**TIMOTHY TWO**

**DISCIPLESHIP FOR**

**GROWING CHRISTIANS**

**Christ**

**Assurance**

**Knowledge**

**Holiness**

**Temptation**

**Obedience**

**Ministry**

**Scipture**

**Directed**

**Life**

**The**

**Christ**

**Witnessing**

**Prayer**

**Fellowship**

**A 10- LESSON STUDY TO BE USED BY ONE PERSON TO DISCIPLE ANOTHER**

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GROWING THROUGH MINISTRY

# TIME OUT FOR TIMOTHY TWO

**THE TIMOTHY PICTURE:** Acts 8:27-39 reminds us of many Christians today. As the

Eunuch traveled home from worship he was met by Phillip, a faithful discipler. Seeing that he was reading the Scripture, Phillip asked if he understood what he was reading, “No,” he replied, “How can I unless someone explains it.” Sharing God’s Word with someone is the basis for the

TIMOTHY TWO DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY.

**THE TIMOTHY PRINCIPLE:** The Lord Jesus, our Master teacher, introduced a principle which all of us can practice. Often He spoke to large groups, but His best teaching was a close intimate contact with His disciples. He shared His life with them and then challenged them to grow like Him and share His life with others. The TIMOTHY PRINCIPLE is taking the time to invest a part of one’s life in the life of another believer (II Timothy 2:2)

**THE TIMOTHY PRIORITY:** The one-to-one discipleship of a growing believer by a Timothy.

**THE TIMOTHY PROCESS:** Taking the Great Commission seriously when it commands us to not only go into all the world and proclaim the good news, but to make disciples of all nations.

1. The first part of the process is letting another Christian invest his time in my life.

1. The second part is investing part of my life in someone else’s life.

**THE TIMOTY PLAN:**

1. Sharing together in Bible study
2. Sitting together in church
3. Eating a Sunday dinner together
4. Spending fellowship time together
5. Growing in the Lord together
6. Praying together
7. Witnessing together
8. Learning to disciple another believer

# Timothy Two Discipleship Lessons

## BEGINNING THE EXCITING JOURNEY OF ONE-TO-ONE DISCIPLESHIP

**Christ**

**Assurance**

**Knowledge**

**Holiness**

**Temptation**

**Obedience**

**Ministry**

**Scipture**

**Directed**

**Life**

**The**

**Christ**

**Witnessing**

**Prayer**

**Fellowship**

**CHRIST THE CENTER John 15:5**

This helm illustrates the CHRIST-DIRECTED LIFE. Letting Christ be the center of our lives is the key to victorious, Spirit-filled living. When Christ is at the control center of your life, you are yielding to Him, allowing Him to direct all the interests of your life. With Christ directing, life is on a steady course becoming increasingly more effective. To submit to the Lordship of Christ should be the desire of every Christian. The following topics make up this study:

**ASSURANCE: Romans 8:16 KNOWLEDGE: Revelation 4:11**

**SCRIPTURE: I Peter 2:2**

**PRAYER: Philippians 4:6**

**HOLINESS: I Thessalonians 4:7**

**WITNESSING: Matthew 4:19**

**FELLOWSHIP: I John 1:7**

**TEMPTATION: I Corinthians 10:13**

**OBEDIENCE: Romans 6:16**

**MINISTRY: I Corinthians 3:9**

**APPOINTMENT #1**

## Growing Through Assurance

(How to be sure you are a Christian)

In order for you to grow in your relationship with Christ, there must be an assurance of salvation, a confidence that you are His child.

Write down John 1:12

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God promises to make you His child when by faith you receive Him into your life. He would never mislead you. God is trustworthy, and His Word is trustworthy. You can know that you are His, and that you have eternal life.

READ: I John 5:11-13

MEMORY VERSE:

I John 5:13

Becoming a Christian means receiving Christ by faith. Christ is God’s gift of love and forgiveness. Accepting Christ results in a threefold commitment to a Person-

Intellect

Emotion

**S**

**S**

**WILL**

**EMOTION**

**INTELLECT**

Will

SELF-DIRECTED LIFE CHRIST DIRECTED LIFE

Our relationship with Christ is best illustrated by the requirements of a marriage relationship, which should contain these same three ingredients:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **INTELLECT:** | A man may think in his mind that a certain person is the “right” bride for him. |
| **EMOTION:** | He may be involved emotionally with strong love for her. |
| **WILL:** | But marriage requires more than intellect and emotions, it also involves the will. Not until the man and woman, as an act of the will, commit themselves to each other in a marriage ceremony do they become husband and wife. What are the two words that make a world of difference?  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

It is not enough to intellectually believe in Christ, nor is it enough to have an emotional experience. Though both are valid, one does not become a Christian until, as an act of the will he receives Christ into his life as Savior.

Let us examine each of the three elements of Christian commitment.

### INTELLECTUAL COMMITMENT

Christianity is not a fairy tale which jumps to vague conclusions. Many leading scholars have dedicated their lives to investigating the life, teachings, death, resurrection and influence of Jesus of Nazareth. As a result, centuries of scholarship and research have given us historical evidence proving Christ and His resurrection beyond reasonable doubt.

The good news of Christ’s resurrection was the message of the revolutionary New Testament church. It is a revolutionary message today. It is a fact of history.

**WHO IS JESUS CHRIST?**

1. State in your own words what you think Jesus meant when He made the following claims. John 14:8-11 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. State in your own words what others thought of Jesus Christ.

* 1. The apostle John (John 1:1, 14, 18) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. Thomas (John 20:25-28) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. His enemies (John 5:18) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Who do you say Jesus Christ is and why? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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### THE TRINITARIAN TRIANGLE FATHER

**HOLY SPIRIT**

**SON**

**IS NOT**

**IS NOT**

**IS NOT**

**GOD**

**IS**

**IS**

**IS**

1. Fill in the blanks of this biography of Jesus.

Jesus of N\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was conceived by the Holy S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and was born of the virgin M\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, over \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years ago. Hundreds of years before, the great prophets of I\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had foretold his coming. The Old T\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which was written by many individuals over a period of 1,500 years, contains more than 300 references to His coming.

At the age of 3\_\_\_, Jesus began His public ministry. In the three years that followed, He gave man the formula for a full and abundant life and for the life to come.

1. List some things that Jesus did which point to the fact that He was not a mere man.

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Mohammed was merely a prophet;

Buddha (by his own admission) was an agnostic;

Confucius was an ethical teacher;

Jesus claimed to be God. John 10:30 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Based on the claims Christ made about himself, He cannot be accepted only as a good man. He must be accepted as the God He said He was or rejected as the world’s greatest imposter.

**WHY DID JESUS COME TO EARTH?**

1. Why was it necessary for Christ to come? (Romans 3:23)

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1. Why did Jesus die for us? (I Peter 3:18)

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1. How does Christ’s resurrection affect us? (I Peter 1:3)

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In the Old Testament, the Israelites periodically brought animals to the priest to be sacrificed. The priests killed the animal and sprinkled its blood on the altar as a temporary covering for the sins of the one making the sacrifice. These animals had to be perfect, without spot or blemish, in order for the sin of the person making the sacrifice to be transferred to the innocent offering.

