."
- <u>James 1:22</u> "But prove yourselves doers of the Word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves."

#### **Memorization & Meditation**

"The word, stored in the heart, provides a mental depository for the Holy Spirit to use to mediate His grace to us, whatever our need for grace might be." -4



Jerry Bridges (1929-Present)

# Stop & Think

How is Christian meditation different from Eastern meditation?

- · Rather than emptying our minds, we fill our minds with God's Word.
- · We focus on the objective truth of God's Word, rather than a subjective experience.

# **Application**

"The Bible was not given to increase our knowledge but to change our lives." -5

Dwight L. Moody (1837-1899)



# **Lesson 1 Review**

- **1. a.** One of the jobs of the Holy Spirit is to bring to our remembrance Christ's words when we need it (John 14:26). Does the Holy Spirit do that with Scripture that we have never heard or read? **b.** What implications does this have on the Spirit's guidance in our lives?
  - A. No. Can't bring to remembrance what's not in there.
  - B. We forfeit much of the Spirit's guidance.
- **2. a.** Below, list a few of the kinds of things that every ableminded Christian has committed to memory (e.g. phone numbers). **b.** Many Christians say that they cannot memorize Scripture. If this is *not* true, based on 2.a., then why do you suppose most adult Christians do not memorize God's Word which could change their lives.
  - A. Phone #, addresses, SSN, ages,
    dates, tunes, words to songs, names,
    places, directions, faces, childhood
    memories, sports facts, traditions,
    tastes, smells, historical events, etc.
  - B. Laziness + a real enemy that doesn't want us to memorize the Word.

#### 2 Timothy 2:15

**Memory Verse** 

# Study God's Word

"Study to show yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the Word of truth."

Lesson 1

**Bible Study** 

#### Psalm 119:11

**Memory Verse** 

#### **Memorize God's Word**

"Thy word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against Thee."

Lesson 1

**Bible Study** 

#### **James 1:22**

**Memory Verse** 

# **Apply God's Word**

"But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves."

Lesson 1

**Bible Study** 

# 2

# **PRAYER**

# The Breath of the Church

A.	What is True Prayer?	9
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# What is True Prayer?

- "Prayer is the breath of the church. When the church prays the body is breathing; when the church stops praying the body is dead." -6 Ed Clowney
- "Prayer is unhurried conversation with God." -7 Unknown
- "Prayer is not always petition, sometimes it is just communion. It is the exquisite ministry of friendship [with God]." -8 J. H. Jowett
- "God has ordained prayer as a means whereby He will do things through men as they pray ... Prayer is a specific divine appointment, an ordinance of heaven, whereby God purposes to carry out His gracious designs on earth and to execute and make efficient the plan of salvation." -9 - E. M. Bounds
- "Nothing distinguishes the children of God so clearly and strongly as prayer. It is the one infallible mark and test of being a Christian. Christian people are prayerful, the worldly-minded, prayerless. Christians call on God; worldlings ignore God. ... The first of beings, man, should also be the first in prayer. ... It is man's business to pray; and it takes manly men to do it. It is godly business to pray and it takes godly men to do it godly men who give over themselves entirely to prayer. ... Today, as much as at any time, we need men of great faith and men who are great in prayer." -10 E. M. Bounds

## **Summary of Prayer**

"Prayer is a sincere, sensible, affectionate pouring out of the heart or soul to God, through Christ, in the strength and assistance of the Holy Spirit, for such things as God has promised, or according to His Word, for the good of the church, with submission in faith to the will of God." -11



John Bunyan (1628-1688)

# Stop & Think

Does prayer change God's purposes?

No, it accomplishes God's

purposes. God weaves prayer

into His sovereign plan.

# **Prayer is Warfare**

"(Prayer) is a wartime walkie talkie for spiritual warfare, not a domestic intercom to increase the comforts of the saints" -12

John Piper (1946-Present)





# **Essential Elements of Effective Prayer.**

### Salvation.

- <u>1 Peter 3:12</u> God is ATTENTIVE to the prayers of the righteous, but He is AGAINST the prayers of the wicked. (paraphrase)
- Prov. 15:8 "The sacrifice of the wicked is an ABOMINATION to the Lord, but the prayer of the upright is His *delight*." [Hebrew: *ratson* lit. APPROVED favorably]
- <u>Prov. 15:29</u> "The Lord is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous."

## **Obedience.** (Example: 1 Peter 3:7)

- <u>2 Chron. 7:14</u> "[IF] My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."
- Psa. 66:18 "If I regard wickedness in my heart, the Lord will not hear."
- Prov. 28:9 "He who turns away his ear from listening to the law, even his prayer is an abomination."
- <u>James 5:16</u> "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (KJV)
- 1 John 3:21-22 "Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; 22 and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight."

#### Whole-Hearted Devotion.

- <u>2 Chron. 16:9</u> "For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His."
- Jer. 29:13 "And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart."
- Heb. 11:6 "...He is a Rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

## Sin Blocks Prayer

"It is not possible to live in sin, and at the same time, by communion with God, draw down from heaven everything one needs for this life." -13

George Müller (1805-1898)



# Stop & Think

What is God's response to the prayers of those who reject Christ?

God rejects the prayers of those who reject His Son (1 John 2:23).

Their prayers are an abomination
(1 Peter 3:12; Prov. 15:8)

# **Prayer & Obedience**

"If, when God speaks to us in His word, we are deaf, when we speak to Him in prayer, He will be dumb." -14

Thomas Watson (1620-1686)



### 4 Faith in God.

- Matt. 17:20 "truly I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you shall say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it shall move; and nothing shall be impossible to you."
- Matt. 21:22 "And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive."
- Heb. 4:16 "Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need."
- Heb. 11:6 "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."
- <u>James 1:6-7</u> "But let him ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man expect that he will receive anything from the Lord."

# Pray According to God's Will.

• 1 John 5:14-15 - "And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 15 And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him."

# 6 Pray in Jesus' Name.

- John 14:13 "And whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, that the
  Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask Me anything in My
  name, I will do it."
- <u>John 15:7</u> "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you."
- <u>John 15:16</u> "You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you."
- John 16:23-24 "Truly, truly, I say to you, if you shall ask the Father for anything, He will give it to you in My name. 24 Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be made full."

# Prayer & Faith

"Prayer is the open admission that without Christ we can do nothing. And prayer is the turning away from ourselves to God in the confidence that He will provide the help we need. Prayer humbles us as needy, and exalts God as wealthy." -15



John Piper (1946-Present)

# Stop & Think

What does it mean to pray in Jesus' name?

It means to pray as Jesus

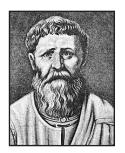
would pray - for His interests

& will to be done on earth.

# Prayer & God's Will

"Make God's will your will, and then ask whatever you want." - 16

Augustine of Hippo (354-430)



# **7** Importunity.

# Definition

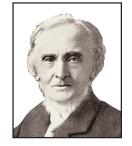
- What does it mean to pray with importunity?
- · Pressing our prayers upon
  - God with perseverance.
- · Holding on in prayer and not letting go.



"I will not let you go unless you bless me." Jacob (2108-2255 BC), Genesis 32:26

## **Persistent Prayer**

"So the Master who warned us against empty repetitions, enjoined upon us the persistent prayer which prevails; and of Himself it is written, "And he left them and went away again the third time, saying the same words." (Matthew 26:44)<sup>-17</sup>



- Dan. 10:2-12

- Luke 11:5-10

Alexander Maclaren (1826-1910)

## **Examples**

• Moses prayed forty days and forty nights. - Deut. 10:10

God promised rain after a 3-year drought,
 1 Kgs. 18:1
 1 Kgs. 18:42-44

• Daniel though faint and weak, pressed his case for three weeks, before the answer and the blessing came.

• Parable of the widow and the unjust judge. - Luke 18:1-8

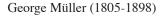
• Parable of the man who went to his friend for bread at midnight.

• Two blind men. - Mt. 9:27-28

• Woman with demon-possessed daughter. - Mt. 15:22-28

## **Never Give Up**

"The great point is to never give up until the answer comes. The great fault of the children of God is they do not continue in prayer ... they do not persevere. If they desire anything for God's glory, they should pray until they get it." -18





## 8 Fervent Desire.

- <u>James 5:16</u> "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."
- <u>Hebrews 5:7</u> "In the days of His flesh, [Jesus] offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears..."
- "Without desire, prayer is a meaningless mumble of words. Such perfunctory, formal praying, with no heart, no feeling, no real desire accompanying it, is to be shunned like a pestilence. And yet even if it be discovered that desire is honestly absent, we should pray anyway. God's Word commands it. We ought to pray to pray whether we feel like it or not and not to allow our feelings to determine our habits of prayer. We should pray for desire; lack of spiritual desire should grieve us, and lead us to lament its absence, to seek earnestly for its bestowal, so that our praying, henceforth, should be an expression of the soul's sincere desire." 19 E. M. Bounds
- "Only the prayer which comes from our heart can get to God's heart." 20
   Charles Haddon Spurgeon



"Give me Scotland 'ere I die!"-21

John Knox Scottish Reformer (1510-1572)

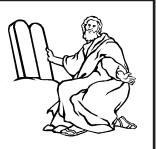
"I fear John Knox's prayers more than 10,000 men." -22

Mary Queen of Scots Catholic Queen (1542-1587)

# **Fervent Prayer**

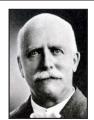
"But now, if Thou wilt, forgive their sin, and if not, please blot me out from Thy book which Thou hast written!"

> Moses (1526-1406 BC) Exodus 32:32



# **Pray From Your Heart**

"Your growth and mine into the likeness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be in exact proportion to the time and to the heart we put into prayer. I put it in that way because there are many who put a great deal of time but so little heart into their praying that they do very little praying in the long time they spend at it."-23



R. A. Torrey (1856-1928)

# Stop & Think

What is perfunctory prayer and how is it a delusion?

- · Perfunctory done with minimum effort or reflection.
- · We think we have prayed

when we really haven't

# The Delusion of Perfunctory Prayer

"The prayer habit is a good habit, but praying by force of habit only is a very bad habit...it is a delusion." -24

E. M. Bounds (1835-1913)



# Right Motives.

- <u>James 4:3</u> "You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures."
- "There are two great evils concerning praying not asking, and asking in a wrong way. Perhaps the greater evil is wrong asking, for it has in it the show of duty done, of praying when there has been no praying a deceit, a fraud, a sham. The times of the most praying are not really the times of the best praying. The Pharisees prayed much, but they were actuated by vanity praying mechanical, perfunctory, professional, beautiful in words, fragrant in sentiment, well ordered, well received by the ears that heard, but utterly devoid of every element of real prayer." <sup>25</sup> E. M. Bounds
- Proverbs 16:2 "All the ways of a man are clean in his own sight, but the Lord weighs the motives."

# Enlarged Expectations.

• Ephesians 3:20 - "[He] is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think."

## **God's Abundance Toward His People**

12 baskets of left-overs after feeding 5000

Mt. 14:15-21

7 baskets of left-overs after feeding 4000

Mt. 15:32-38

180 gallons of fine wine at wedding in Cana
John 2:1-10
He "lavishes" the riches of His grace on us
Eph. 1:7-8

He blesses so that my "cup runneth over"

Psalm 23:5

Parable of the prodigal son
Lk. 15:22-23

• <u>2 Cor. 9:8</u> -"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed."

# Stop & Think

Is it possible to pray for the right things but with the wrong motives?

Yes, e.g. a pastor that prays

for his congregation to grow

for His own personal fame.

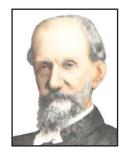
What will be the result of such prayers?

No answer or a delayed answer until motives are purified.

## **Enlarged Expectations**

"Beware in your prayers, above everything else, of limiting God, not only by unbelief, but by fancying that you know what He can do. Expect unexpected things, 'above all that we ask or think'."

Andrew Murray (1828-1917)





# The A·C·T·S of Prayer.

### **1** Adoration.

- Psalm 33:1 "praise is becoming to the upright"
- Psalm 22:3 "Thou art enthroned upon the praises of Israel"
- Heb. 13:15 "let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise"

### 2 Confession.

- <u>2 Chron. 7:14</u> "[If] My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."
- 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

# Thanksgiving.

- Psalm 50:23 "He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me"
- Psalm 100:4 "Enter His gates with thanksgiving"
- Psalm 95:2 "come before His presence with thanksgiving"
- Col. 4:2 "pray ... with an attitude of thanksgiving"
- <u>1 Thess. 5:18</u> in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you"

# 4 Supplication.

- Phil. 4:6 "in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."
- Matt. 7:7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

# Stop & Think

Since sin blocks our prayers (Psa. 66:18), what should be the first element of our prayer, if there is any unconfessed sin in our lives?

Confession (C.A.T.S)

# **Prayer Strategy**

"For the development of a meaningful prayer life falters not so much because of a lack of zeal as because of a lack of strategy. The simple acronym 'ACTS' may prove to be as helpful as any." -27

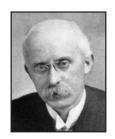
Alistair Begg (1952-Present)



## **Communion With God**

"Prayer is not always petition, sometimes it is just communion. It is the exquisite ministry of friendship [with God]." -28

J. H. Jowett (1864-1923)



# **Thanksgiving**

"As the Lord loveth a cheerful giver, so likewise a cheerful thanksgiver." -29

John Boys (1607-1664)



# **Supplication**

"Prayer is not appointed for the furnishing of God with the knowledge of what we need, but it is designed as a confession to Him of our sense of the need." -30

Arthur Pink (1886-1952)





# God's Commandment to Pray.

- Psa. 50:15 call upon Me in the day of trouble...
- Psa. 105:4 Seek the Lord ... seek His face continually
- Mt. 18:19 if two agree in prayer ... it shall be done
- Lk. 11:9 ask ... seek ... knock emphatic present tense
- Lk. 18:1 men ought always to pray, and not to faint
- Rom. 12:12 be ... devoted to prayer
- Eph. 6:18 pray at all times ... with all perseverance
- Phil. 4:6 let your requests be made known to God
- <u>Col. 4:2</u> Devote yourselves to prayer
- <u>1 Thess. 5:17</u> pray without ceasing
- <u>1 Tim. 2:8</u> pray, lifting up holy hands...
- Jam. 5:16 pray one for another



# God's Promises When We Pray.

- 2 Chron. 7:14 repent and God will hear our prayers
- Psa. 145:18 The Lord is near to all who call upon Him in truth
- Prov. 15:29 He hears the prayers of the righteous
- Isaiah 30:19 He will answer you at the sound of your cry
- Jer. 33:3 when we pray God will do great and mighty things
- Matt. 7:11 God gives good things to those who ask Him
- Matt. 18:19 if two of you agree and ask it will be done
- Matt. 21:22 all things you ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive
- Mark 21:22 ask and believe and it shall be granted you
- John 14:13-14 whatever you ask in My name, that will I do
- John 15:7 If you abide in Me ask and it shall be done
- James 1:5 God generously gives wisdom to those who ask
- James 5:16 effectual fervent prayer availeth much
- 1 Jn. 3:22 keep His commandments, ask and receive
- 1 Jn. 5:14-15 ask anything according to His will

## Ask, Seek, Knock

"Asking, seeking, knocking are ascending rounds in the ladder of successful praying." -31

E. M. Bounds (1835-1913)



# Stop & Think

Since prayer is clearly commanded, then what is prayerlessness?