This was the picture of the coming of God’s Lamb, the One whose blood would not just cover man’s sins temporarily but would wash them away forever. That is why God sent Jesus, who was without sin, to shed His blood upon the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. (Hebrews 9:22)

**FORGIVENESS**

**MAN'S SIN**

**GOD**

In order to become a Christian, then, you must honestly face the claims of Jesus Christ and believe intellectually that He is God, that He died for your sins and was buried, that He rose again, and that He wants to come into your life and be your Savior and Lord.

### EMOTIONAL COMMITMENT

An emotion is a feeling or reaction to a specific act, event or experience. The failure to distinguish between different emotions has caused many people to be confused in their relationship with God.

### PEOPLE RESPOND DIFFERENTLY EMOTIONALLY

1. What was the Apostle Paul’s experience in coming to know God (Acts 22:6-10)?

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1. What was Lydia’s experience in coming to know God (Acts 16:14-15)

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Since we are emotional creatures, emotions are a normal part of our life. Different personalities respond differently. One person may have high emotional energy, while another may be calm and reserved. Because emotions vary greatly, they should not be depended upon. Seeking an emotional experience has caused many to lack the assurance of a vital relationship with God.

1. What one word do these scriptures have in common?

(Romans 1:17) live by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Hebrews 11:6) without \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it is impossible to please God

(Romans 14:23) whatever is not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is sin

The very act of seeking an emotional experience, therefore, contradicts the very thing that pleases God. Faith is another word for trust, and our faith must be placed in the Person of God and in His inspired Word, rather than in our feelings.

### DO NOT DEPEND ON FEELINGS; EMOTIONS CAN DECEIVE

Assurance is based on the authority of God’s Word. When you meet God’s conditions, as revealed in His Word, you can be assured that you are a child of God. The Christian lives by faith (trust) in the trustworthiness of God Himself and His Word. This train diagram illustrates the relationship between *fact* (God and His Word), *faith* (our trust in God and His Word), and *feeling* (the results of our experiences).

**FAITH**

**FACT**

**FEELINGS**

1. **FACT:** The facts about the Christian life are in the Bible. Do facts change? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **FEELINGS:**

* 1. Do our feelings change? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. What determines whether our feelings are up or down? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **FAITH:**

* 1. If we put our faith in our feelings and our feelings are determined by circumstances, what will our faith do? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. If we put our faith in facts (and a fact is true and does not change), what will our faith be like? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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### THREEFOLD CONFIRMATION

God gives us a threefold confirmation that Christ is in our lives.

Trustworthy Word

Confirming Holy Spirit = Assurance

Changed life

*First,* we have the external evidence of the Word of God. Assurance is based on the authority of God’s Word. When you meet God’s conditions, as revealed in His Word, you can be assured that you are a child of God. Read I John 5:9-13.

*Second,* there is the internal witness of the Holy Spirit, Write down Romans 8:16

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Read I Thessalonians 1:5

A *third* witness to the fact that we are Christians is our changed lives. Jesus explained to

Nicodemus, a devout religious leader of the Jews. (John 3:3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The proof that we have experienced a new birth and have become children of God will be demonstrated by our changed lives. Read I John 2:3-6.

What will we obey? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How will we walk? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

### WILLFUL COMMITMENT

In addition to the intellect and the emotions, becoming a Christian and being sure that you are a Christian involves the will.

Christ emphasized the importance of man’s will in discovering God’s will. Write down John

7:17 in your own words: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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According to these words of Christ, unless you are willing to obey the truth, you will never know the truth; unless you are willing to walk in the light, you will never see the light.

### FACTS TO PUT YOUR FAITH IN

1. Christ came into your life. Read Revelation 3:20

* 1. To what does the door refer? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. What does Christ promise? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  2. What is our part? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. What is His part? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. According to this verse, if you, by faith, open the door of your heart and invite Jesus Christ to come into your life to be your Lord and Savior, will He come in? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Your sins were forgiven. Read Colossians 1:12-14.

* 1. How many of your sins were forgiven? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. How does one deal with guilt feelings after he has the assurance that God has forgiven him? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* + 1. Recognize the source (Revelation 12:10)
    2. Claim victory (Revelation 12:11)
    3. Live in assurance (Romans 8:1)

* 1. What can be done about unconfessed sin? (I John 1:9) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Why don’t you right now claim God’s promise of forgiveness in I John 1:9 for any sins that you are aware of in your life.

1. You became a child of God. Read John 1:12-13.

* 1. What people are spiritually born into God’s family? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. When you received Christ, what did you become? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. You received eternal life. Read I John 5:11-13

* 1. According to this scripture, who has eternal life? (Vs 11 and 12) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. If a person does not have Christ as the center of his life, what else does he not have? (Vs 12)

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* 1. Does I John 5:13 state that you may hope that, feel like, guess that, work towards or know that you have eternal life? (Mark out the incorrect words.)

* 1. Do you know that you have eternal life? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ On what basis?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. How can we have the assurance of eternal life continually? (I John 1:7)

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### DECIDING ON THE BASIS OF THE FACTS

1. Is salvation something you can earn? (Ephesians 2:8-9) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. On what basis did you obtain it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. How do good works relate to your salvation? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. How do you know that if you died right now, you would spend eternity with God in heaven? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you need to make certain of your salvation by receiving Christ by a definite, deliberate act of your will, here is a suggested prayer for you to pray right now:

Lord Jesus, I need you. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins, I am sorry for all of my sins. I open the door of my life and receive You as my Savior and Lord. Thank You for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Take control of the throne of my life. Make me the kind of person You want me to be.

1. If you have invited Christ into your life, now or earlier, where is He right now?

(Revelation 3:20) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

By what authority do you know? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

### ADDITIONAL THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. How does a marriage relationship illustrate requirements for our relationship with Christ?

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1. A simple head knowledge of the facts of the gospel is not enough for salvation. However, those facts must be believed intellectually.

What are the facts? (I Corinthians 15:3-6) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. How might one’s emotions cause him to doubt that he has a relationship with God?

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1. What is the threefold confirmation God gives us that Jesus Christ is in our lives?

* 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ = **ASSURANCE**
  3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## DISCIPLESHIP

**ASSIGNMENT FOR APPOINTMENT #2**

Growing Through Knowledge

1. Read in the Gospel of John – one chapter each day, chapters 1-7.

1. Study diagram and related scriptures of the “helm”
2. Study the material, “Growing Through Knowledge”
3. Memorize Psalm 111:10
4. Take notes on the Pastor’s Sunday sermon

Check daily progress below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
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**NOTES**

**DISCIPLESHIP APPOINTMENT # 2**

## GROWING THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

**(Understanding Who God Is)**

We are able to submit to the Lordship of Christ as we get to know Him. Only as we get to know Him will we be able to trust Him with every area of our lives.

Ignorance of God and what He is like leaves us in a life of doubt and distrust. We need to hunger for knowledge of God, searching the Scriptures that we might learn from Him.

Write down a key phrase from the following scriptures:

I Chronicles 22:19 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 42:1, 2a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

James 4:8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**MEMORY VERSE:**

Psalm 111:10

“Plunge yourself in the Godhead’s deepest sea; be lost in His immensity; and you shall come forth as from a church of rest, refreshed and invigorated. I know nothing which can so comfort the soul; so calm the swelling billows of sorrow and grief; so speak peace to the winds of trial, as a devout musing upon the subject of the Godhead.”

- C. H. Spurgeon

Knowing about God is mandatory for successful living. The world becomes a strange, mad, and painful place for those who do not know about God. Not to know God is to stumble and blunder through life blindfolded, with no sense of direction and no understanding of what is going on around you. In addition, our worship is only as pure as our thoughts of God. Therefore, our ideas concerning God should correspond to that which is true of God. True worship allows God to manifest His attributes in our lives. We must “worship God in the splendor of His holiness.”

READ PSALM 96

Look up the first half of Psalm 46:10 and write it out: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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QUESTION: What is it I am supposed TO KNOW about God? As we see God’s ATTRIBUTES, we will see the things we are to know about God that help us establish an intimate relationship with Him.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| I. God’s  Non-transferable  Attributes | 1. Sovereign 2. Eternal 3. Omniscient | 1. Omnipresent 2. Omnipotent 3. Immutable |
| II. God’s  Transferable Attributes | 7. Patient 8. Just  9. Love | 1. Truth 2. Holy 3. Authority |

I. **GOD’S NON-TRANSFERRABLE ATTRIBUTES –** These attributes are those that belong to God exclusively, so that there is nothing resembling them in a created being or spirit.

1. **GOD IS SOVEREIGN.** The word sovereign means chief, highest or supreme. When we say that God is sovereign, we are saying that He is the number one ruler in the universe.

Application – The idea of sovereignty is an encouraging one, for it assures the Christian that nothing is out of God’s control, and that His plans do triumph.

Psalm 103:19

Romans 9:19 -21

Revelation 19:16

*The areas of my life that could be changed by having a proper understanding of this attribute are (be specific): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **GOD IS ETERNAL:** There has never been a time when God did not exist. He has no beginning and He has no end.

Application – Being eternal, God is not bound by time. Having always existed, He sees the past and the future as clearly as the present. With this perspective, God knows what is best for our lives. Knowing this, we should be willing to trust Him with our lives. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Isaiah 44:6

I Timothy 1:17

Revelation 1:8

*The areas of my life that could be changed by having a proper understanding of this attribute are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **GOD IS OMNISCIENT:** God possess all the knowledge there is to have.

Nothing ever takes Him by surprise.

Application – God knows all there is to know about us. However, the knowledge of our past or future does not influence His present response to us. God always deals with us on the basis of our sincerity. Knowing all about us, He still forgave our sins and accepted us into His family.

Isaiah 40:12 -14

Hebrews 4:13

1. **GOD IS OMNIPRESENT:** God is infinite and everywhere, present through all I John 3:20 time and space.

*The areas of my life that could be changed by having a proper understanding of this attribute are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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4. **GOD IS OMNIPRESENT:** God is infinite and everywhere, present through all time and space.

Application – If God is everywhere, it is foolish to think we can hide from Him.

In the Old Testament, Jonah tried to run from God, but he ended up as fish bait. On the other hand, it also means that today, a believer may experience the presence of God at all times and know all the blessings of walking with Him in a most vivid way.

Isaiah 66:1

Jeremiah 23:24

Acts 17:24, 27

*The areas of my life that could be changed by having a proper understanding of this attribute are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **GOD IS OMNIPOTENT:** God is all powerful, having more than enough strength to do the sum total of all things.

Application – Because God is all powerful:

* 1. He can keep the believer from all danger (Jude 24)
  2. Our salvation is the result of the power of God (Romans 1:16)
  3. His omnipotence is seen in His power to create (Genesis 1:1)
  4. He preserves all things (Hebrews 1:3)
  5. He providentially cares for us (I Peter 5:7)

Psalm 147:5

Ephesians 3:20

Philippians 3:20-21

*The areas of my life that could be changed by having a proper understanding of this attribute are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **GOD IS IMMUTABLE:** God never changes in His nature or attributes.

Application – The Bible contains thousands of things that God has promised to do for those who belong to Him. He can be trusted to keep His Word.

Psalm 102:27

Hebrews 1:11-12

James 1:17

*The areas of my life that could be changed by having a proper understanding of this attribute are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**II GOD’S TRANSFERRABLE ATTRIBUTES –** These attributes belong to God, and are seen in the way God relates to man. We can see limited manifestations of these attributes in His created beings.

7. **GOD IS PATIENT:** Throughout Scripture, God demonstrates a loving patience which reflects His divine mercy. God does not give us what we deserve, but offers us what we need.

Application – In dealing with man, God patiently takes us from where we are to where He wants us to be. It is up to us to cooperate with His methods. As He is patient with us, so are we to be patient with others.

Psalm 103:8

1. Timothy 1:16

1. Peter 3:9, 15

*The areas of my life that could be changed by having a proper understanding of this attribute are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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8. **GOD IS JUST:** It is impossible for Him to do anything that is unfair, either to Himself or to man

Application – God’s justice is more applicable in the area of judgment. When men stand before God to be judged, they will receive full justice. This is both a comfort (for those who have been wronged in life) and a warning (for those who think they have been getting away with evil) (Romans 1:18).

Nehemiah 9:13, 33

II Thessalonians 1:3-10

II Timothy 4:8

*The areas of my life that could be changed by having a proper understanding of this attribute are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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9. **GOD IS LOVE:** God is perfect, infinite love. His love is given freely and without any consideration of the loveliness or merit of the object.

Application – Godly love is that which seeks for the object loved. Love expresses itself in action. God is our example. He demonstrated His love for us in sending Jesus to die in our place (Romans 5:8)

Exodus 15:13

Romans 8:35-39

I John 3:16

*The areas of my life that could be changed by having a proper understanding of this attribute are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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10. **GOD IS TRUTH:** He is absolute truth.

Application – In John 18:38, Pilate asked, “What is truth?” Man is constantly searching for truth, but in sources other than God. Jesus said, “I AM the truth, “ but man has suppressed the truth in his unrighteousness (Romans 1:18). He has exchanged the truth of God for lies (Romans 1:25). When a person comes to Jesus, his quest for the truth ends and freedom begins. Jesus said, “You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free.” (John 3:32)

Psalm 31:5

John 1:14

Titus 1:1-2

*The areas of my life that could be changed by having a proper understanding of this attribute are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **GOD IS HOLY:** God is perfectly holy and righteous. It is impossible for Him to do or to cause anything that is wrong.