Sin / disobedience

## **The Prayer Warrior**

"We have need, too, to give thought to that mysterious fact of prayer – the certainty that there will be delays, denials, and seeming failures, in connection with its exercise. We are to prepare for these, to brook them, and cease not in our urgent praying. Like a brave soldier, who, as the conflict grows more stern, exhibits a superior courage than in the earlier stages of the battle; so does the praying Christian, when delay and denial face Him, increase His earnest asking, and ceases not until prayer prevails." -32

E. M. Bounds (1835-1913)



# The Arguments of Prayer.

"I would present my case before Him and fill my mouth with arguments. I would learn the words which He would answer, and perceive what He would say to me." - Job 23:4-5

## God's Names & Attributes.

- <u>Daniel 9:17-18</u> "now, our God, listen to the prayer of Thy servant and to his supplications ... for we are not presenting our supplications before Thee on account of any merits of our own, but on account of *Thy great compassion*."
- <u>Psalm 69:16</u> "Answer me, O Lord, for Thy *lovingkindness* is good; according to the greatness of Thy *compassion*, turn to me"

# 2 God's Reputation, Name's Sake & Glory.

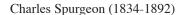
- 1 Kings. 18:37 "Answer me, O Lord, answer me, that this people may know that You, O Lord, are God." (Elijah on Mt. Carmel)
- 2 Kings 19:19 "Now, O Lord our God, I pray, deliver us from [the King of Assyria's] hand that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You alone, O Lord, are God." (Hezekiah)
- <u>Dan. 9:19</u> "O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and take action!
   For Your own sake, O my God, do not delay, because Your city and Your people are called by Your name."
- <u>Psalm. 79:9</u> "Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; and deliver us and forgive our sins for Your name's sake."

# 3 God's Promises, Decrees & Covenants.

- Jer. 14:20-21 "We know our wickedness, O Lord, the iniquity of our fathers, for we have sinned against You. Do not despise us, for Your own name's sake; do not disgrace the throne of Your glory; remember and do not annul Your covenant with us."
- Nehemiah 9:31-32 "You are a gracious and compassionate God... the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who keeps covenant and lovingkindness."
- 2 Tim. 2:13 "If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself."
- "There are more than 14,000 promises in the Bible God has not broken one of them." -33 Unknown

# **Use Arguments in Prayer**

"the arguments to be used are for our own benefit, not for His ... our use of arguments teaches us the ground upon which we obtain the blessing." -34





# Stop & Think

\*\* How is confessing God's promises in prayer different from the "name it and claim it" theology of the prosperity teachers?

· The first is focussed on

God's eternal glory, the second

on man's earthly comfort.

· Earthy health & wealth are not

promised 100% of the time.

# **Pray God's Promises**

"Furnish thyself with arguments from the promises to enforce thy prayers ... The mightier any is in the Word, the more mighty he will be in prayer" -35

William Gurnall (1617-1679)



# Laying Hold of God's Willingness

"Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance, but laying hold of His willingness." -36

Martin Luther (1483-1546)



# 4 God's Relationship With His People.

- Psalm 74:2 "Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old, which You have redeemed to be the tribe of Your inheritance."
- Psalm 106:4 "Remember me, O LORD, in Your favor toward Your people;
   visit me with Your salvation."

### 6 God's Past Mercies.

- <u>Psalm 74:2</u> "Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old, which You have redeemed to be the tribe of Your inheritance."
- <u>Psalm 25:6</u> "Remember, O LORD, Your compassion and Your loving-kindnesses, for they have been from of old."
- Psalm 77:11-12 "I shall remember the deeds of the LORD; surely I will remember Your wonders of old. I will meditate on all Your work and muse on Your deeds."

# 6 Christ's Name, Blood, Atonement.

## **The Grand Argument**

"The grand Christian argument is the sufferings, the death, the merit, the intercession of Christ Jesus. When thou pleadest the name of Christ ... God himself feels the sacred power of that divine plea." -37

Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)



# Stop & Think

Read Numbers 14:11-19. What arguments does Moses use in his intercession for Israel?

v.13 - God's attributes (strength)

v. 14 - God's reputation

("they have heard of You")

v. 14 - God's relationship with

His people (in their midst)

v. 15-16 - God's reputation

v. 16 - God's promises (oaths)

v.17 - God's attributes (power)

v. 17 - God's word

(just as You declared)

v. 18 - God's attributes

(lovingkindness)

v. 19 - God's attributes

(lovingkindness)

v. 19 - Past mercies

## **Lesson 2 Review**

- **1.** Does God hear the prayers of unbelievers? Explain.
  - No. Because they have rejected His Son He rejects their prayers.
- 2. How does unconfessed sin affect believers' prayers?

  It blocks our prayers, until we repent.
- 3. What does it mean to pray in Jesus' name?

  To pray for His interests, glory, and hence authority.
- 4. What does it mean to pray with importunity?

  To persevere & hold on in prayer for those things that glorify God and not let go.
- **5.** What are some reasons that God may delay an answer to prayer?
  - Develop our relationship, purify motives, to wait for the perfect timing, etc.
- **6.** What acronym might we employ to give direction to our prayer?
  - A·C·T·S Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving & Supplication

talking to and what He has done.

- 7. Is prayerlessness sin? Explain.

  Yes, because God commands it.
- 8. Do we need to use arguments in prayer to overcome some reluctance in God to answer prayer? Explain

  No, to remind ourselves of who we are

#### Philippians 4:6

**Memory Verse** 

### **Supplication**

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

Lesson 2

**Prayer** 

#### **James 5:16**

**Memory Verse** 

### **Pray Fervently**

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Lesson 2

**Prayer** 

#### 1 John 5:14-15

**Memory Verse** 

### **Ask According to God's Will**

"And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him."

Lesson 2

**Prayer** 

# 3

## **CHURCH FELLOWSHIP**

## Some Assembly Required

	What is the Church?	_
D.	Scripture Pictures of the Church	39
C.	Three Responsibilities TO the Church	37
B.	Seven Responsibilities OF the Church	33
A.	What is the Church?	31

### 1 The Called Out Ones.

- Church. (Greek: ekklesia, a compound word from ek meaning "out," and kaleo meaning "called"). The church is made of those who are "called out."
- <u>1 Peter 2:9</u> "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."
- Rev. 18:4 "Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins." ["her" = Babylon, symbol of this fallen world system]

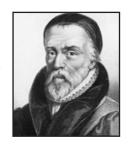
## 2 Defined By the Word of God.

"The church, as defined by the Word of God, is a group of Christians who dedicate themselves to meeting together for the regular preaching of the Word of God; who submit themselves to biblical eldership; who regularly celebrate the ordinances of the church (baptism and the Lord's Supper); and who practice and submit themselves to church discipline as laid out in Scripture." - Wayne Mack - 38

#### The Church Defined

"The church of Christ is the multitude of all those who believe in Christ for the remission of sins, and who are thankful for that mercy and who love the law of God purely, and who hate the sin in this world and long for the life to come." -39





## Visible & Invisible

Invisible Church Visible Church

Defined: The redeemed The local

of all ages churches

Membership: <u>Saved only</u> <u>Saved & Lost</u>

Living & Dead Living

Division: <u>One body</u> <u>Denominations</u>

## Made of Believers, Not Bricks

"Now the church is not wood and stone, but the company of people who believe in Christ." -40

Martin Luther (1483-1546)





## Seven Responsibilities ©F the Church.



1 Support the Truth

• 1 Timothy 3:15 – "I write so that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth."



## 2 Supply the Saints

• Ephesians 4:12 – "He gave some as ... pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ"



## 3 Supplication

• Matthew 21:13 – "[Jesus] said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer.'"



## 4 Spiritual Worship

• <u>John 4:24</u> – "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

## **Choose Wisely**

"Don't go where it is all fine music and grand talk and beautiful architecture ... Go where the gospel is preached, the gospel that really feeds your soul, and go often." -41

Charles H. Spurgeon (1834-1892)



## Stop & Think

What is the only proper mode of worship? (John 4:24)

... in Spirit and in truth.

How does God measure the manner in which we worship (1 Sam. 16:7b)

God looks at the heart

#### A Place to Grow

"The church is the gathering of God's children, where they can be helped and fed like babies and then, guided by her motherly care, grow up to manhood in maturity of faith." -42

John Calvin (1509-1564)



## 5 Son-Centered Fellowship.



- Psalm 133:1,3 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! ... For there the LORD commands the blessing."
- 1 John 1:3 "indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ."
- <u>1 Peter 1:22</u> "Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart."
- <u>1 John 3:14</u> "We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren."

## 6 Sacraments



- Matthew 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples ... baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."
- 1 Cor. 11:26 "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes."

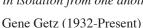


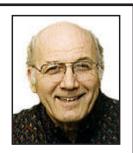
## 7 Send out laborers

Matthew 9:37-38 – "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

### **Church Fellowship**

"Though true Christianity uniquely involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, it is also a corporate experience. Christians cannot grow spiritually as they ought to in isolation from one another." -43





## Stop & Think

What is a sacrament?

An ordinance prescribed in the Bible which is an outward visible sign of inward spiritual grace.

What are the only two sacraments authorized under the New Covenant?

baptism & communion

### **Not Empty Rituals**

"[The sacraments] are not to be despised as empty formalism or ritualism. ... They are indeed rituals, but they are Godordained rituals and therefore to be joyfully and solemnly partaken of." -44

R. C. Sproul (1939-Present)





## Three Responsibilities To the Church.





- Psalm 111:1 "I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart, in the company of the upright and in the assembly."
- Acts 2:42 "they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship."
- <u>Heb. 10:25</u> "do not forsake assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encourage one another."

## 2 T reasures - Sacrificial Giving.

• Exodus 34:26 - "You shall bring the very first of the first fruits..."



- Prov. 3:9 "Honor the Lord from your wealth, and from the first of all your produce."
- Malachi 3:8-10 "Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, 'How have we robbed Thee?' In tithes and offerings. ... 'Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this,' says the Lord of hosts, 'if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows."

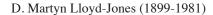
## 3 T alents - Selfless Service.

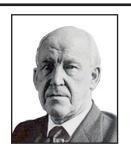


- <u>1 Peter 4:10</u> "As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."
- Romans 12:4-6 "For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly."

### **Church Membership**

"We must grasp once again, the idea of church membership as being the membership of the body of Christ and as the biggest honour which can come a man's way in this world." -45





- \*\*Ostate of the state of the st
- \*\*Comparison of the comparison of the confused about this for a season, someone who persists in such a posture is, in all probability, not a believer. It is the duty of every Christian to join a visible church." R. C. Sproul
- "An empty tomb proves Christianity; an empty church denies it."
   Author Unknown 48

#### **Christian Service**

"Howard Hendricks once described the local church as a football game: Twenty-two people on the field, badly in need of a rest, and forty thousand in the stands, badly in need of exercise." <sup>49</sup>

Alistair Begg (1952-Present)





## Scripture Pictures of the Church.

## 1 B ride of Christ



- <u>2 Cor. 11:2</u> "I betrothed you to one husband, that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin." (cf. Hosea 2:19-20)
- Eph. 5:25 "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her."
- Rev. 19:7 "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His BRIDE has made herself ready."

## 2 B ody of Christ



- 1 Cor. 12:27 "you are Christ's BODY, and individually members of it."
- Eph. 5:29-30 "Christ [nourishes and cherishes] the church, because we are members of His BODY."
- Col. 1:18 "He is also head of the BODY, the church..."

## 3 Building / Temple / House of the Lord.



- Eph. 2:19-21 "you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole BUILDING, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord."
- <u>1 Pet. 2:5</u> "you, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house"

## 4 Beloved City of God - The New Jerusalem.



- Rev. 20:9 "the camp of the saints and the BELOVED CITY"
- Rev. 21:2 "And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband."
- Heb. 12:22-23 "But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, to the general assembly and church of the first-born who are enrolled in heaven..."

## Stop & Think

- List some of the qualities each of these four pictures of the church convey
- Purity, beauty, relationship,
   love, devotion, commitment,
   closeness, intimacy.
- Diversity, connection, growth, interaction, dependence, diversity of function, one head: Christ.
- Structure, support,
   foundation, communion,
   worship.
- · Community, fellowship, citizenship, duty, service.

#### The Bride of Christ

"The bride of Christ is soiled but will one day be presented spotless to the Father by the Son who bought her, who loves her, and who intercedes for her every day. If we love Christ, we must also love His bride. If we love Christ, we must love His church." 50

R. C. Sproul (1939-Present)



## **Lesson 3 Review**

**1.** What compound word in Greek does the word "church" come from and what does it teach us?

The church is made up of those who are "called out"

- 2. What is the visible and the invisible church?

  Invisible = the redeemed of all times

  Visible = the local churches
- **3.** What is the only proper manner of worship prescribed by Jesus? (John 4:24)

In Spirit and truth.

**4.** How does God measure the quality of our worship? (1 Sam. 16:7b)

God looks at the heart.

- 5. What is a sacrament?

  An outward visible sign of an inward spiritual grace.
- Spiritual grace.What are the only two sacraments authorized under the New Covenant?

Baptism and communion.

**7.** What is God's command concerning joining a local church? (Hebrews 10:25)

Don't forsake assembling together.

**8.** What are the Christian's three responsibilities to the local church?

Donate my Time, Treasures & Talents.

**9.** What do we learn from the Scripture's analogy of the church to a human body?

We are diversity of gifts, interaction, connection, interdependent, Christ is the head.

#### Hebrews 10:25

**Memory Verse** 

### Some Assembly Required

"Let us not forsake our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encourage one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near."

Lesson 3

The Church

#### Psalm 133:1, 3

**Memory Verse** 

## **Christian Unity & Fellowship**

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity! ... For there the Lord commands the blessing."

Lesson 3

The Church

#### 1 Peter 4:10

**Memory Verse** 

#### **Church Service**

"As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

Lesson 3

The Church

## **OUTREACH** Go Make Disciples!

t Commission? 43
entiful45
are Few 47
Effective Evangelism 55



## What is the Great Commission? Mt. 28:19

Read

## Check One **⊻**

- Optional advice not to be 1. taken seriously by busy Christians. A command directed pri-
- **2.** marily, if not exclusively, to pastors and officially appointed missionaries.
- 3. A command making all Christians responsible to make disciples.