Application – All holiness begins with God.

* 1. It is an essential part of His nature (Amos 4:2)
  2. His holiness is beautiful (Exodus 15:11)
  3. His presence is holy (I Samuel 6:20)
  4. His person is holy (Psalm 99:9)
  5. As obedient children, we are to be holy because He is holy (I Peter 1:14-16)
  6. We cannot be holy within ourselves, but must rely on His power and grace (Matthew 19:26)

Habakkuk 1:12-13

Revelation 4:8

Revelation 15:3-4

*The areas of my life that could be changed by having a proper understanding of this attribute are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **GOD IS FAITHFUL:** God may be safely relied upon. He is trustworthy, dependable, and reliable.

Application – Mere mortals are frequently unfaithful. But God, being totally perfect, never succumbs to selfish desire (Judas), fear (Peter’s self-preservation), weakness, loss of interest, or some strong influence from without (other priorities), as men do. Therefore He can be unquestionably and totally trusted.

Deuteronomy 7:9

I Corinthians 10:13

Hebrews 10:23

*The areas of my life that could be changed by having a proper understanding of this attribute are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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READ Psalms 139 and 145.

For further reading:  *The Knowledge of the Holy,*  A. W. Tozer

## DISCIPLESHIP

**APPOINTMENT FOR APPOINTMENT # 3**

GROWING THROUGH SCRIPTURE

1. Read Chapters 8-14 in the Gospel of John, reading one chapter daily

1. Study and complete material, “Growing Through Scripture”
2. Memorize Psalm 119:9-11

1. Take notes on the Pastor’s Sunday sermon

Check daily progress below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
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**Discipleship Appointment #3**

## GROWING THROUGH SCRIPTURE

(How To Know The Bible)

The Word of God is the foundation of the Christ-directed life. It is from the Bible that you learn all the basics for the Christian life. As God speaks to you through the Scriptures, you come to know Him and to understand and obey His principles for life and ministry.

When you have a vital, personal intake of the Word of God, you will grow. II Timothy 3:16

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MEMORY VERSE:

Psalm 119:11

The “how” of learning and applying the Scriptures to life is something every Christian should know. This lesson covers the five ways to make the Bible yours.

Compare the five methods of learning from the Bible with the five fingers of your hand. If you hold the Bible with only one or two fingers, it is easy to lose your grip. But as you use more fingers, your grasp of the Bible becomes stronger.

This is also true, spiritually. If a person hears, reads, studies and memorizes the Word – and meditates on it, his grasp of the Scripture becomes firm and part of his life. As the thumb is needed in any combination with any finger to complete your hold, so meditation, combined with hearing, reading, studying and memorizing, is essential for a full grasp of God’s Word.

Romans 10:17

**HEAR**

Revelation 1:3

**READ**

Acts 17:11

**STUDY**

Psalm 119:9-11

**MEMORIZE**

**MEDITATE**

Psalm 1:2-3

**THE HAND**

“I will obey Your Word.” Psalm 119:17b

1. Hear it (Romans 10:17) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. What kind of heart will best hear and use the Word? (Luke 8:15)

(Underline the correct answer)

* + 1. An honest and good heart
    2. An alert and conscious heart
    3. An open but indifferent heart
    4. A well-trained, scholarly heart

* 1. In proclaiming the Word, what can pastors and teachers do? (Nehemiah 8:8)

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Most Christians hear the Word of God preached. But only a few learn the profit of conserving what they hear. To retain what you hear, take notes on the Scriptures used and on the main points of the sermon.

* 1. Whom did Jesus say would be blessed? (Luke 11:28) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Read it (Revelation 1:3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. List reasons for daily reading of the Bible (Deuteronomy 17:19-20)

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* 1. Write out Revelation 1:3 in your own words. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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A daily reading program which will take you systematically through the Bible is something many Christians use as a regular part of their daily devotional time.

1. Study it (Acts 17:11) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. How does Proverbs 2:3-4 indicate we should study the Word? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. What should be our goal in studying the Bible? (II Timothy 2:15) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Study is more than just careful reading – It requires writing down what you discover. Reading is faster than study and gives you the overall picture. But study helps you think – and remember.

* 1. Suggested Bible study tools for long-term investment.

* + 1. Halley’s Bible Handbook (Zondervan Press)
    2. Unger’s Bible Dictionary (Moody Press)
    3. Beacon Bible Commentary (Beacon Hill Publishing)
    4. Young’s (Eerdman’s Press) or Strong’s Concordance (Royal Publishers)
    5. Vine’s Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words (Revell)
    6. The Power Bible CD or other Bible computer programs include multiple Bible commentaries and Bible dictionaries

1. Memorize it (Psalm 119:9-11) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. In your own words state what God wants us to do about His Word.

* + 1. Deuteronomy 11:18a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* + 1. Proverbs 7:3b

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* 1. In Matthew 4:4, 7, 10

* + 1. How did Jesus overcome Satan’s temptations? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2) Do you see any way you might apply this example to your own situation?

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* 1. In Colossians 3:16, what do you think “Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly” means? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. Write out Psalm 40:8 in your own words. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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“I know of no form of intake of the Word which pays greater dividends for the time invested than Scripture memorization.”

* + - * + Dawson Trotman

After 24 hours you may accurately remember

* + - * + 5% of what you hear
        + 15% of what you read
        + 35% of what you study
        + 57% of what you hear and see

-

BUT YOU CAN REMEMBER 100% OF WHAT YOU *MEMORIZE*

* 1. You must have a memory plan and follow it. You remember an idea best if you express it; in fact, learning is improved as more senses are involved. Expression makes impression.

* + 1. Repeat it
    2. Explain it
    3. Put it in your own words (personalize it)
    4. Discuss and understand its meaning
    5. Review – silently and aloud, over and over, looking for correct emphasis and pertinent meaning
    6. Review – with another person. Test each other

1. Meditate On It – Write down Psalm 1:2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Meditation is prayerful reflection with a view to understanding and application – giving prayerful; thought to God’s Word and your life, with the goal of conforming your life to His will. KNOW GOD’S WORD and OBEY IT!**

Asking these two questions will help you meditate:

* 1. What is the meaning of this verse based on its context? (There is only one true interpretation)

* 1. How should this verse affect my life?

(There are many applications)

This kind of meditation in God’s Word can be done.

* + - as you hear the Word preached
    - as you read the Bible in your daily devotional time
    - as you pray and reflect on what you are studying
    - as you go over verses you have memorized

a) What promises are made to the person who continually meditates on the Word of God?

* + - 1. Psalm 1:3 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* + - 1. Joshua 1:8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* + 1. Consider Luke 6:45. Do you think meditating on God’s Word can affect your speech and actions? If so, how? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* + 1. Besides being diligent in learning God’s Word, what else should we do in order to understand it? (Psalm 119:18, 73, 125)

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This chart is to help you analyze your habits for making the Bible yours. As you fill in, pray about setting new goals for each week.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **METHOD OF INTAKE** | **MY PRESENT PROGRAM** | **NEW GOALS & PLANS** |
| Hearing the Word |  |  |
| Reading the Word |  |  |
| Studying the Word |  |  |
| Memorizing the Word |  |  |
| Meditating on the Word |  |  |

Quotes on the importance of knowing your Bible:

* “I cannot too greatly emphasize the importance and value of Bible study… in these days of uncertainties, when men and women are apt to decide questions from the standpoint of expediency rather than on the eternal principles laid down by God himself.”

- John Wanamaker

* “The Scriptures were not given to increase our knowledge but to change our lives.”

- Dwight L. Moody

* “Ignorance of the Bible means ignorance of Christ.”

- Jerome

* “I thoroughly believe in a university education for both men and women; but… a knowledge of the Bible without a college education is more valuable than a college education without the Bible. Everyone who has a thorough knowledge of the Bible may truly be called educated, and no other learning… no matter how extensive… can form a proper substitute.”

- William Lyon Phelps

For further reading: *How to Study the Bible Yourself,*  Tim La Haye

*How To Study the Bible and Enjoy It*, Skip Heitzig

*How to Read the Bible For All Its Worth*, Gordon D Fee & Douglas Stuart

## DISCIPLESHIP ASSIGNMENT FOR APPOINTMENT # 4

GROWING THROUGH PRAYER

1. Read Chapters 15-21 in the Gospel of John, reading one chapter a day. It is important to communicate daily with God through reading His Word and prayer.

1. Read and complete material on “Growing Through Prayer.”
2. Answer thought questions on “Prayer” on page 51.
3. Memorize John 16:24.

1. Take notes on the Pastor’s Sunday sermon.

Check daily progress below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
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**NOTES**

## APPOINTMENT #4 GROWING THROUGH PRAYER

(BECOMING EFFECTIVE IN PRAYER)

God speaks to us continually through the Scriptures. Other ways that we might hear God include preaching, testimonies of others and the prompting of the Holy Spirit. Prayer is our natural response to God’s communication with us. Prayer completes our relationship with God. Responding to God in prayer after He speaks to you shows that you are paying attention. In this manner, you share your heart with the One who longs most for your companionship.

Prayer is how the power of God is unleashed. Personal battles are won in prayer. The cause of Christ is advanced as we intercede for others.

Jeremiah 33:3 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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James 4:2b \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**MEMORY VERSE:**

John 16:24

Through prayer, we have the power and the privilege to be used by God in changing other’s lives. Unbelief often keeps us from availing ourselves of this power. The disciples of the first century knew how to pray. Claiming the power of the omnipotent God, they changed the course of history. We serve the same God today.

### 1. WHAT IS PRAYER

1. Prayer is simply communicating with God. A dialogue between two who love each other…

1. Prayer is God’s children approaching God’s throne with confidence (Hebrews 4:14-16)

1. **WHO CAN PRAY?**

* 1. Those who belong to Christ.

* + 1. The only prayers that are effective are those based on relationships.

Sometimes, non-Christians offer instinctive prayers. There is danger in “ignorant” praying to false gods. Man assimilates the moral character of the object he worships. (Hebrews 11:6)

* + 1. It is important to pray in faith to the only true Heavenly Father. Only

by worshipping the holy and loving God will we be transformed into His likeness. (II Corinthians 3:18)

* 1. Those who come to God in the Authority of the Name of Jesus.

* + 1. Jesus is the only way to the Father. (John 14:6)

* + 1. Jesus is the only mediator between God and us. (I Timothy 2:5)

* + 1. Jesus promises to give what we ask for in His name. If we are abiding in Christ, we can petition the Father with all the authority of Christ. We must ask in His name on the basis of who He is, not in our own name on the basis of who we are. (John 14:14)
  1. Those who come to God with a clean heart. (Psalm 24:3-4) Covered sin hinders our prayers. (Psalm 66:18)

* 1. Those who have a forgiving spirit. (Mark 11:25) Unforgiveness hinders our prayers.

* 1. Those who come in faith. (Matthew 21:22)

A believing heart is necessary for prayer to be answered.

Our faith grows through hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17). The more we learn of the attributes of God (Lesson 2), the more we can trust Him. The more we trust Him, the more we experience the reality of His love, grace and power in prayer. We cannot create faith. It is only given from God as we rely on His Word and His faithfulness.

1. **WHY SHOULD WE PRAY?**

* 1. To glorify God (John 14:13) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. To obey God’s command (I Thessalonians 5:17) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. To have fellowship with God (Proverbs 15:8) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. To communicate with God (Psalm 69:13) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. To follow our Lord’s example (Matthew 14:23) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. To achieve results for the glory of God (Matthew 21:22) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. To grow spiritually (Luke 6:28) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**UNDERLINE THE KEY THOUGHT IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS:**

First, prayer changes me, then the things around me. Prayer is ordained by God whereby His purposes are accomplished on earth. The Bible records that weather was changed and people were released from prison because of prayer.

Prayer is the means of becoming a fruitful witness for Christ. Begin by talking to God about men and then talk to men about God!

Prayer keeps us in touch. In order to keep our love relationship with the Lord, He must communicate with us and we with Him. Prayer is not an “escape” out of trouble but a blessed fellowship and communication with our Lord.

Prayer, which is our talking to God and God talking to us through His Word, is our major source of spiritual food. We can miss a day and suffer only slightly; but if we continue to miss, we shall become undernourished without the strength to live a victorious life and maintain boldness for a vital witness for Christ.

1. **TO WHOM DO WE PRAY?**

* 1. We pray to the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Our prayers are validated by Christ, and are interpreted to God the Father by the Spirit.

* 1. As we are praying, who intercedes for us?

* + 1. Romans 8:34 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* + 1. Romans 8:26-27 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **WHEN SHOULD WE PRAY?**

* 1. Pray together with other believers. (Acts 2:42; 4:31)

* + 1. Dull and unattractive group praying is often the result of ineffective private praying.

* + 1. In spontaneous sentence praying, each one prays briefly about one area of praise or petition at a time. Each one may pray several times as directed by the Spirit. However, each prayer should be short, to the point and in harmony with the Word of God.

* 1. Pray at specific times each day. (Acts 3:1)

* + - 1. Read the Word to prepare for prayer. Pray with the Bible open.

* + - 1. Talk to God and allow God to talk to you through His Word.

* 1. Pray continually. (I Thessalonians 5:17)

* + 1. Develop the attitude of talking to God often in the course of the day.

1. **WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN PRAYER?**

The first letters of the following four words from the word “ACTS.” Using this as a mental guide for prayer helps you maintain a balanced prayer life.

1. **A**doration: Acknowledging God’s character and attributes. Reflecting on God Himself. Praising God for Who He is and What He is. This is the appropriate way to enter His presence.