#### **A Commandment**

"The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed." -51

Hudson Taylor (1832-1905)



## Stop & Think

Ephesians 4:11 says that God made "some as evangelists." How then is every Christian responsible to do it? Explain.

All are commissioned, some are especially gifted. Each part of the human body has a special function, but some functions are common to all parts (e.g. circulating blood)

### **Something for Everyone**

"God intends that everyone who has embraced the gospel become a part of the great enterprise of spreading the gospel." -52

Jerry Bridges (1929-Present)





## The Harvest is Plentiful

### **U.S. Percentages**

<ul> <li>Protestants51.0 °</li> </ul>	%
---------------------------------------	---

- Catholic ......28.0 %
- Orthodox ......3.0 %
- Moslem .....1.8 %
- Jewish.....2.4 %
- Buddhist......0.4 %
- Hindu......0.2 %
- Nonreligious ......8.7 %



Percentage True Christians in the U. S.

#### **Global Estimates**

Population ~6 billion
Born-Again 500 million
Believers (8.3%)



### **Unreached People Groups Worldwide**

•	Tribal	2100
•	Moslem	3400
•	Hindu	1800
•	Chinese	900
•	Buddhist	900
•	Other	900

~10,000

#### **Christ Unknown**

"We talk of the Second Coming; half the world has never heard of the first." -53

Oswald J. Smith (1889-1986)



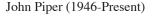
## Stop & Think

Can those who have never heard of Christ be saved by being a sincere Moslem, Buddhist, Hindu, etc.?

No! Jesus said," I am the way,
and the truth, and the life; no
one comes to the Father, but
through Me." - John 14:6
Reason missions is so urgent.

### **Missionary Theology**

"A God-centered theology must be a missionary theology. If you say that you love the glory of God, the test of your authenticity is whether you love the spread of that glory among all the peoples of the world." -54







## ...But the Workers are Few.

## Five Reasons Most Christians Don't Share the Their Faith.

1 Reason #1: We Feel Unqualified

## What Are the Qualifications?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<b>Qualification</b>	<b>Example</b>	Reference
1.		$\overline{\checkmark}$	Bible college degree.	Peter & John were uneducated.	Acts 4:13
2.		$\checkmark$	Attractive appearance.	Christ had none.	Isaiah 53:2
				Paul "unimpressive."	2 Cor. 10:10
3.		$\checkmark$	Good speaking ability.	Moses stuttered.	Exodus 4:10
				Paul's speech was "contemptible."	1 Cor. 2:1 2 Cor. 10:10 2 Cor. 11:6
4.		$\overline{\checkmark}$	Fame, importance.	The authorities had to ask John the Baptist, "Who are you?"	John 1:19
5.		$\checkmark$	Fancy tracts, leaflets.	Peter had nothing.	Acts 3:6
6.			A clever sales pitch.	Paul refused one.	1 Cor. 1:17 1 Cor. 2:4-5 2 Cor 2:17
7.	$\checkmark$		A willing heart.	Isaiah had one.	Isaiah 6:8
8.	$\checkmark$		Compassion for people.	Christ's compassion.	Mt. 9:13, 36
9.	$\checkmark$		Filled with the Spirit.	The early church.	Acts 4:31
10.	<b>V</b>		Good news of great joy!	Our testimony.	Lk. 2:10
Total = 4 our of $10 \leftarrow$ That's an $\bigcirc$ in the world's eyes.					

## What Effect Did the "Flunkies" Have?

- Acts 2:41 In Jerusalem, 3000 people were saved in one day!
- Acts 2:47 The Lord added to their number day by day those being saved.
- Acts 4:4 As many as heard their message believed -- about 5000!
- Acts 5:14 Multitudes were constantly being added to their number!
- Acts 6:7 "And the word of God kept on spreading; and the number of disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith."
- Acts 8:4 Those scattered by persecution spread the gospel to the world!
- Acts 11:24 In Antioch, "considerable numbers" were saved.
- Acts 12:24 "The Word of the Lord continued to "be multiplied."
- Acts 13:44 In Antioch, "nearly the whole city" came to hear the Gospel.
- Acts 13:49 "the word of the Lord was being spread through the whole region," around Antioch.
- Acts 14:1 In Iconium, "a great multitude" believed.
- Acts 17:4 In Thessalonica, "a great multitude" of Gentiles, and "not a few" of the prominent women believed.
- Acts 17:6 The disciples accused of having "turned the world upside down."
- Acts 19:20 "the Word of the Lord was growing mightily and prevailing."
- Phil. 1:12-13 Even Paul's Roman imprisonment "turned out for the greater progress of the Gospel," so that Paul writes, "my imprisonment in the cause of Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else."

#### Acts 17:6

"These men have turned the world upside down!"

## 2 Reason #2: Shyness / Timidity

## God's Spirit to Overcome Fear



"I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling, and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power."

- 1 Corinthians 2:3-4

## God has NOT given us a Spirit of timidity...

- 2 Timothy 1:7

#### but of Power ...

• Acts 1:8 - "but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

#### and Love ...

- John 14:15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."
- Matt. 28:19 "Go make disciples" ← Commandment

## and Discipline.

• <u>Prov. 29:25</u> - "The fear of man brings a snare, but he who trusts in the Lord will be exalted."

## Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord..."



A. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of

Witness

• <u>John 15:26</u> - "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me."

## 

• Acts 1:8 - "but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

## C. The Spirit gives the Christian <u>Boldness</u> to Witness.

• Acts 4:31 - "And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness."

## D. God's Word commands us to <u>be Filled</u> with the Spirit. (i.e. submit to His control)

• Ephesians 5:18 - "be filled with the Spirit"

## 

• <u>John 7:38-39</u> - "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.' But this He spoke of the Spirit"

## F. One thing stops the "River" is \_\_\_\_\_\_

• Ephesians 4:30 - "Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."

## 3 Reason #3: Fatalism

### Two Parallel Truths



"The foreordination of in no degree interferes with the responsibility of man. I have often been asked by persons to reconcile the two truths. My only reply is, 'They need no reconciliation, for they were never at odds.' Why should I try to reconcile two friends. The two facts are parallel lines."-55 - Charles H. Spurgeon



#### Not one of God's elect will be lost, all will be saved.

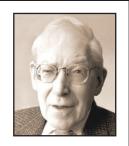
Job 42:2: Psalm 103:19: Isa. 46:9-10; Jn. 6:39, 44; Acts 13:48; Rom. 9:15-16; Eph. 1:4-5; 2 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 1:9; 1 Peter 1:1-6.

#### None are saved apart from responding to the Gospel.

Isa. 52:7: Ezekiel 33:7-9: Mark 16:15: Acts 2:37.13:48: Rom. 10:13-17; 1 Cor. 9:16, 15:11; 2 Tim. 4:2

### **Sovereignty & Evangelism**

"Were it not for the sovereign grace of God, evangelism would be the most futile and useless enterprise that the world has ever seen, and there would be no more complete waste of time under the sun than to preach the Christian gospel." 56



J. I. Packer (1926-Present)

## Stop & Think

 What is the nonbiblical view called fatalism?

A hyper-calvinistic view that God is going to save whoever He has predestined, therefore it doesn't matter if a evangelize or not.

### An Enigma

"So while the Bible asserts both God's sovereignty and people's freedom and moral responsibility, it never attempts to explain their relationship." -57

Jerry Bridges (1929-Present)



## 4 Reason #4: Apathy

- Luke 16:20-29 "And a certain poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with sores, 21 and longing to be fed with the crumbs which were falling from the rich man's table; besides, even the dogs were coming and licking his sores. 22 Now it came about that the poor man died and he was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried. 23 And in Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far away, and Lazarus in his bosom. 24 And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue; for I am in agony in this flame.' 25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony. 26 And besides all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed, in order that those who wish to come over from here to you may not be able, and that none may cross over from there to us.' 27 And he said, 'Then I beg you, Father, that you send him to my father's house -- 28 for I have five brothers-that he may warn them, lest they also come to this place of torment.' 29 But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them."
- "If an indifferent Christian could spend just five minutes in hell, he would come forth as a flaming evangelist seeking the lost." -58

- Herschel Hobbs



## 6 Reason #5: Busyness / Worldliness

 Matthew 13:22 - "And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful." B-Busy U-Under

S-Satan's

Y-Yoke

#### An Unfaithful Friend

"A foolish physician he is, and a most unfaithful friend, that will let a sick man die for fear of troubling him; and cruel wretches are we to our friends, that will rather suffer them to go quietly to hell, then we will anger them, or hazard our reputation with them." <sup>59</sup>



Richard Baxter (1615-1691)

## Stop & Think

What do you suppose is the major cause of apathy amongst Christians with regard to evangelism?

Don't really believe in a literal Heaven & Hell.

### **Chokehold of Busyness**

"The weight of so many responsibilities and distractions - even the worthwhile ones - has a crushing effect on a person's relationship with Christ. It ruins our taste for spiritual things. It suppresses our exuberance for spiritual service. It suffocates our passion for pursuing Christ and the intimate relationship He offers." 60



John MacArthur (1939-Present)

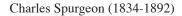


## 10 Elements of Effective Evangelism

- 1 A godly life (lifestyle evangelism)
  - Matthew 5:14-16 "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."
- 2 A willing heart.
  - Isaiah 6:8 "Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?' Then I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'"
- 3 Compassion for the lost.
  - Matt. 9:36 "And seeing the multitudes, He felt compassion for them."
- Pray for open doors ...
  Col. 4:2-3 "Devote yourselves to prayer ... that God may open up to us a door for the Word."
- 5 ... and then look for them!
  - Col. 4:5-6 "Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of every opportunity."
- 6 Prayer for Spirit's filling & boldness.
  - Acts 4:31 "And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak the word of God with boldness."
- Fruit of the Spirit (love & joy). .
  - 1 Thess. 5:16-18 "Rejoice always ... in everything give thanks"
  - Neh. 8:10 "the joy of the Lord is your strength."
- Personal testimony.
  John 9:25 "one thing I do know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see."
- a A clear Gospel message.
  - 2 Timothy 2:15 "Study to show yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the Word of truth."
  - 1 Peter 3:15 "but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence."
- 10 Follow-Up / discipleship.
  - Matthew 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations"
  - 1 Timothy 1:5 "But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith."

#### Lifestyle Evangelism

"It is of no use for any of you to try to be soul-winners if you are not bearing fruit in your own lives. How can you serve the Lord with your lips if you do not serve Him with your lives?"-61





## Stop & Think

What is the difference between a convert and a disciple?

Same as the difference between giving birth and raising a child.

A disciple (from Old English, means "learner") is in training to make other disciples.

### **Misrepresenting the Gospel**

"The nature of Christ's salvation is woefully misrepresented by the present-day evangelist. He announces a Savior from hell rather than a Savior from sin. And that is why so many are fatally deceived, for there are multitudes who wish to escape the Lake of Fire who have no desire to be delivered from their carnality and worldliness." <sup>-62</sup>



Arthur W. Pink (1886-1952)

## **Lesson 4 Review**

**1.** What is the "Great Commission"? (Mt. 28:19)

Command to all disciples to make disciples

**2.** Are only those who have the special gift of an evangelist (Eph. 4:11) responsible for the Great Commission?

No, the Great Commission is a command for all disciples to make disciples.

**3.** Can those who have not received the Gospel be saved if they are sincere in the own religion? Explain.

No. One Way - Jesus (John 14:6)

**4.** Does a person need good looks and a good speaking ability to be a good evangelist? Explain.

No, only need the Spirit, the Gospel, a willing heart & compassion for lost.

**5.** What does God provide to every Christian to overcome shyness or an introverted personality when it comes to sharing their faith? (Acts 4:31; 2 Timothy 1:7)

His Holy Spirit!

**6.** Does evangelism matter if God has sovereignly predestined the elect?

Yes! God ordains the means & the end.

**7.** What is at least one major cause of apathy among Christians with regard to evangelism?

Don't fully understand Heaven & Hell.

**8.** What is the difference between a convert and a disciple? Which has the Great Commission commanded us to make and what does that require?

Disciple is a student/learner. We're Commanded to make disciples which requires discipleship

#### 1 Peter 3:15

#### **Memory Verse**

## Always be Ready to Share

"but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence."

Lesson 4

Outreach

#### Matthew 9:37-38

#### **Memory Verse**

### Pray to the Lord of the Harvest

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

Lesson 4

**Outreach** 

#### Daniel 12:3

### **Memory Verse**

#### The Soul-Winners Reward

"And those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

Lesson 4

Outreach

# 5

## THE LAW OF GOD

## Its Purpose & Importance

A.	The Ten Commandments	59
B.	The Purpose of the Law.	69



The Ten Commandments.

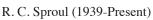
## EXODUS 20:3-12

- I. Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.
- II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.
- III. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.
- IV. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
  - V. Honor thy father and thy mother.

First Tablet - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart ...

#### The Law of God

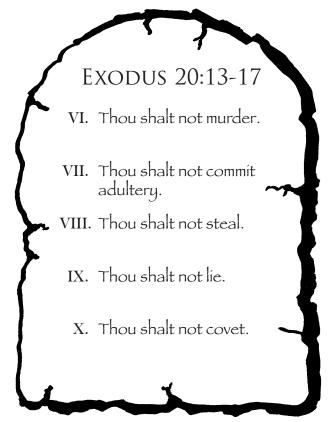
"We must keep the law of God before the people so that they may lay hold of the gospel... If all you preach is the 'good news,' and you never preach the 'bad news,' the 'good news' becomes 'no news,' and it is not significant to people." -63







Memorize the Ten Commandments in order.



"... love your neighbor as yourself" - Second Tablet

### The First Commandment.



"Thou shalt have no other gods before Me."

Exodus 20:3

- What reason does God give for the first commandment? (Ex. 34:14-16)
  God is jealous. He will not share glory &
  worship with another. (Isa. 42:8)
- 2 The Second Commandment.



"Thou shalt not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in the heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. You shall not worship them or serve them." - Exodus 20:4-6

• What is the only divinely ordained image of God that we may worship? (Colossians 1:15, Hebrews 1:3)

Jesus Christ.

### 3 The Third Commandment.



"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain, for the Lord will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain." - Exodus 20:7

• Does this command pertain only to words? (Ezek. 36:21-23, Mt. 15:8)

No, also to hypocrisy (Professing faith in God, but behaving wickedly).

#### No Other Gods

"God, therefore, calls for the affections of the heart, that He alone may be spiritually worshipped ... whenever we turn away in the very smallest degree from this rule, we make to ourselves other gods, and degrade Him from His right place." -64



John Calvin (1509-1564)

## Stop & Think

Does the second commandment pertain to Sunday School pictures of Jesus? Explain.