Why is adoration important? I Chronicles 29:11 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Psalm 145:1-6 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **C**onfession: Agreeing with God about my spiritual need. Responding to His Holiness. Admitting honestly and humbly where you have failed and sinned.

Why is confession important? I John 1:9 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Psalm 32:5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **T**hanksgiving: Thanking God for what He has done and for what He is going to do. Discovering the purposes of God through both pleasant and unpleasant situations.

Why is thanksgiving important? Ephesians 5:20

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Psalm 100:4-5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **S**upplication: Appealing for God’s help by:

* 1. Intercession: Praying for other’s needs. (I Timothy

2:1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. Petition: Praying for personal needs: (John 15:7)

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Why is supplication important?

Colossians 1:9-12 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Colossians 4:2-4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Matthew 9:37-38 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Matthew 7:7-8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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7. **HOW CAN WE PRAY WITH CONFIDENCE?**

Four imperatives must be followed before we can expect answers to our prayers.

1. **ABIDE**

What does Jesus say about abiding? (John 15:7) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **ASK**

If we expect answers to our prayers, what must we do? (James 4:2b-3)

### C. BELIEVE

What does Jesus promise? (Matthew 21:22) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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God does not require us to have a great faith. We simply are to have faith in a great God. What if we doubt? (James 1:6-7) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You must be in tune with the Holy Spirit.

You cannot be on the throne of your own life and still pray in faith. A life of faith is experienced only by those who walk in obedience. You will never meet a person who has faith in a great God, who refuses to obey the God in whom he is commanded to place his trust in.

### D. RECEIVE

By faith receive the answer to your request.

If you know you are abiding in Christ, that you are controlled by the Holy Spirit, and that you are praying according to the Word and the will of God, you can expect God to answer your prayer; so be prepared to receive the answer. Realize that right now you are receiving the answer to your request, and begin to thank God for answering your prayer.

E. Whatever we vividly envision, ardently desire, sincerely believe, and enthusiastically act upon, must inevitably come to pass – ***assuming there is spiritual authority for it***.

1. Imagine what will exist when your prayer is answered.

1. Ardently desire the actualization of that scene – ask God for it.

1. Sincerely believe that God will enable you to accomplish all that He has commanded you to do.

1. Enthusiastically act upon that for which God leads you to pray. Mobilize yourself and others to help fulfill the Great Commission. (Matthew 28:19- 20)

1. Claim as a part of the fulfillment of the Great Commission whatever sphere of influence God lays on your heart.

**THOUGHT QUESTIONS:**

1. What is prayer? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. On the basis of scripture, who is qualified to pray and to expect God to answer?

(John 15:7) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Why should we pray? (James 5:16) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Why pray in the name of Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Define “praying without ceasing.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Why is it important to have a definite time set aside for daily prayer? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What is the value of small-group prayer? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Define the four aspects of the content of prayer suggested by the letters of:

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1. Why is faith a prerequisite for answered prayer? Where do we get faith? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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For further reading: *Power Through Prayer,* E. M. Bounds

## DISCIPLESHIP

**ASSIGNMENT FOR APPOINTMENT #5**

GROWING THROUGH HOLINESS

1. Read the book of Ephesians as outlined:

1st day: The believers position Ephesians 1:1-23.

2nd day: Saved by grace Ephesians 2:1-22

3rd day: A mystery revealed Ephesians 4:1-21

4th day: A Christian’s walk Ephesians 4:1-32

5th day: Following Christ Ephesians 5:1-20

6th day: Living with others Ephesians 5:21-6:9

7th day: Christian warfare Ephesians 6:10-24

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1. Read material on “Growing Through Holiness.”

1. Answer thought questions on “The Spirit-Filled Life.”

1. Ask your discipler about reading material on the Spirit-filled life.

1. Memorize Ephesians 5:18.

1. Review the names of the New Testament books.

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1. Take notes on the Pastor’s Sunday sermon.

Check daily progress below:

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| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
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## APPOINTMENT #5 GROWING THROUGH HOLINESS

(HOW TO BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT)

The Holy Spirit is a vital part of every believer’s life. First, by convicting of sin and showing who Jesus is; Second, by giving assurance that we are indeed children of God; Third, by cleansing, controlling and filling the believer as the temple of God.

The Holy Spirit enables the believer to lead an obedient, Christ-centered life. It is the Spirit’s power that enables us to live like Jesus.

You cannot control yourself and be controlled by the Spirit at the same time. Christ cannot be in control if you are on the throne of your life.

Romans 8:5, 8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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MEMORY VERSE:

Ephesians 5:18

Although coming to know Christ as your personal Savior is the greatest privilege one can know, there are many Christians who do not experience the fullness of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

Walking daily in Christ is the greatest adventure one can know. Christ gave incredible promises:

John 14:12-13 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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We cannot, in our own energy, accomplish these great works which Christ promised that we would do. It is the full energy of the Holy Spirit representing Christ who lives within us that empowers us to do these great works.

When the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit, they received supernatural power that changed them from fearful men into radiant witnesses for Christ. They were used by God to change the course of history. That omnipotent power is available to you, to enable you to live a cleansed, holy and fruitful life for Jesus Christ.

Unfortunately, many Christians do not even know who the Holy Spirit is nor appropriate His power. Consequently, they go through life without ever experiencing the fruitful life which Christ promised.

**1. WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

1. Whom did Peter believe the Holy Spirit to be? Acts 5:3-4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What did Jesus call the Holy Spirit in John 14:16? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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*Note: There are two words for “another” in Greek, the language in which the New Testament was originally written: “allos” – another, but similar (another of the same kind); “heteros” – another as distinguished from (qualitative difference).*

Jesus said He would send another (*allos*) just like Himself.

**Son**

**Father**

**GOD**

## Holy Spirit

*The Holy Spirit is the third person in the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He is a person equal in every way with the Father and with the Son.*

C. What are some of the Holy Spirit’s activities?

Genesis 1:1-2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Luke 1:35 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Acts 10:38 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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II Peter 1:21 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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John 3:5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Acts 13:2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Acts 16:6-10 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **WHY DID THE HOLY SPIRIT COME?**

When you received Christ, the Holy Spirit came to live in you (I Corinthians 3:16). Look at the following verses and list some reasons why the Holy Spirit came.

* 1. John 14:26 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. John 16:8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. John 16:13 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. John 16:14 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. Acts 1:8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **WHY SHOULD I BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

As new Christians, we soon realize we still have in us a tendency toward sin. We want and even choose our own way, which is opposed to God.

Galatians 5:17 describes the conflict: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Even though there are times of victory, allowing the carnal nature to control results in defeat. A defeated, fruitless Christian is never happy with his spiritual condition. His testimony is like that of the Apostle Paul, earnestly desiring to change, but not knowing what to do. Read Romans Chapter 7.

Every Christian, like Paul, must face this same “terrible predicament of the foe within” until there is victory through Jesus Christ. Read Romans Chapter 8.

The following diagram will clarify the process for you. These circles represent the struggle Paul was talking about.