Pictures, crucifixes, statues are prohibited in worship.

### No Graven Images

"... any image of God was not to be made at all, since no similitude was ever seen of Him, or any likeness could be conceived; and it must be a gross piece of ignorance, madness, and impudence, to pretend to make one." -65

John Gill (1697-1771)

### 4 The Fourth Commandment.



"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy." Exodus 20:8

- What reason is given for the fourth commandment? (Exodus 20:11)

  God Created the Universe in Six days and rested on the Seventh.
- Did Jesus abolish the Sabbath commandment? (Matthew 5:17)
   No, He fulfills it, i.e. we rest in Christ.
- What day of the week did Jesus meet with His disciples after the resurrection? (John 20:19, 26)

• What day of the week did the first century church meet under the apostles? (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2)

Sunday, the first day of the week.

### **5** The Fifth Commandment.



"Honor your father and your mother." Exodus 20:12

• What will be one characteristic of children in the last days that relates to the second commandment? (2 Timothy 3:1)

Disobedient to parents.

### **Humility Toward Sabbath**

"Accept the gift of one day's rest a week. Humble yourself to believe you need it. And be willing to admit that your wealth and your significance and your true advancement in life depend far more on God's labor than on yours." -66

John Piper (1946-Present)



## Stop & Think

What is the Christian's obligation with regard to the Lord's Day? (Hebrew 10:24-25)

To not to forsake assembling together, and to come to encourage one another.

#### **Honor Father & Mother**

"Families where there is consistent discipline and the children are encouraged to love and respect both parents tend to produce individuals who are productive, law-abiding members of society." -67

R. C. Sproul (1939-Present)



#### The Sixth Commandment.



"Thou shalt not kill." Exodus 20:13

- How did Jesus heighten this commandment? (Matthew 5:21-22)
   Anyone who hates his brother has murdered him in his heart.
- What penalty has God prescribed in His Word for murder? (Gen. 6:9)

Death, i.e. capital punishment.

- What is the reason given for capital punishment in Genesis 9:6?
   Man is created in the image of God.
   Murder is an attack upon God's image.
- Who is responsible for carrying out this penalty? (Romans 13:1-4)

  The lawfully appointed government,
  e.g. not vigilantes.

#### The Seventh Commandment.



"Thou shalt not commit adultery." Exodus 20:14

• How did Jesus heighten this commandment? (Matthew 5:27-28)

We are guilty of violating the commandment if we lust after another person.

#### **Thou Shalt Not Kill**

"[the sixth commandment] does not forbid killing in lawful war, or in our own necessary defence, nor the magistrate's putting offenders to death, for those things tend to the preserving of life; but it forbids all malice and hatred ...done, in passion." -68



Matthew Henry (1662-1714)

# Stop & Think

What sexual sins does the seventh commandment include?

Any sex outside of marriage.

#### **Sexual Purity**

"We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other." -69

Martin Luther (1483-1546)



#### **3** The Eighth Commandment.



"Thou shall not steal."

Exodus 20:15

• What does the Bible say about the love of material possessions? (1 Timothy 6:9-10)

It causes ruin and destruction and is the root of all sorts of evil.

#### The Ninth Commandment.



"Thou shall not bear false witness against your neighbor." Exodus 20:16

• What is God's attitude toward lying? (Proverbs 6:16-17, 12:22)

Lying is an "abomination" to God!

#### **1** The Tenth Commandment.



"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his male servant or his female servant or his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor." - Exodus 20:17

• What is the antidote for covetousness? (1 Timothy 6:6-8)

Cultivate contentment.

#### **Our Most Common Sin?**

"There is no word of the Decalogue more often and more unconsciously broken than this ninth Commandment, and men need perpetually and persistently to pray 'Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.'"-70



Arthur W. Pink (1886-1952)

## Stop & Think

Is it all right to lie in some circumstances, as when Rahab lied to save the Israelite spies (Joshua 2:1-8)?

Is this situational ethics,

or does the end justify the means?

#### **Covetousness is Idolatry**

"The opposite of covetousness is contentment in God. When contentment in God decreases, covetousness for gain increases. That's why Paul says in Colossians 3:5 that covetousness is idolatry."-71



John Piper (1946-Present)



### The Purpose of the Law.

#### It Reveals God's Holiness.

• Romans 7:12 – "So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good."

#### 2 It Reflects Man's Sinfulness.

- James 1:23-25 "For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does."
- Rom. 3:20 "through the Law comes the knowledge of sin."
- Rom. 7:7,13 "I would not have come to know sin except through the Law; for I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, 'You shall not covet.'...that through the commandment sin might become utterly sinful."

#### 3 It Shows Our Accountability to God.

Rom. 3:19 – "Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to
those who are under the Law, that every mouth may be closed, and all
the world may become accountable to God."

#### It is the Basis for Man's Moral Conscience.

• Rom. 2:14-15 – "For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness, and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them."

#### The Law is a Mirror

"The law of God is a mirror of God's holiness and our unrighteousness. It serves to reveal to us our need of a savior." 72

R. C. Sproul (1939-Present)



# Stop & Think

What happens to the conscience when the Law is repeatedly violated? (cf. Eph. 4:17-19)

Three Effects:

[1] futility of mind

[2] darkened understanding

[3] hardened and callous heart

#### **Human Conscience**

"Everybody who is created comes into the world with a sense of right and wrong. That is the law written in the hearts. In addition to that, God has put the conscience and the conscience is a warning device that sounds off when we violate that law, or affirms us when we obey it." -73

John MacArthur (1939-Present)





Thelaw



"Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith."

~ Galatians 3:24 ~



#### **6** A One Way Sign Pointing to Christ.

- Gal. 3:24 "Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith."
- James 2:10 "For whoever keeps the whole Law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all."
- Matt. 5:20 "For I say to you, that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven."
- Gal. 2:16 "nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works
  of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in
  Christ Jesus, that we may be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the
  works of the Law; since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified."

#### **1** It is for Training in Righteousness.

• <u>2 Tim 3:16</u>—"All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, reproof, correction, training in righteousness"

#### It is a Tangible Way to Show Love for God.

- John 14:15,21 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.... He
  who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me..."
- 1 John 5:3 "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome."
- 2 John 1:6 "And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments."

#### The Law Points to Christ

"The law is, so to speak, Jesus Christ's dog, to go after His sheep, and bring them to the shepherd."-74

Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)



# Stop & Think

\* How does the Law point us to Christ?

By showing our transgressions, the

Law teaches us that we cannot be

saved by works, but must look for

salvation apart from the Law - i.e.

by grace through faith in Christ.

(cf. Daniel 1)

#### Love & Law

"Love provides the motive for obeying the commands of the law, but the law provides specific direction for exercising love." -75

Jerry Bridges (1929-Present)



#### **9** The Basis for Human Government.

• Rom. 13:1-4 – "Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. Therefore he who resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves. For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same; for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath upon the one who practices evil."

#### The Basis for Successful Living.

- <u>Josh. 1:8</u> "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success."
- Matt. 7:24-25 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine, and acts upon them, may be compared to a wise man, who built his house upon the rock. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and burst against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded upon the rock."



#### **Obey the King**

"All authority is under Christ. When we disobey lesser authorities, we are guilty of disobeying Christ. You cannot serve the King and honor His authority by rebelling against His appointed governors. To say you honor the kingdom of Christ while you disobey His authority structure is to be guilty not only of hypocrisy but of cosmic treason." -76



R. C. Sproul (1939-Present)

# Stop & Think

Is there ever a place for civil disobedience? If so, when and why?

We must submit in all things lawful, but humbly "disobey" if government requires us do something against

the Law of God.

#### Meditate on the Word

"Know this book [the Bible]. Make this book the main dwelling place of your mind. On every question, ask, what does the Bible say? Meditate on this book day and night. Take the word given to Joshua 1:8 for yourself." -77

John Piper (1946-Present)



### **Lesson 5 Review**

- 1. What do the first and second commandments reveal that God jealously will not share? (Exodus 34:14-16; Isaiah 42:8)

  His glory and worship.
- 2. What is the only divinely authorized image of God that we may worship? (Colossians 1:15)

  Jesus Christ.
- 3. What is the New Testament day of rest according to the precedent set by Jesus and the apostles? (John 20:19, 26)

  The first day of the week ▶ Sunday
- 4. How should we keep the "Lord's Day"? (Hebrews 10:25)

  Assemble together for teaching, worship, prayer, and fellowship.
- **5.** Why does God attach such a harsh penalty to murder? (Genesis 9:6)

Murder is an attack on God's image.

- 6. How does the Law point us to Christ? (Galatians 3:24)

  Shows us how sinful we are and how impossible it is to be saved by our works.
- 7. How can the Christian demonstrate his or her love for God? (John 14:15)
  - By keeping His commandments.
- **8.** How did Jesus show the Sadducees and the Pharisees that their purely outward obedience to the Law would not get them into Heaven? (Matthew 5:20-28)
  - By requiring that the Law be kept internally as well as externally.

#### Romans 3:19-20

#### **Memory Verse**

#### The Purpose of the Law

"whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may become accountable to God...for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin."

Lesson 5

The Law of God

#### Galatians 3:24

#### **Memory Verse**

#### The Law Points to Christ

"Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith."

Lesson 5

The Law of God

#### John 14:15

**Memory Verse** 

#### Love & Law

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."

Lesson 5

The Law of God

# 6 REPENTANCE Our Deepening Daily Duty

A.	Repentance that Produces Real Change	77
B.	True & False Repentance	81



# Repentance that Produces Real Change.

#### 1 The Heart of the Gospel.

- "No evangelism that omits the message of repentance can properly be called the gospel, for sinners cannot come to Jesus Christ apart from a radical change of heart, mind, and will. That demands a spiritual crisis leading to a complete turnaround and ultimately a wholesale transformation. It is the only kind of conversion Scripture recognizes." -78
   John MacArthur
- <u>2 Chronicles 7:14</u> If "My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin…"

#### 2 Contrition.

- Psalm 51:17 "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise."
- <u>Isaiah 57:15</u> "For thus says the high and exalted One who lives forever, whose name is Holy, 'I dwell on a high and holy place, and also with the contrite and lowly of spirit, in order to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite."
- <u>Isaiah 66:2</u> "But to this one I will look, to him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who trembles at My word."

#### A Change of Life

"Proof of the conquest of a soul for Christ will be found in a real change of life. If a man does not live differently from what he did before ... his conversion is a fiction." -79

Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)



# Stop & Think

What does the word "repentance" mean?

Turn around, change direction, change the mind and will from wrong to right, sorrow for sin that leads to a change of thinking, desire, and conduct of life. (John MacArthur)

#### **Contrition Defined**

"Contrition includes a deep remorse for having offended God. The contrite person openly and fully confesses his sin with no attempt to excuse it or justify it." <sup>80</sup>

R.C. Sproul (1939-Present)



#### Be Specific.

• "People make a general confession such as, 'I am a sinner,' who would still resist any special charge brought home to their consciences, however true. Say to such a person, 'You are a cheater,' and he replies, 'No, I am not a cheater!' What are you, then? A liar? 'Oh, no!' Are you a Sabbath breaker? 'No, nothing of the kind.' And so when you come to sift it, you find them sheltering themselves under the general term sinner, not to make confession, but to evade it." -81 - Charles Spurgeon

#### 4 The Underlying Problem.

 "Revival takes place when people stop seeing sin as an isolated act of disobedience and they begin to see it as an organic network of compulsive beliefs, behaviors and thoughts that issue out of their basic alienation from God." - 82 - Richard Lovelace

#### Trust Boldly in Christ.

• "Here is the test to see if you are seeking to be justified by the Law: How do you pray when you find yourself caught in some sin? If you promise to do better, then you don't need Jesus. The alternative is to despair of your own righteousness and trust boldly in Christ." - 83 - Martin Luther (cf. Galatians 5:4)

#### O Do Actions Match Words?

 "Faithful prayer always implies correlative exertion; and no man can ask honestly and hopefully to be delivered from temptation, unless he has himself honestly determined to do the best he can to keep out of it." 84
 John Ruskin

#### He is Faithful to Forgive.

- Psalm 103:12 "As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us."
- <u>Isaiah 43:25</u> "I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, and I will not remember your sins."
- Romans 8:1 "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."
- 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

#### **God-Centered Repentance**

"Our first problem is that our attitude towards sin is more self-centred than Godcentered. We are more concerned about our own "victory" over sin than we are about the fact that our sin grieve the heart of God." 85



Jerry Bridges (1929-Present)

### Stop & Think

Noes unconfessed sin break the Christian's relationship with God? How about our fellowship?

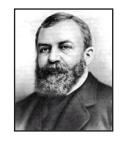
Nothing can break the Christian's relationship with God (Rom. 8:38-39), but intimate fellowship with God is

interrupted until we repent.

#### No Fishing!

"God has cast our confessed sins into the depths of the sea, and put a 'No Fishing' sign over the spot." - 86

Dwight L. Moody (1837-1899)





### True & False Repentance.

Identify the response to sin and whether it is true or false repentance, by circling "T" or "F".

#### **Are Tears Enough?**

"Repentance is more than just sorrow for the past; repentance is a change of mind and heart, a new life of denying self and serving the Savior as king in self's place." -87

J. I. Packer (1926-Present)



## Stop & Think

What was the difference between Judas' sorrow (Mt. 27:3-4) and Peter's sorrow (Mt. 26:75) Read 2 Corinthians 7:9-10.

Judas' sorrow did not lead to repentance, but Peter's genuine repentance is seen by the fruit born throughout the rest of his life.

#### **Daily Repentance**

"Repentance is a grace, and must have its daily operation ... True repentance is a continued spring, where the waters of godly sorrow are always flowing. 'My sin is ever before me'." - 88

Thomas Brooks (1608-1680)



### Lesson 6 Review

- **1.** What is an evidence of regeneration? (1 Thess. 1:9)
  - Turning away from one's old life.
- **2.** What is the biblical definition of contrition?
  - Deep remorse for having offended God.
- **3.** What is the biblical definition of repentance?
  - Turning away from sin to God.
- **4.** How can just admitting, "I'm a big sinner," sometimes be a hindrance to true confession and repentance?
  - We might avoid dealing with specific sins.
- **5.** What is the result of true repentance? (2 Cor. 5:17) A changed life.
- **6.** Can a person receive Jesus be Savior and not Lord? (Rom. 10:9-10)
  - No. If He is not Lord, He is not Savior (though the yielding to His Lordship will be a life life-long growth in our practice).
- **7.** When a person says, "I can't forgive myself," of some sin that they have long since repented of, why is that more than just a psychological problem?
  - It is a theological problem that says there was something deficient in Christ's work on the cross.
- **8.** How often should confession of sin and repentance be taking place in the heart of the true man or woman of God?
  - Constantly, through moment-by-moment communion with Christ.

#### Romans 2:4

**Memory Verse** 

#### God's Kindness Leads to Repentance

"Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?"

Lesson 6

Repentance

#### 1 John 1:9

**Memory Verse** 

#### Confession

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Lesson 6

Repentance

#### Psalm 51:17

**Memory Verse** 

#### **A Contrite Heart**

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise."

Lesson 6

Repentance

# **ACCOUNTABILITY**Living in the Presence of God

A.	Coram Deo.	85
B.	The Fear of the Lord	89
C.	Five Areas of Responsibility	91



### **Coram Deo**

- **1 Definition.** Latin: coram = "in the presence of," Deo = "God"
  - Meaning: In the presence of God
- 2 An Audience of One.
  - Consciously or unconsciously we all live *coram Deo*, before the face of God. All of our words, actions, thoughts, attitudes and motives constantly play out before an audience of One.
- Religion vs. Relationship.
  - It is important that we not only believe in God, but that we live before God. The former without the latter is religion without relationship. Many people believe in God, yet their "belief" does not shape their lives. (James 2:19)
- 4 God's Attributes Behind this Truth.
  - Omnipresence -God is everywhere (Psalm 139:7-10).
  - Omniscience God knows all things (Psalm 139:1-4).

#### The Essence of Life

"Coram Deo captures the essence of the Christian life. This phrase literally refers to something that takes place in the presence of, or before the face of, God. To live coram Deo is to live one's entire life in the presence of God, under the authority of God, to the glory of God." 89



R. C. Sproul (1939-Present)

# Stop & Think

What is the fundamental motivation driving the non-Christian's belief in evolution?

The reason clearly is not

scientific law or archeological

evidence, but rather the rejection

of any accountability to

a holy God.

#### **Inner Accountability**

"You can be surrounded by a lot of people to whom you're accountable. But if you lose the battle of accountability to God in your heart, you will never win it on the outside. The real battle is fought in the conscience and in the heart." -90



John MacArthur (1939-Present)



- Gen. 16:13 "Thou art a God who sees"; Hebrew: El Roee
- 1 Sam. 2:3 "the Lord is a God of knowledge, and with Him actions are weighed."
- 1 Sam. 16:7 "God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."
- 1 Kgs. 8:39 "render to each according to all his ways, whose heart Thou knowest, for Thou alone dost know the hearts of all the sons of men."
- <u>2 Chron. 16:9</u> "For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His."
- <u>1 Chron. 28:9</u> "the Lord searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts."
- Job 11:11 "He sees iniquity without investigating."
- Job 28:24 "He looks to the ends of the earth, and sees everything under the heavens."
- Job 31:4 "Does He not see my ways, and number all my steps?"
- Job 33:11 "He watches all my paths."
- Job 34:21 "His eyes are upon the ways of a man, and He sees all his steps."
- <u>Psalm 33:13-15</u> "The Lord looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men; from His dwelling place He looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth, He who fashions the hearts of them all, He who understands all their works."
- Psalm 44:21 "He knows the secrets of the heart."
- <u>Psalm 69:5</u> "O God, it is Thou who dost know my folly, and my wrongs are not hidden from Thee."
- <u>Psalm 90:8</u> "Thou hast placed our iniquities before Thee, our secret sins in the light of Thy presence."
- Psalm 94:11 "The Lord knows the thoughts of man..."
- <u>Psalm 139:1-4</u> "Thou hast searched me and known me. Thou dost know when I sit down and when I rise up; Thou dost understand my thought from afar. Thou dost scrutinize my path and my lying down, and art intimately acquainted with all my ways. Even before there is a word on my tongue, behold, O Lord, Thou dost know it all."
- <u>Psalm 139:7-10</u> "Where can I go from Thy Spirit? Or where can I flee from Thy presence? If I ascend to heaven, Thou art there; if I make my bed in Sheol, behold, Thou art there. If I take the wings of the dawn, if I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, even there Thy hand will lead me, and Thy right hand will lay hold of me."
- <u>Prov. 5:21</u> "For the ways of a man are before the eyes of the Lord, and He watches all his paths."
- Prov. 15:3 "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, watching the evil and the good."
- Eccl. 12:14 "For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil."



- <u>Isa. 29:15</u> "Woe to those who deeply hide their plans from the Lord, and whose deeds are done in a dark place, and they say, 'Who sees us?' or 'Who knows us?'"
- <u>Isa. 40:27-28</u> "Why do you say, O Jacob, and assert, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord, and the justice due me escapes the notice of my God'? Do you not know? Have you not heard? … His understanding is inscrutable."
- Isa. 66:18 "I know their works and their thoughts..."
- Jer. 11:20 "O Lord of hosts, who judges righteously, who tries the feelings and the heart."
- <u>Jer. 12:3</u> "But Thou knowest me, O Lord; Thou seest me; and Thou dost examine my heart's attitude toward Thee...."
- Jer. 16:17 "For My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from My face, nor
  is their iniquity concealed from My eyes."
- <u>Jer. 17:10</u> "I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give to each man according to his ways, according to the results of his deeds."
- <u>Jer. 20:12</u> "Yet, O Lord of hosts, Thou who dost test the righteous, Who seest the mind and the heart..."
- <u>Jer. 23:24</u> "'Can a man hide himself in hiding places, so I do not see him?' declares the Lord. 'Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?' declares the Lord."
- <u>Jer. 32:19</u> "...whose eyes are open to all the ways of the sons of men, giving to everyone according to his ways and according to the fruit of his deeds."
- <u>Dan. 2:22</u> "It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness."
- Ezek. 11:5 "Thus says the Lord, ... 'I know your thoughts.""
- Zech. 4:10 "the eyes of the Lord range to and fro throughout the earth."
- Matt. 6:4 "...your Father who sees in secret will repay you." (cf. Matt. 6:6,18)
- Matt. 10:26 "there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known." (cf. Mark 4:22; Luke 8:17,12:2)
- Acts 1:24 "Thou, Lord, who knowest the hearts of all men..."
- Rom. 2:16 "God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus."
- 1 Cor. 4:5 "Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts."
- 1 Thess. 2:4 "so we speak, not as pleasing men but God, who examines our hearts."
- <u>Heb. 4:13</u> "And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do."
- 1 John 3:20 "God is greater than our heart, and knows all things."



### The Fear of the Lord.

"I know that it will be well for those who fear God, who fear Him openly." - Eccl. 8:12

### 1 Filial Dread of Displeasing Our Father.

- filial. adjective, of or due from a son or daughter.
- Malachi 1:6 "A son honors his father, and a servant his master. Then if I am a Father, where is My honor? And if I am a Master, where is My fear?" says the Lord of hosts to you."
- <u>1 Peter 1:17</u> "If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in *fear* during the time of your stay on earth."

### 2 Eclipsing Fear of Anything Else.

- <u>Isaiah 8:12-13</u>- "And you are not to *fear* what they *fear* or be in dread of it. It is the Lord of hosts whom you should regard as holy. And He shall be your *fear*, and He shall be your dread." (cf. Psalm 27:1-3; Romans 8:31)
- Matthew 10:28 "Do not *fear* those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather *fear* Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

### 3 Awareness of Our Accountability to God.

• <u>2 Corinthians 5:10-11</u> - "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Therefore, knowing the *fear* of the Lord, we persuade men..."

### 4 Reverence and Awe

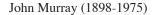
- Hebrews 12:28-29- "Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which
  cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an
  acceptable service with reverence and awe; for our God is a consuming fire."
- <u>Isaiah 66:2</u> "But to this one I will look, to him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who *trembles* at My word."

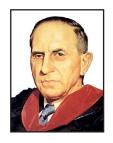
#### - Note -

- The Christian should fear God's discipline which may be sorrowful (Heb. 12:5-11), but need never fear God's punishment or wrath (1 John 4:17-18; Rom. 5:9; 1 Thess. 1:10, 5:9).
- The non-Christian, on the other hand, should fear the wrath of God (Rev. 14:9-11; Rom. 1:18-20, 2:5, 9:22; Eph. 2:1-3; 5:5-6; Col. 3:5-6).

#### The Fear of the Lord

"The fear of God means that God is constantly in the center of our thought and apprehension, and life is characterized by the all-pervasive consciousness of dependence upon Him, and responsibility to Him" <sup>91</sup>





## Stop & Think

What does 1 John 4:17-18 mean when it says that "perfect love casts out fear"?

Whoever accepts and confesses

Jesus Christ's substitutionary
atonement (v. 14-15), abides in God's

love (v. 16), and this love casts

out the fear of God's wrath and

punishment (v. 17-18).

#### The Fear of the Lord

"God does not promise to place His doctrine in our heads -- many have that, and nothing more -- but His fear in our hearts. A merely intellectual knowledge of doctrine puffs up with pride and presumption; but His fear in the heart humbles and produces a godly walk." -92

Arthur Pink (1886-1952)



### FEAR OF THE LORD

#### **Old Testament**

- <u>Deut. 6:13</u> "You shall FEAR only the Lord your God."
- <u>Deut. 10:12</u> "...what does the Lord your God require from you, but to FEAR the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul."
- 1 Sam. 12:24 "Only FEAR the Lord and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you."
- <u>2 Chron. 19:7</u> "Now then let the FEAR of the Lord be upon you; be very careful what you do, for the Lord our God will have no part in unrighteousness..."
- <u>Psalm 33:8</u> "Let all the earth FEAR the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him."
- <u>Psalm 34:9</u> "O FEAR the Lord, you His saints; for to those who FEAR Him, there is no want."
- <u>Psalm 89:6-7</u> "For who in the skies is comparable to the Lord? Who among the sons of the mighty is like the Lord, a God greatly FEARED in the council of the holy ones, and awesome above all those who are around Him?"
- <u>Psalm 99:1</u> "The Lord reigns, let the peoples TREMBLE; He is enthroned above the cherubim, let the earth shake!"
- Eccl. 8:12 "...I know that it will be well for those who FEAR God, who FEAR Him openly."
- Eccl. 12:13 "The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: FEAR God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person."
- <u>Isaiah 8:13</u> "It is the Lord of hosts whom you should regard as holy. And He shall be your FEAR, and He shall be your DREAD."
- <u>Isaiah 66:2</u> "But to this one I will look, to him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who TREMBLES at My word."
- <u>Jeremiah 32:40</u> "And I will make an everlasting covenant with them that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; and I will put the FEAR of Me in their hearts so that they will not turn away from Me."

### Fear of the lord

#### **New Testament**

- Matt. 10:28 "And do not fear those who kill the body, but are unable to kill the soul; but rather FEAR Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."
- Acts 9:31 "So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria enjoyed peace, being built up; and, going on in the FEAR of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it continued to increase."
- <u>2 Cor. 5:10-11</u> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ ... Therefore knowing the FEAR of the Lord, we persuade men..."
- <u>2 Cor. 7:1</u> "let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the FEAR of God."
- Eph. 5:21 "and be subject to one another in the FEAR of Christ."
- Phil. 2:12 "So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with FEAR and TREMBLING..."
- <u>Hebrews 4:1</u> "Therefore, let us FEAR lest, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you should seem to have come short of it."
- <u>1 Peter 1:17</u> "And if you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each man's work, conduct yourselves in FEAR during the time of your stay upon earth."
- <u>1 Peter 2:17</u> "Honor all men; love the brotherhood, FEAR God, honor the king."
- Revelation 14:7 "and he said with a loud voice, 'FEAR God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters."
- Revelation 19:5 "And a voice came from the throne, saying, 'Give praise to our God, all you His bond-servants, you who FEAR Him, the small and the great."



# Five Areas of Responsibility.

#### Responsibility

#### **Action Required**



#### Words

<u>Matthew 12:36</u> - "But I tell you that every careless *WORD* that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment."

2 Actions

2 Corinthians 5:10 - "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his *DEEDS* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."

3 Thoughts

<u>Psalm 139:1-2</u> - "O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my *THOUGHT* from afar."

4 Attitudes

<u>Jeremiah 12:3</u> - "But You know me, O LORD; You see me; and You examine my heart's *ATTITUDE* toward You."

5 Motives

<u>Proverbs 16:2</u> - "All the ways of a man are clean in his own sight, but the LORD weighs the *MOTIVES*."

Ephesians 4:29 - "Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear."

Colossians 3:23-24 - "Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve."

<u>Philippians 4:8</u> - "Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things."

Philippians 2:3-5 - "Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus."

<u>1 Corinthians</u> 10:31 - "Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

Sow a THOUGHT Sow an ATTITUDE Sow a HABIT

Sow a LIFESTYLE

- Reap an ATTITUDE
- → Reap a HABIT
- → Reap a LIFESTYLE
- → Reap an ETERNITY

# Stop & Think

What is the difference between a thought, an attitude, and a motive?

Thoughts - What we think: ideas

Attitudes - How we think: opinions,

biases, prejudices.

Motives - Why we do things: reasons



Try memorizing the five areas of responsibility using the mnemonic below.

We're Accountable To A Mighty God.

| Ye're Accountable To A Mighty God.
| The Accountable To A Mighty God.
| The Accountable To A Mighty God.

.

### **Lesson 7 Review**

**1.** What does *coram Deo* mean?

In the presence of God.

**2.** What attributes of God are behind this truth?

Omnipresence and omniscience.

**3.** What is the fundamental motivation driving the non-Christian's belief in evolution?

Rejection of any accountability to a holy God.

- **4.** What should the non-Christian fear with respect to God? God's wrath and eternal punishment.
- **5.** What should the Christian fear?

God's fatherly discipline and loss of eternal rewards.

**6.** Isn't the fear of the Lord just an Old Testament concept?

No, there are dozens of New Testament commandments to fear the Lord.

**7.** What five things are we accountable to God for?

[1] Words, [2] Actions, [3] Thoughts, [4] Attitudes, [5] Motives

#### 2 Corinthians 10:5

**Memory Verse** 

#### **Thoughts**

"we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ"

Lesson 7

**Accountability** 

#### **Ephesians 4:29**

**Memory Verse** 

#### Words

"Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear."

Lesson 7

**Accountability** 

#### Colossians 3:23-24

**Memory Verse** 

#### **Actions**

"Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve."

Lesson 7

Accountability

# **8** | GROWING IN CHRIST A Guideline for Godliness

A.	Christianity is a Change of Life	. 97
B.	Resolve Without Results	. 99
C.	The Present Power of Grace	. 99
D.	Understanding Self-Control	101
E.	Put Off & Put On.	103
F.	The Goal of Our Instruction	105



# Christianity is a Change of Life.

#### It Begins with Change Regeneration

• <u>2 Cor. 5:17</u> - "Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come."