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| Self-filled Life | Double-minded Christian Spirit-filled Life |

*The first circle* represents the life of the natural man, the person who is without Christ. Christ stands outside the door of the heart seeking entrance. Satan is in control. The interests of this life are directed by self, often resulting in discord and frustration. (Galatians 5:19-21)

*The second circle* represents the life of the Christian who has received Christ but has not yet been filled by the Holy Spirit. (Romans 7:19-24)

*The third circle* represents the life of the spirit-filled man, the person who after he invited Christ into his life, surrendered the ownership of his life, making Christ Lord. He is now cleansed, controlled and filled with the Holy Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-25)

Describe the carnal man, as presented in I Corinthians 3:1-3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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What is the solution to the carnal mind? (Ephesians 4:22-24) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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A Christian is carnal until he has yielded control of his life totally to Christ. You do not become carnal simply by committing sins, but by failing to allow God to cleanse and fill you.

1. **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

* 1. It means to be cleansed. (I John 1:9)
  2. It means to be crucified with Christ. (Galatians 2:20) C. It means to have His power. (Acts 1:8)

Living in the Holy Spirit’s fullness means to live in total dependence on Christ, recognizing that it is His life, His wisdom, His resources, His strength, and His ability operating through you. Christ then lives His will through our lives. Jesus does not want *us* to live the Christian life; He wants to live the Christ Life *through* us. Yielding fully to the will of God (I Thessalonians 4:3-4) means the Christian’s body now becomes Christ’s to use as He wills; the mind becomes His to think His thoughts; and the will is now submissive to God’s will.

D. It means to bear fruit. (John 15:1-8)

* + 1. What is the result of abiding in Christ? Vs. 5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* + 1. How do we prove we are Christ’s disciples? Vs. 8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* + 1. How much can we do without Christ? Vs. 5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* + 1. What is the difference between a small twig that has just begun to abide in the vine and a large mature branch? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* + 1. Why does Jesus prune the branches? Vs. 2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* + 1. What fruit will the Holy Spirit produce in and through your life as a result of the Spirit’s fullness? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **HOW CAN I BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

From the moment of spiritual birth, the believer has the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:16). From that time on, there is a progressive growth in grace leading to a more perfect obedience to God as the heart and life are prepared for the crisis of the Spirit’s infilling. This occurs when the believer presents himself a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God (Romans 12:1), claiming by faith the cleansing of all sin and empowerment for effective service.

* 1. What are we commanded to do in Ephesians 5:18? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. Discuss how the Fullness of the Spirit is received.

* + 1. Confess sin and my need of the Spirit’s cleansing and infilling. I John 1:9

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* + 1. Surrender to God the right to control my life. Romans 12:1

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* + 1. Receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit by faith. Acts 15:8-9

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### 6. HOW TO PRAY IN FAITH TO BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

We are filled with the Spirit by faith alone. However, true prayer is one way of expressing your faith. The following is a suggested prayer:

“Dear Father, I need You. I acknowledge that I have been in control of my life; as a result, I have sinned against You. I thank You, that You have forgiven my sins through Christ’s death on the cross for me. I now invite Christ to take control of my life. Cleanse my heart and fill me with the Holy Spirit as You commanded me to be filled, and as You promised in Your Word that You would do if I asked in faith. I pray this in the name of Jesus. As an expression of my faith, I now thank You for taking control of my life and filling me with the Holy Spirit.”

Does this prayer express the desire of your heart? If so, you can bow in prayer and trust God to fill you with the Spirit right now.

Did you ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you know that you are now filled with the Holy Spirit? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

On what authority? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**7. HOW TO WALK IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT?**

Being filled with the Spirit is not a once-and-for-all experience. There are many fillings. In the Greek, in which the command of Ephesians 5:18 was originally written, the meaning is clearer than that of most English translations. This command of God means to be constantly and continually filled, directed and empowered with the Holy Spirit as a way of life.

1. Walk in faith

* 1. How does our faith grow? (Romans 10:17) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. Why is faith so important? (Hebrews 11:6) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Breathe spiritually

Spiritual breathing is an exercise in faith and obedience that will enable you to continue to experience God’s love, forgiveness, and the power and direction of the Holy Spirit as a way of life.

* 1. EXHALE – Confession of need

If you retake the throne, the control-center of your life, through sin – a deliberate act of disobedience – *exhale* by confession. (I John 1:9) Confession (“*homologeo*” in the Greek) suggests agreement with God concerning our sin. You must continue to breathe spiritually, exhaling whenever the Spirit reveals a sin which you need to confess.

* 1. INHALE – Appropriate by faith

Next, *inhale* by appropriating the filling of God’s Spirit by faith. Trust Him to direct and empower you, according to His command in Ephesians 5:18.

Living the Christian life by human effort is difficult, complex and impossible. However, knowing the reality of self-crucifixion – denying your own private desires and executing self-centeredness and self-will – and the Spirit’s cleansing and infilling enables the believer to live the abundant life in Christ.

**WHAT IS THE FIRST RESULT OF BEING FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

A new power will make us effective. (Acts 1:8) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Who is the Spirit?

1. Why did the Spirit come?

1. What does it mean to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

1. According to Galatians 5:22-23 discuss the kind of fruit which the spirit produces in the life of a person who is yielded to Him.

1. From the preceding scripture, list those qualities which are now lacking in your life.

1. Why are so few Christians experiencing the infilling of the Holy Spirit?

1. What is the relationship between being filled with the Spirit and becoming mature as a Christian?

1. What are some practical benefits of being filled with the Spirit?

1. Will a person who is filled with the Spirit be perfect?

1. Explain why each of the following statements are necessary preparation for the Spirit’s fullness:

* 1. Desire to live a holy life pleasing to God.
  2. Willingness to surrender the control of your life to God.
  3. Confession of the rebellion of our sinful nature.

1. How is one filled with the Spirit?

1. What is the relationship between faith, fact, and feeling in reference to the filling of the Spirit?

What is the proof that one is filled with the Holy Spirit? (Acts 1:8; Galatians 5:22-23a)

For further reading: *Holiness for Ordinary People,*  Keith Drury

*And They Shall Prophesy,* George E. Failing

*Living Water,* Chuck Smith

*Charisma versus Charismania,* Chuck Smith

*Concerning Spiritual Gifts,* Donald Gee

*They Speak with Other Tongues,* John L. Sherrill

*The Baptism With the Holy Spirit,* R. A. Torrey

*They Found the Secret,* V. Raymond Edman

### DISCIPLESHIP ASSIGNMENT FOR APPOINTMENT #6

**GROWING THROUGH WITNESSING**

1. Read I, II, AND III John and Jude as outlined:

1st day: Walking in Fellowship I John 1:1, 2:14

2nd day: Walking as Children of God I John 2:15; 3:24

3rd day: Walking in Love I John 4:1-21

4th day: Walking in Knowledge I John 5:1-21

5th day: Walking in Truth II John 1-13

6th day: Walking in the Way III John 1-14

7th day: Walking without Falling Jude 1-25

1. Read material on “Growing Through Witnessing”

1. Answer thought questions on “Witnessing.”
2. Read one of the following booklets: “Knowing Where You Are Going,” “Your Most Important Relationship,” “Four Spiritual Laws.”
3. Memorize Acts 1:8

1. Memorize the names of the Old Testament books – Genesis through Proverbs

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1. Take notes on the Pastor’s Sunday sermon

Check daily progress below:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
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### APPOINTMENT #6 GROWING THROUGH WITNESSING

#### (HOW TO SHARE YOUR FAITH)

The overflow of the spirit-filled life is sharing with others how they too can have this new life in Christ. Your devotional life, extended times of prayer, and prompt obedience to God will give your life an attractiveness which adds credibility to your words. Effective witnessing also involves skills. Skills can be learned and sharpened. You will become a sharpened instrument in God’s hand as you receive training and gain experience in witnessing.