#### ② It Continues with Change ⇒ Sanctification

- <u>1 Thess. 4:3</u> "For this is the will of God, your sanctification..."
- Rom. 12:2 "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..."
- <u>2 Cor. 3:18</u> "But we all ... are being transformed into the same image [of Christ] from glory to glory..."
- Phil. 1:6 "For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus."

#### It Ends with Change → Glorification

• <u>1 Cor. 15:51-52</u> – "Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed."

#### **A New Nature**

"If you have been truly born again you have a new and holy nature, and you are no longer moved towards sinful objects as you were before. The things that you once loved you now hate, and therefore you will not run after them ... your thoughts and tastes are radically changed." 93



Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)

# Stop & Think

Is a person who professes Christ but whose life never changes truly saved?

(Matt. 7:17-20; John 7:38; 2 Cor. 5:17)

No. The Spirit produces

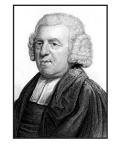
regeneration, repentance, growth

and fruit.

#### I Am Not What I Was

"I am not what I might be, I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I wish to be, I am not what I hope to be. But I thank God I am not what I once was, and I can say with the great apostle, 'By the grace of God I am what I am.'"-94

John Newton (1725-1807)





### **Resolve Without Results.**

#### Wishing Cannot Change Us.

- Rom. 7:18 "For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the wishing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not."
- Matt. 26:41 "the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

#### Promising Obedience Cannot Change Us.

- Exodus 24:3 "Then Moses came and recounted to the people all the words of the Lord and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice, and said, "All the words which the Lord has spoken we will do!"
- Heb. 7:18-19 "For, on the one hand, there is a setting aside of a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness (for the Law made nothing perfect), and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God."

#### Resolutions Cannot Change Us.

• Col. 2:20-23 – "If you have died with Christ ... why, as if you were living in the world, do you submit yourself to decrees, such as, 'Do not handle, do not taste, do not touch!'... in accordance with the commandments and teachings of men? These are matters which have, to be sure, the appearance of wisdom in self-made religion and self-abasement and severe treatment of the body, but are of no value against fleshly indulgence."



# The Present Power of Grace.

#### You must Master Sin before it Masters You!

• Gen. 4:7 – "If you do well, will not your countenance be lifted up? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it."

#### 2 How Can I Master Sin?

• Rom. 6:14 – "For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law, but under grace."

#### The Threefold Work of Grace.

- Release from the past PENALTY of Sin. → Justification
- Release from the present POWER of Sin. → Sanctification
- Release from the future PRESENCE of Sin. 

  → Glorification

#### **Work Out Your Sanctification**

"The Christian life requires hard work. Our sanctification is a process wherein we are coworkers with God. We have the promise of God's assistance in our labor, but His divine help does not annul our responsibility to work (Phil. 2:12-13)."-95



R. C. Sproul (1939-Present)

## Stop & Think

What does Romans 6:14 mean, i.e. how does the Christian overcome sin by grace?

By grace through faith means:

[1] By God's gracious help

[2] By 100% faith/trust in God

[3] By faith that works

(James 2:17-18)

#### **New Hatred for Sin**

"The true Christian hates sin, flees from it, fights against it, considers it his greatest plague, resents the burden of its presence, mourns when he falls under its influence, and longs to be completely delivered from it." <sup>96</sup>

J. C. Ryle (1816-1900)





## Understanding Self-Control.

#### It is a Fruit of the Spirit.

- Gal. 5:22-23 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control..."
- Gal. 5:16 "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the
  desire of the flesh."
- Rom. 8:2 "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death."
- Eph. 5:18 "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit."

#### ② Die To & Deny Self.

- Matt. 16:24 "Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me."
- <u>1 Cor. 15:31</u> "...I die daily"
- <u>Gal. 2:20</u> "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me."
- Rom. 6:11 "Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus."

#### **Self-Emptiness**

"Self-emptiness prepares us for spiritual fullness." 98

Richard Sibbes (1577-1635)



#### **Self-Esteem or Self-Denial?**

- "Self-esteemism is based on an unbiblical perspective.
   It is diametrically opposed to the truth of human depravity.
   Moreover, while Scripture commends self-control as a fruit of the Spirit, the Bible has nothing positive to say about self-esteem, self-love, or any other variety of self-centeredness." -99 John MacArthur
- "It horribly skews the meaning of the cross when contemporary prophets of self-esteem say that the cross is a witness to my infinite worth... The biblical perspective is that the cross in a witness to the infinite worth of God's glory, and a witness to the immensity of the sin of my pride." 100 John Piper
- "A preoccupation with psychological theory has in many cases eroded confidence in the Scriptures. When the essence of the human predicament is redefined in terms of lack of self-esteem, it is almost inevitable that people will be directed toward a couch but not a cross, a psychologist but not a Savior." 101 Alistair Begg
- "You are not mature if you have a high esteem of yourself. He who boasts in himself is but a babe in Christ, if indeed he be in Christ at all. Young Christians may think much of themselves. Growing Christians think themselves nothing. Mature Christians know that they are less than nothing. The more holy we are, the more we mourn our infirmities, and the humbler is our estimate of ourselves." 102

   Charles Spurgeon
- "Low self-esteem usually means that I think too highly of myself... When you are in the grips of low self-esteem, it's painful, and it certainly doesn't feel like pride. But I believe that this is the dark, quieter side of pride thwarted pride."-103 Edward T. Welch



#### Put Off & Put On.

#### Take Off Your Grave Clothes & Put On Grace Clothes.

• John 11:43-44 – "And when He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come forth.' He who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings; and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'"



#### Put Off the Old and Put On the New.

• Eph. 4:22-24 – "...in reference to your former manner of life, lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth."

#### O Put on Christ.

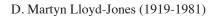
- Rom. 13:14 "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts."
- Gal. 3:26-27 "For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.
  For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."

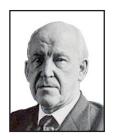
#### 4 Put on Love.

• Col. 3:8-14 – "But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices, 10 and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him ... 12 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. 14 And beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity."

#### **Called to Holiness**

"Holiness is not something we are called upon to do in order that we may become something; it is something we are to do because of what we already are." -104





## Stop & Think

What does it mean to "put on Christ" (Rom. 13:14)?

Living, talking, acting, thinking like Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. (WWJD)

#### **Growing in Christ**

"The whole of the Christian life is centered on Jesus Christ ... For this reason when we begin thinking about spiritual growth we must think first of all about Christ." 105

Sinclair Ferguson (1948-Present)





## The Goal of Our Instruction.

"But the goal of our instruction is **LOVE** from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith."

- 1 Timothy 1:5

#### 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

v. 4	(1)	LOVE is <u>patient</u> ,
	(2)	LOVE is <u>kind</u> ,
	(3)	and is NOT <u>jealous</u> ;
	(4)	LOVE does NOT <u>brag</u>
	(5)	and is NOT <u>arrogant</u> ,
v. 5	(6)	does NOT <u>act unbecomingly</u>
	(7)	it does NOT <u>Seek its own</u>
	(8)	is NOT <u>provoked</u> ,
	(9)	does NOT take into account a
		wrong suffered
v. 6	(10)	does NOT <u>rejoice in</u>
		unrighteousness
		BUT rejoices in the truth
v. 7	(11)	
	(12)	<u>believes</u> ALL things,
	(13)	hopes ALL things,
	(14)	endures ALL things.
v. 8	(15)	LOVE NEVER

#### **Not Manufactured**

"Christians have no excuse for not loving, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us' (Rom. 5:5). We do not have to manufacture love; we only have to share the love we have been given." - 106



John MacArthur (1939-Present)

## Stop & Think

What does it mean that love "hopes all things"? (1 Cor. 13:7)

[1] Love assumes the best, when there is no evidence to the contrary.

[3] hopes for proper response or

repentance in others.

[2] hopes for the accomplishment

of all God's promises.

#### Overflow of Joy in God

"Love is the overflow of joy in God! ... It is first a deeply satisfying experience of the fullness of God's grace, and then a doubly satisfying experience of sharing that grace with another person." - 107



John Piper (1946-Present)

### Lesson 8 Review

**1.** What is sanctification?

Growing in godliness through the continual process of change.

**2.** Is a person whose life never changes truly saved? (2 Cor. 5:17) Explain.

No. The Spirit produces regeneration, repentance, growth and fruit.

**3.** Why can't promises and resolutions change us? (Matt. 26:41)

Because the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.

**4.** Is self-control a work of the flesh or a fruit of the Spirit? (Gal. 5:23-24) What does that imply?

It is a fruit of the Spirit which means it requires the Spirit's filling.

**5.** Is man's greatest need greater self-esteem or greater self-denial? (Matt. 16:24) Explain.

Greater self-denial. We need to esteem ourselves less and esteem Christ more.

**6.** What does it mean to put on Christ? (Rom. 13:14)

Living, talking, acting, thinking like Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**7.** What is the ultimate goal of all Christian instruction? (1 Tim. 1:5)

Love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

#### Romans 12:2

#### **Memory Verse**

#### Be Transformed

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind"

Lesson 8

**Growing in Christ** 

#### Matthew 16:24

#### **Memory Verse**

#### **Take Up the Cross**

"Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me."

Lesson 8

**Growing in Christ** 

#### **Romans 13:14**

#### **Memory Verse**

#### **Put On Christ**

"But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts."

Lesson 8

**Growing in Christ** 

# Appendix 1

# Breaking Habitual Sin



# Scripture references relating to the indictions, results and remedies for six life-dominating sins.

A.	Anger11	1
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C.	Depression11	5
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#### **Anger**

"He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit, than he who captures a city." - Proverbs 16:32

#### Anger Indicates...

- The Heart of a Fool "A fool always loses his temper, but a wise man holds it back." Prov. 29:11; cf. Prov. 14:29, Eccl. 7:9
- <u>A Lack of Self-Control</u> "Like a city that is broken into and without walls is a man who has no control over his spirit." Prov. 25:28
- A Heart Controlled by the Flesh "Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." Gal. 5:19-21

#### 2 What Anger Produces.

- Strife "An angry man stirs up strife, and a hot-tempered man abounds in transgression." Prov. 29:22, cf. 15:18, 30:33
- Foolish Actions "A quick-tempered man acts foolishly, and a man of evil devices is hated." Prov. 14:17
- Loss of Personal Friendships "Do not associate with a man given to anger; or go with a hot-tempered man. Lest you learn his ways, and find a snare for yourself." - Prov. 22:24-25
- <u>Penal Consequences</u> "A man of great anger shall bear the penalty, for if you rescue him, you will only have to do it again." - Prov. 19:19
- <u>Judgement</u> "But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever shall say to his brother, 'Raca,' shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever shall say, 'You fool,' shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell." Matt. 5:22

#### **3** The Remedy for Anger.

- <u>Discretion</u> A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook a transgression." Prov. 19:11
- <u>Learn to Listen</u> "But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger, for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God." - James 1:19-20
- <u>Be Filled With the Spirit / Fruit of the Spirit</u> "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control" Gal. 5:22-23
- God's Agape Love "Love is patient, love is kind, and is not jealous ... is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered" 1 Cor. 13:4-5
- <u>Dwell on Godly Thoughts</u> Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, let your mind dwell on these things." Phil. 4:8
- <u>Saturate Your Mind With God's Word</u> "Thy Word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against Thee." Psa. 119:11



#### **Anxiety, Fear & Worry**

"Cast all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you." - 1 Peter 5:7

#### Some Causes.

- <u>Sin Can Produce Anxiety</u> "For I confess my iniquity; I am full of anxiety because of my sin." Psa. 38:18
- Worry About Basic Provisions "Do not be anxious for your life, as to what you shall eat, or what you shall drink; nor for your body, as to what you shall put on. ... Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single cubit to his life's span? And why are you anxious about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory did not clothe himself like one of these. But if God so arrays the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more do so for you, O men of little faith?"-Mt. 6:25-30
- Worry About the Future "Therefore do not be anxious for tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." - Mt. 6:34
- Fear of Man "And when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not become anxious about how or what you should speak in your defense, or what you should say; for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say." Lk. 12:11-12

#### 2 Result.

- It Chokes Out God's Word "And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful." Mt. 13:22
- Poor Health "A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones." Prov. 17:22

#### The Remedy for Anxiety.

- Change of Priorities "Do not be anxious then, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'With what shall we clothe ourselves?' For all these things the Gentiles eagerly seek; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you." Mt. 6:31-33
- Pray with Thanksgiving "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." - Phil. 4:6-7
- A New Mind Set Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." - 1 Thess. 5:16-18
- Learn Contentment "Not that I speak from want; for I have learned to
  be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with
  humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and
  every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going
  hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things
  through Him who strengthens me." Phil. 4:11-13
- <u>Capture Ungodly Thoughts</u> "take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ." - 2 Cor. 10:5
- <u>Dwell on Right Thoughts</u> "Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, let your mind dwell on these things. The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things; and the God of peace shall be with you." Phil. 4:8-9
- <u>Dwell on God's Promises</u> When my anxious thoughts multiply within me, Thy consolations delight my soul." Psa. 94:19
- <u>Saturate Your Mind With God's Word</u> "Thy Word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against Thee." Psa. 119:11
- Fear the Lord "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread? When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, my adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell. Though a host encamp against me, my heart will not fear; though war arise against me, in spite of this I shall be confident." Psa. 27:1-3



#### Depression.

"If you do well, will not your countenance be lifted up? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it." - Genesis 4:7

#### Some Causes.

- Anger / Feelings of Rejection Example: Cain "but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell." - Gen. 4:5
- <u>Anger / Not Getting Own Way</u> Example: Jonah "But it greatly displeased Jonah, and he became angry. ... Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for death is better to me than life." Jonah 4:1,3
- Adversaries Example: David "I am pining away ... my bones are dismayed" (v.2), "my soul is greatly dismayed" (v.3), "I am weary with my sighing; every night I make my bed swim, I dissolve my couch with my tears." (v.6), "my eye has wasted away with grief; It has become old because of all my adversaries." Psalm 6 (See David's response, v. 9)
- A Day of Trouble Example: David "In the day of my trouble ... My soul refused to be comforted" (v.2), "I sigh, then my spirit grows faint" (v.3), "I am so troubled that I cannot speak" (v.4). Psalm 77 (See David's response, v. 11-20)
- <u>Unconfessed Sin</u> Example: David "When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Thy hand was heavy upon me; my vitality was drained away as with the fever heat of summer. Selah." Psalm 32:3-4
- Fear Example: Elijah "... And he was afraid and arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree; and he requested for himself that he might die, and said, 'It is enough; now, O Lord, take my life, for I am not better than my fathers." 1 Kings 19:3-4, Read v.1-10

Guilt / Remorse - Example: Peter - "Then he began to curse and swear, 'I do not know the man!' And immediately a cock crowed. And Peter remembered the word which Jesus had said, 'Before a cock crows, you will deny Me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly." - Matt. 26:74-75

#### The Remedy for Depression.

- Remember "O my God, my soul is in despair within me; Therefore I remember Thee from the land of the Jordan, and the peaks of Hermon, from Mount Mizar." Psa. 42:6
- <u>Repentance</u> "Repent therefore and return, that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord." - Acts 3:19
- <u>Cast Your Burden Upon the Lord</u> "Cast your burden upon the Lord, and He will sustain you; He will never allow the righteous to be shaken."
   Psa. 55:22; cf. 1 Pet. 5:7
- Obedience "If you do well, will not your countenance be lifted up? And
  if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for
  you, but you must master it." Gen. 4:7
- Put Your Hope in God "Why are you in despair, O my soul? And why have you become disturbed within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him, the help of my countenance, and my God." Psa. 42:5, 11
- Trust in the Lord "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean
  on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He
  will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear
  the Lord and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your body, and
  refreshment to your bones." Prov. 3:5-8
- Seek Comfort in God "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort; who comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ." 2 Cor. 1:3
- <u>Pray until Peace Replaces Depression</u> "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:6-7



#### Greed.

"Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is my portion, lest I be full and deny Thee and say, 'Who is the Lord?' Or lest I be in want and steal, and profane the name of my God." - Proverbs 30:8–9

#### Result.

- No Satisfaction "Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied, nor are the eyes of man ever satisfied." - Prov. 27:20
- Chokes Out God's Word "And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful." - Matt. 13:22
- Ruin and Destruction "But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction." 1 Tim. 6:9
- Wandering Away from God "For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith, and pierced themselves with many a pang." 1 Tim. 6:10
- Eventual Hatred Toward God "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will hold to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." Matt. 6:24
- Trap "The righteousness of the upright will deliver them, but the treacherous will be caught by their own greed." Prov. 11:6
- <u>Difficulty Entering the Kingdom of Heaven</u> "And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Matt. 19:24
- Forfeit Eternal Life "For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?" Mark 8:36

#### 2 Commandment Against.

- Tenth Commandment "Thou shalt not covet" Ex. 20:17
- <u>Don't Fall in Love with Money</u> "Let your character be free from the love of money, being content with what you have..." Heb. 13:5

- No Appearance of Greed "But do not let immorality or any impurity or greed even be named among you, as is proper among saints." - Eph. 5:3
- <u>Don't Fix Your Hope on Riches</u> "Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share" 1 Tim. 6:17-18
- Warning Against Hoarding "And He said to them, 'Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.' And He told them a parable, saying, 'The land of a certain rich man was very productive. And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?' And he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?' So is the man who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.'" Lk. 12:15-21
- Boast in God, Not Riches "Thus says the Lord, 'Let not a wise man boast of
  his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man
  boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands
  and knows Me, that I am the Lord who exercises lovingkindness, justice,
  and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things,' declares the Lord."
   Jer. 9:23-24

#### The Remedy for Greed.

- <u>Consider Yourselves Dead to Greed</u> "Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry." - Col. 3:5
- Learn Contentment "I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." Phil. 4:11-13
- <u>Learn Contentment</u> For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. And if we have food and covering, with these we shall be content." 1 Tim. 6:7-8



#### Lust.

"For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. And the world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God abides forever." - 1 John 2:16-17

#### 1 The Deadly Fruit of Lust.

- <u>Enslavement</u> "For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another." Titus 3:3
- <u>Deadness</u> "But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death." James 1:14-15
- <u>Dishonor</u> "Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, that their bodies might be dishonored among them." - Rom. 1:24
- War Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts, which wage war against the soul."- 1 Peter 2:11
- Wrath "And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest." Eph. 2:1-3

#### **3** Commandment Against.

- Abstain from Sexual Immorality "For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God" 1 Thess. 4:3-5
- <u>Lust is Adultery of the Heart</u> "but I say to you, that everyone who looks on a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in his heart." - Matt. 5:28

- <u>Do Not Live for Lust</u> "live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. For the time already past is sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousals, drinking parties and abominable idolatries." 1 Pet. 4:2-3
- <u>Do Not Covet</u> "you shall not covet your neighbor's wife..." Ex. 20:17
- <u>Be Holy</u> "As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior." 1 Pet. 1:14-15

#### 4 The Remedy

- Make No Provision for the Flesh "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its **LUSTS**." Rom. 13:14
- Flee Youthful Lusts "Now flee from youthful LUSTS, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart." 2 Timothy 2:22
- <u>Lay Aside the Old Self</u> "in reference to your former manner of life, lay
  aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the **LUSTS**of deceit" Ephesians 4:22
- Present Your Body to God "Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body that you should obey its LUSTS, and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God." Romans 6:12-13
- <u>Capture Ungodly Thoughts</u> "take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ" - 2 Corinthians 10:5
- <u>Dwell on Godly Thoughts</u> Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, let your mind dwell on these things." Philippians 4:8
- Saturate Your Mind With God's Word "Thy Word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against Thee." Psalm 119:11
- <u>Commitment</u> "I have made a covenant with my eyes; how then could I gaze at a virgin?" Job 31:1



#### Pride.

"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." - Matthew 5:5

#### 1 The Result of Pride.

- <u>Dishonor</u> "When pride comes, then comes dishonor, but with the humble is wisdom." - Prov. 11:2
- <u>Destruction</u> "pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before stumbling." - Prov. 16:18
- Humiliation "A man's pride will bring him low, but a humble spirit will obtain honor." - Prov. 29:23
- Abasement "The proud look of man will be abased, and the loftiness of man will be humbled, and the Lord alone will be exalted in that day. For the Lord of hosts will have a day of reckoning against everyone who is proud and lofty, and against everyone who is lifted up, that he may be abased." Isa. 2:11-12

#### 2 God's Attitude Toward Pride.

- Pride is Sin "Haughty eyes and a proud heart, the lamp of the wicked, is sin." - Prov. 21:4
- <u>Pride is an Abomination</u> "Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord; assuredly, he will not be unpunished." Prov. 16:5
- He is Against the Proud "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble." - James 4:6
- God Hates Pride "There are six things which the Lord hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood..." Prov. 6:16-17

#### The Remedy for Pride.

- The Fear of the Lord "The fear of the Lord is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way, and the perverted mouth, I hate." Prov. 8:13
- <u>Humble Yourself</u> "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time." 1 Pet. 5:6
- <u>Contrition</u> "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise." Psa. 51:17
- <u>Let Another Praise You</u> "Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips." Prov. 27:2
- <u>Deflect All Praises to God</u> "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Phil. 4:13
- Boast Only in God "Thus says the Lord, 'Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord who exercises lovingkindness, justice, and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things,' declares the Lord." Jer. 9:23-24
- Boast Only in God "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord." 1 Cor. 1:31



#### The Tongue.

"With [the tongue] we bless our Lord and Father; and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way. Does a fountain send out from the same opening both fresh and bitter water?" - James 3:9-11

#### The Result of Loose Lips.

- <u>Transgression</u> "When there are many words, transgression is unavoidable, but he who restrains his lips is wise." Prov. 10:19
- <u>Self-Deception</u> "If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is worthless." - James 1:26
- Wounds Others "There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing." Prov. 12:18
- <u>Stirs Up Anger</u> "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." Prov. 15:1
- Separates Close Friends "A perverse man spreads strife, and a slanderer separates intimate friends." - Prov. 16:28
- Loss of Friends "He who goes about as a slanderer reveals secrets, therefore do not associate with a gossip." Prov. 20:19
- Ruin "The one who guards his mouth preserves his life; the one who opens wide his lips comes to ruin." Prov. 13:3
- A Snare "A fool's mouth is his ruin, and his lips are the snare of his soul." - Prov. 18:7
- <u>Little Hope</u> "Do you see a man who is hasty in his words? There is more hope for a fool than for him." Prov. 29:20
- <u>Judgement</u> "every careless word that men shall speak, they shall render account for it in the day of judgment. For by your words you shall be justified, and by your words you shall be condemned." Mat. 12:36-37

#### Against Evil Use.

- No Devious / Deceitful Lips "Put away from you a deceitful mouth, and put devious lips far from you." - Prov. 4:24
- No Off-Color Jokes "and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks." - Eph. 5:4
- <u>Keep Your Tongue From Evil</u> "Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit." Psa. 34:13
- <u>Keep Your Tongue From Evil</u> "For, let him who means to love life and see good days refrain his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking guile." 1 Pet. 3:10

#### The Remedy.

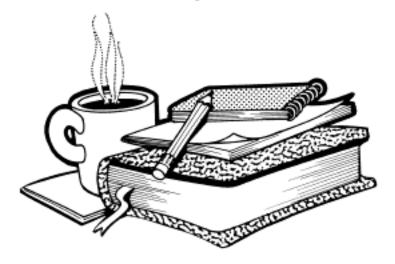
- <u>"Salty" Speech</u> "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned, as it were, with salt, so that you may know how you should respond to each person." Col. 4:6
- <u>Bite Your Tongue</u> "He who restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding. Even a fool, when he keeps silent, is considered wise; When he closes his lips, he is counted prudent." Prov. 17:27-28
- <u>Be Slow to Speak</u> "But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger." James 1:19
- Guard Your Mouth "He who guards his mouth and his tongue, guards his soul from troubles." Prov. 21:23

#### Positive Uses.

- Words Can Heal "Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones." Prov. 16:24
- Words Can Turn Away Wrath "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." Prov. 15:1
- Words Can Edify "Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, that it may give grace to those who hear." - Eph. 4:29
- <u>A Timely Word</u> "A man has joy in an apt answer, and how delightful is a timely word!" Prov. 15:23

# Appendix 2

# Daily Reading Plan



Arranged by Robert Murray McCheyne

JANUARY					
Date	Мо	rning	Ev	ening	
1	Genesis	1.2	Matt.	1	
2	Genesis	3,4,5	Matt.	1 2 3	
3	Genesis	6,7,8	Matt.	3	
4	Genesis	9.10.11	Matt.	4	
5	Genesis	12,13,14	Matt.	5:1-26	
6	Genesis	15,16,17	Matt.	5:27-48	
7	Genesis	18,19	Matt.	6	
8	Genesis	20,21,22	Matt.	7	
9	Genesis	23,24	Matt.	8	
10	Genesis	25,26	Matt.	9:1-17	
11	Genesis	27,28	Matt.	9:18-38	
12	Genesis	29,30	Matt.	10:1-23	
13	Genesis	31,32	Matt.	10:24-42	
14	Genesis	33,34,35	Matt.	11	
15	Genesis	36,37	Matt.	12:1-21	
16	Genesis	38,39,40	Matt.	12:22-50	
17	Genesis	41	Matt.	13:1-32	
18	Genesis	42,43	Matt.	13:33-58	
19	Genesis	44,45	Matt.	14:1-21	
20	Genesis	46,47,48	Matt.	14:22-36	
21	Genesis	49,50	Matt.	15:1-20	
22	Exodus	1,2,3	Matt.	15:21-39	
23	Exodus	4,5,6	Matt.	16	
24	Exodus	7,8	Matt. Matt.	17	
25	Exodus	9,10		18:1-20	
26 27	Exodus Exodus	11,12	Matt. Matt.	18:21-35 19:1-15	
28	Exodus	13,14,15 16,17,18	Matt.	19:1-15	
29	Exodus	19,20,21	Matt.	20:1-16	
30	Exodus	22,23,24	Matt.	20:17-34	
31	Exodus	25,26	Matt.	21:1-22	
	LAGGUS	23,20	matt.	21.1-22	

	FE	BRU	ARY	
Date		ning		ening
1	Exodus	27,28	Matt.	21:23-46
2	Exodus	29,30	Matt.	22:1-22
3	Exodus	31,32,33	Matt.	22:23-46
4	Exodus	34,35,36	Matt.	23:1-22
5	Exodus	37,38	Matt.	
6	Exodus	39,40	Matt.	
7	Leviticus		Matt.	
8	Leviticus		Matt.	
9	Leviticus	7,8,9	Matt.	
10	Leviticus		Matt.	
11	Leviticus	13	Matt.	
12	Leviticus	14	Matt.	
13	Leviticus	15,16,17	Matt.	27:1-31
14	Leviticus	18,19	Matt.	
15	Leviticus	20,21	Matt.	28:1-20
16	Leviticus	22,23	Mark	1:1-22
17	Leviticus	24,25	Mark	1:23-45
18	Leviticus	26,27	Mark	2
19	Numbers	1,2	Mark	3:1-21
20	Numbers	3,4	Mark	3:22-35
21	Numbers	5,6	Mark	4:1-20
22	Numbers	7	Mark	4:21-41
23	Numbers	8.9.10	Mark	5:1-20
24	Numbers		Mark	5:21-43
25	Numbers	14,15	Mark	6:1-32
26	Numbers	16,17	Mark Mark	6:33-56 7:1-13
27 28	Numbers	10,19,20	Mark Mark	7:1-13 7:14-37
28	Numbers	21,22	Mark Mark	7:14-37 8:1-21
	Numbers			
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Date	Mor	ning	Ev	ening
1	Numbers	26,27	Mark	8:22-38
2	Numbers	28,29	Mark	9:1-29
3	Numbers	30,31	Mark	9:30-50
4	Numbers	32,33	Mark	10:1-31
5	Numbers		Mark	10:32-52
6	Deut.	1,2	Mark	11:1-19
7	Deut.	3,4	Mark	11:20-33
8	Deut.	5,6,7	Mark	12:1-27
9	Deut.	8,9,10	Mark	12:28-44
10	Deut.	11,12,13	Mark	13:1-13
11	Deut.	14,15,16	Mark	13:14-37
12	Deut.	17,18,19	Mark	14:1-25
13	Deut.	20,21,22	Mark	14:26-50
14	Deut.	23,24,25	Mark	14:51-72
15	Deut.	26,27	Mark	15:1-26
16	Deut.	28	Mark	15:27-47
17	Deut.	29,30	Mark	16
18	Deut.	31,32	Luke	1:1-23
19	Deut.	33,34	Luke	1:24-56
20	Joshua	1,2,3	Luke	1:57-80
21	Joshua	4,5,6	Luke	2:1-24
22	Joshua	7,8	Luke	2:25-52
23	Joshua	9.10	Luke	4.4.00
24	Joshua	12,13	Luke	4:1-32
25	Joshua	14,15	Luke	4:33-44
26	Joshua	16,17,18	Luke	5:1-16
27	Joshua	19,20	Luke	5:17-39
28 29	Joshua	21,22	Luke	6:1-26 6:27-49
	Joshua	23,24	Luke	
30 31	Judges Judges	1,2 3,4,5	Luke Luke	7:1-30 7:31-50

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	APRIL					
Date	Mor	ning	Ev	ening		
1	Judges	6,7	Luke	8:1-21		
2	Judges	8,9	Luke	8:22-56		
3	Judges	10,11	Luke	9:1-36		
4	Judges	12,13,14	Luke	9:37-62		
5		15716,17	Luke	10:1-24		
6	Judges	18,19	Luke	10:25-42		
7	Judges	20,21	Luke	11:1-28		
8	Ruth	1,2,3,4	Luke	11:29-54		
9	1 Samuel	1,2,3	Luke	12:1-34		
10	1 Samuel	4,5,6	Luke	12:35-59		
11	1 Samuel	7,8,9	Luke	13:1-21		
12	1 Samuel	10,11,12	Luke	13:22-35		
13	1 Samuel	13,14	Luke	14:1-24		
14	1 Samuel	15,16	Luke	14:25-35		
15	1 Samuel	17,18	Luke	15:1-10		
16		19,20,21	Luke	14:11-32		
17	1 Samuel	22,23,24	Luke	16:1-18		
18	1 Samuel	25,26	Luke	16:19-31		
19		27,28,29	Luke	17:1-19		
20	1 Samuel	30,31	Luke	17:20-37		
21	2 Samuel	1,2,3	Luke	18:1-17		
22	2 Samuel	4,5,6	Luke	18:18-43		
23	2 Samuel	7,8,9	Luke	19:1-28		
24	2 Samuel	10,11,12	Luke	19:29-48		
25	2 Samuel	13,14	Luke	20:1-26		
26	2 Samuel	15,16	Luke	20:27-47		
27	2 Samuel	17,18	Luke	21:1-19		
28	2 Samuel	19,20	Luke	21:20-38		
29	2 Samuel	21,22	Luke	22:1-30		
30	2 Samuel	23,24	Luke	22:31-53		

		MAY		
l				
Date	Mo	rning	Ev	ening
1 1	1 Kings	1,2	Luke	22:54-71
2	1 Kings	3,4,5	Luke	23:1-26
3	1 Kings	6,7	Luke	23:27-38
4	1 Kings	8,9	Luke	23:39-56
5	1 Kings	10,11	Luke	24:1-35
6	1 Kings	12,13	Luke	24:36-53
7	1 Kings	14,15	John	1:1-28
8	1 Kings	16,17,18	John	1:29-51
9	1 Kings	19,20	John	2
10	1 Kings	21,22	John	3:1-21
11	2 Kings	1,2,3	John	3:22-36
12	2 Kings	4,5	John	4:1-30
13	2 Kings	6,7,8	John	4:31-54
14	2 Kings	9,10,11	John	5:1-24
15	2 Kings	12,13,14	John	5:25-47
16	2 Kings	15,16,17	John	6:1-21
17	2 Kings	18,19	John	6:22-44
18	2 Kings	20,21,22	John	6:45-71
19	2 Kings	23,24,25	John	7:1-31
20	1 Chron.	1,2	John	7:32-53
21	1 Chron.	3,4,5	John	8:1-20
22	1 Chron.	6,7	John	8:21-36
23 24	1 Chron. 1 Chron.	8,9,10	John	8:37-59
25	1 Chron.	11,12,13	John John	9:1-23 9:24-41
	1 Chron.	14,15,16	John	
26 27	1 Chron.	17,18,19 20,21,22	John	10:1-21 10:22-42
28	1 Chron.	23,24,25	John	11:1-17
29	1 Chron.	26,27	John	11:18-46
30	1 Chron.	28,29	John	11:47-57
31	1 Chron.	1,2,3	John	12:1-19
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	JUNE					
Date	Мо	rning	Ev	ening		
1	2 Chron.	4,5,6	John	12:20-50		
2	2 Chron.	7,8,9	John	13:1-17		
3	2 Chron.	10,11,12	John	13:18-38		
4	2 Chron.	13-16	John	14		
5	2 Chron.	17,18,19	John	15		
6	2 Chron.	20,21,22	John	16:1-15		
7	2 Chron.	23,24,25	John	16:16-33		
8	2 Chron.	26,27,28	John	17		
9	2 Chron.	29,30,31	John	18:1-23		
10	2 Chron.	32,33	John	18:24-40		
11	2 Chron.	34,35,36	John	19:1-22		
12	Ezra	1,2	John	19:23-42		
13	Ezra	3,4,5	John	20		
14	Ezra	6,7,8	John	21		
15	Ezra	9,10	Acts			
16	Nehemia		Acts	2:1-13		
17	Nehemia		Acts	2:14-47		
18	Nehemia		Acts	3		
19	Nehemia		Acts	4:1-22		
20	Nehemial		Acts	4:23-37		
21	Esther	1,2,3	Acts	5:1-16		
22	Esther	4,5,6	Acts	5:17-42		
23	Esther	7-10	Acts	6		
24	Job	1,2,3	Acts	7:1-19		
25	Job	4,5,6	Acts	7:20-43		
26 27	Job Job	7,8,9	Acts Acts	7:44-60 8:1-25		
28	Job	10,11,12	Acts	8:26-40		
28	Job	13,14,15 16,17,18	Acts	9:1-22		
30	Job	19,17,16	Acts	9:1-22		
30	300	13,20	ACIS	3.43-43		

		JULY	,	
Date	Mo	rning	Ev	ening
1	Job	21,22	Acts	10:1-23
2	Job	23,24,25	Acts	10:24-48
3	Job	26,27.28	Acts	11
4	Job	29.30	Acts	12
5	Job	31,32	Acts	13:1-23
6	Job	33,34	Acts	13:24-52
7	Job	35,36,37	Acts	. 14
8	Job	38,39	Acts	15:1-21
9	Job_	40,41,42	Acts	15:22-41
10	Psalms	1,2,3	Acts	16:1-15
11	Psalms	4,5,6	Acts	16:16-40
12	Psalms	7,8,9	Acts	17:1-15
13	Psalms	10,11,12	Acts	17:16-34
14	Psalms	13-16	Acts	18
15	Psalms	17,18	Acts	19:1-20
16	Psalms	19,20,21	Acts	19:21-41
17	Psalms	22,23,24	Acts	20:1-16
18	Psalms	25,26,27	Acts	20:17-38
19	Psalms	28,29.30	Acts	21:1-14
20	Psalms	31,32,33	Acts	21:15-40
21	Psalms	34,35	Acts	22
22	Psalms Psalms	36,37	Acts Acts	23:1-11 23:12-35
24	Psalms	38,39,40		23:12-35
25	Psalms	41,42,43 44,45,46	Acts Acts	24 25
26	Psalms	44,45,46 47,48,49	Acts	25 26
27	Psalms	50,51,52	Acts	27:1-25
28	Psalms	53,54,55	Acts	27:1-25
29	Psalms	56,57,58	Acts	28:1-15
30	Psalms	59,60,61	Acts	28:16-31
31	Psalms	62,63,64	Rom.	20.10-31
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AUGUST					
Date	Mo	rning	Ev	ening	
1	Psalms	65,66,67	Rom.	2 3 4	
2	Psalms	68,69	Rom.	3	
3	Psalms	70,71,72	Rom.	4	
4	Psalms	73,74	Rom.	5 6	
5	Psalms	75,76,77	Rom.	6	
6	Psalms	78	Rom.	7	
7	Psalms	79,80,81	Rom.	8:1-18	
8	Psalms	82,83,84	Rom.	8:19-39	
9	Psalms	85,86,87	Rom.	9	
10	Psalms	88,89	Rom.	10	
11	Psalms	90,91,92	Rom.	11:1-21	
12	Psalms	93,94,95	Rom.	11:22-36	
13	Psalms	96,97,98	Rom.	12	
14	Psalms	99-102	Rom.	13	
15	Psalms	103,104	Rom.	14	
16	Psalms	105,106	Rom.	15:1-20	
17	Psalms	107,108	Rom.	15:21-33	
18	Psalms	109-111	Rom.	16	
19	Psalms	112-115	1 Cor.	1	
20	Psalms	116-118	1 Cor.	2	
21	Psalms	119:1-48	1 Cor.	3	
22		19:49-104	1 Cor.	4	
23		19:105-176	1 Cor.	5	
24	Psalms	120-123	1 Cor.	6	
25	Psalms	124-127	1 Cor.	7:1-24	
26	Psalms	128-131	1 Cor.	7:25-40	
27	Psalms	132-135	1 Cor.	8	
28	Psalms	136-138	1 Cor.	40.4.40	
29	Psalms	139-141	1 Cor.	10:1-13	
30	Psalms	142-144	1 Cor.	10:14-33	
31	Psalms	145-147	1 Cor.	11:1-15	

OCTOBER							
Date	Morning Evening						
1	Isaiah	22,23	<b>Ephesians</b>	3			
2	Isaiah	24,25,26	Ephesians	4			
3	Isaiah	27,28	Ephesians	5 6			
4	Isaiah	29,30	Ephesians	6			
5	Isaiah	31,32,33	Philippians	1			
6	Isaiah	34,35,36	Philippians	2			
7	Isaiah	37,38	Philippians	3			
8	Isaiah	39,40	Philippians	4			
9	Isaiah	41,42	Colossians	11			
10	Isaiah	43,44	Colossians	2 3 4			
11	Isaiah	45,46,47	Colossians	3			
12	Isaiah	48,49	Colossians	4			
13	Isaiah	50,51,52	1 Thess.	1 2 3 4			
14	Isaiah	53,54,55	1 Thess.	2			
15	Isaiah	56,57,58	1 Thess.	3			
16	Isaiah	59,60,61	1 Thess.	4			
17	Isaiah	62,63,64	1 Thess.	5			
18	Isaiah ု	65,66	2 Thess.	1			
19	Jeremiah	1,2	2 Thess.	2			
20	Jeremiah	3,4	2 Thess.	3			
21	Jeremiah	5,6	1 Timothy	5 1 2 3 1 2 3			
22	Jeremiah	7,8	1 Timothy	2			
23	Jeremiah	9,10	1 Timothy	3			
24	Jeremiah	11,12,13	1 Timothy	4			
25	Jeremiah	14,15,16	1 Timothy	5			
26	Jeremiah	17,18,19	1 Timothy	6			
27 28	Jeremiah		2 Timothy	1 2 3			
	Jeremiah	23,24	2 Timothy	4			
29	Jeremiah	25,26	2 Timothy				
30 31	Jeremiah Jeremiah	27,28 29,30	2 Timothy Titus	4 1			

	NC	OVEME	BER	
Date	Mor	ning	Eve	ening
1	Jeremiah	31,32	Titus	2
2	Jeremiah	33,34,35	Titus	3
3	Jeremiah	36,37	Philem	on 1
4	Jeremiah	38,39	Heb.	1
5	Jeremiah	40,41,42	Heb.	2 3 ion 1 1 2 3 4
6	Jeremiah	43,44,45	Heb.	3
7	Jeremiah	46.47.48	Heb.	4
l 8	Jeremiah	49.50	Heb.	5 6
9	Jeremiah	51,52	Heb.	6
10	Lamen.	1,2	Heb.	7
11	Lamen.	3,4,5	Heb.	8
12	Ezekiel	1,2,3	Heb.	9
13	Ezekiel	4,5,6	Heb.	10:1-23
14	Ezekiel	7,8,9	Heb.	10:24-39
15	Ezekiel	10,11,12	Heb.	11:1-19
16	Ezekiel	13,14,15	Heb.	11:20-40
17	Ezekiel	16	Heb.	12
18	Ezekiel	17,18,19	Heb.	13
19	Ezekiel	20,21	James	1
20	Ezekiel	22,23	James	2
21	Ezekiel	24,25,26	James	1 2 3
22	Ezekiel	27,28	James	4
23	Ezekiel	29,30,31	James	5
24	Ezekiel	32,33	1 Peter	5 1 2 3
25	Ezekiel	34,35	1 Peter	. 2
26	Ezekiel	36,37	1 Peter	. 3
27	Ezekiel	38,39	1 Peter	4
28	Ezekiel	40	1 Peter	
29	Ezekiel	41,42	2 Peter	
30	Ezekiel	43,44	2 Peter	. 2

Date	DE Morr	CEME	BER Even	ina
1 2	Ezekiel	45,46	2 Peter	3 1
3	Ezekiel Daniel	47,48	1 John 1 John	1
4	Daniel	1,2	1 John 1 John	2
5	Daniel	3,4 5,6	1 John	4
6	Daniel	7,8	1 John	5
7	Daniel	9,10	2 John	1
8	Daniel	11,12	3 John	2
9	Hosea	1-4	Jude	1
10	Hosea	5-8	Rev.	
11	Hosea	9,10,11	Rev.	1 2 3
12	Hosea	12,13,14	Rev.	3
13	Joel	1,2,3	Rev.	4
14	Amos	1,2,3	Rev.	5
15	Amos	4,5,6	Rev.	6
16	Amos	7,8,9	Rev.	7
17	Obadiah	. 1	Rev.	8
18	Jonah	1-4	Rev.	9
19 20	Micah Micah	1,2,3 4,5	Rev. Rev.	10 11
21	Micah	6,7	Rev.	12
22	Nahum	1,2,3	Rev.	13
23	Habakkuk	1,2,3	Rev.	14
24	Zephaniah		Rev.	15
25	Haggai	1,2	Rev.	16
26	Zechariah	1,2,3	Rev.	17
27	Zechariah	4,5,6	Rev.	18
28	Zechariah	7,8,9	Rev.	19
29	Zechariah		Rev.	20
30	Zechariah	13,14	Rev.	21
31	Malachi	1-4	Rev.	22

#### (O) Endnotes

QUOTE	LESSON 1	<u>Page</u>
1	EDWARDS, Jonathan (1703-1758), preacher, theologian, and missionary to Native Americans. Quote found at http://dailychristianquote.com/dcqedwards.html	vii
2	SPROUL, Richard Charles (1939-Present), reformed theologian, pastor, teacher, radio speaker and chairman of the board of Ligonier Ministries. Quote found at http://dailychristianquote.com/dcqsproul.html	2
3	MÜLLER, George (1805-1898), evangelist and director of the Ashley Down orphanage in Bristol, England, caring for 10,024 orphans in his life. Quote from <i>Spiritual Secrets of George Muller</i> , by Roger Steer (New Yor, NY: Doubleday Publishing, 1987).	3
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#### "The sum of Thy Word is truth" - Psa. 119:160

- What are four foundations of the Christion life?
- What are the essential elements of effective prayer?
- What are the arguments of prayer?
- What are seven responsibilities of a good church?
- What are ten elements of effective evangelism?
- What is the difference between true and false repentance?
- What is the fear of the Lord? Should Christian's fear the Lord?
- How is Christianity a change of life?
- Answers to these and many more of life's most important questions are explored in seven biblically-based lessons, written to help Christians know what they believe and why they believe it, and to equip them to share their faith accurately with others.