Write down Paul’s prayer in Philemon 6 from the New International Version.

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**GROWING THROUGH WITNESSING**

MEMORY VERSE:

Acts 1:8

#### THE CHALLENGE

A witness in a courtroom is expected to tell what he knows about a given situation. The Christian witness is to tell others what he knows about Jesus Christ and what it means to personally trust Him.

“God hasn’t engaged many of us as lawyers, but He has summoned all of us as witnesses.”

1. What was the first thing *Andrew* did after he met Jesus? (John 1:40-42)

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1. How did *Peter* feel about speaking of Jesus Christ? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Read Acts 4:20 and underline the correct answer:

* 1. He didn’t speak unless asked
  2. He was compelled to speak
  3. He found it difficult to speak of such a personal matter

1. Why was *Paul* not ashamed to share Christ? (Romans 1:16) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What does a witness tell the people? (Acts 22:15) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**WHY WITNESS?**

What would happen if every Christian in the world would begin to witness? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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#### 1. CHRIST TAUGHT IT

1. Christ’s first summons to His followers: (Mark 1:17) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Christ’s last promises to His disciples: (Acts 1:8) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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#### 2. THE WORLD NEEDS IT

1. What did our Lord command the church to do in Matthew 28:20?

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1. What motivates the believer to share the faith with others? (II Corinthians 5:14-15)

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1. Why does the world need the gospel? (Matthew 9:12-13) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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#### 3. CHRISTIANS DO IT

If a Christian is not a witness for Christ, he is disobedient to the will of God. Disobedient Christians often say, “Witnessing is not my gift.” Where would the church be now if

Stephen and Phillip, who were members of the first board of Deacons (Acts 6:5), had said, “We are serving tables, and witnessing is not in our job description.” (See Acts 6:8-10; Acts 8:5-6; 8:26-35) Witnessing for Christ requires dedication and willingness to face rebuke as well as acceptance.

1. Obedience is the fruit and proof of our love for Christ (John 14:15).

1. A witnessing Christian is a happy and fulfilled Christian

1. Christians who get caught in church bureaucracy often fail to witness.

#### 4. GOD HONORS IT

Though you should always seek to bring those who are interested to a definite commitment to Christ, do not feel discouraged when some refuse to receive Him as Savior. That is God’s responsibility. It is your responsibility to tell them the good news with love and genuine concern. Sharing Christ should be a way of life for every Christian. When you awaken each morning, thank the Lord that He lives in you and ask Him to use your lips to speak of His love and forgiveness (Isaiah 50:4).

#### 5. HEAVEN CELEBRATES IT

What happens in Heaven when one sinner repents? (Luke 15:7) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**LET US STUDY FOUR THINGS ABOUT WITNESSING.**

#### 1. WITNESS BY A CHANGED LIFE-STYLE

“Show me your redeemed life, and I’ll believe in your Redeemer.” – Voltaire

1. Since we are God’s children living in a warped and wicked age, (Philippians 2:1415)

* 1. What kind of lives should we live? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. How should we appear to the world? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What do people notice about a person who says he is a Christian? (Matthew 5:16)

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1. When a Christian is living right, what do others do? (Matthew 5:16)

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Evangelism is a special, God-given ability to share the gospel in such creative, effective and motivational ways that unsaved people respond and pray to receive Christ. Life-style evangelism is bringing people to Christ through the continual out-flowing of your faith in everyday life by the power of the Holy Spirit.

There are three important ingredients to consider when sharing Christ as a way of life.

1. Be available
2. Be Spirit-filled
3. Be proactive

* 1. Don’t wait for people to come to you. GO to them.
  2. Set aside quality time to share Christ with others this week.
  3. Simply meet people by showing your friendliness.
  4. Reach out to those of the same sex, interests, etc.

Write down II Timothy 4:2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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#### 2. WITNESS BY PRESENTING CHRIST

Before Dr. James Kennedy came to know Christ, he greatly admired a young high school classmate because of his many fine qualities. After Kennedy became a Christian, he discovered that the young man also professed to be a Christian, but had never shared his faith in Christ. Every time a Christian fails to give testimony to Christ for what is good in his life, he is stealing the glory for himself. (I John 1:3)

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1. What was the subject of Paul’s witness?

* 1. I Corinthians1:23-24 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  2. Ephesians 3:8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Why is it important that we present Jesus Christ to men who are lost?

* 1. John 14:6 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. Acts 4:12 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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#### 3. WITNESS BY PLANNED OBJECTIVE

Witnessing is presenting a person – not a plan or program. The power is in the gospel.

(Romans 1:16) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Some Christians are constantly being used by God to introduce others to Jesus, because they have been trained to talk about Christ in the power of the Spirit. They do not become distracted by discussing nonessential matters. There are many excellent tracts which present the gospel to the non-believer in a systematic way. One that is very easy for you to use is entitled “Knowing Where You’re Going.” The reason for this booklet is that it keeps the conversation centered on the gospel and away from issues.

Whenever you are alone with a person for a few minutes, you can assume that God has placed you there to reflect the good news of His love and forgiveness. Since Christ lives within us, we can simply ask Him to give us the courage to speak for Him.

A. Who are the ones who should openly speak of their salvation? (Psalm 107:2)

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B The blind man whom Jesus healed had little or no theological training, but he could give a simple and effective testimony. What facts did he relate? (John 9:25)

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C. Read I Peter 3:15-16 and answer the following:

1. What precedes telling others about Christ? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What does Peter say about preparation for witnessing? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What would stimulate someone to ask you about the hope you have in Christ? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What should be your attitude when witnessing? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. How can you overcome those who oppose your witness? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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God doesn’t need us to argue His case, but simply report on what He has done for us. Read Acts 26:1-29. In Paul’s testimony of how he met Christ, he included the following:

1. What life was like before he met Christ.
2. How he met Him.
3. How it changed him.

Using these points, write your own one-minute testimony:

1. Before I received Christ, I lived and thought this way:

1. How I received Christ (be specific):

1. After I received Christ, these positive things took place:

1. Special scripture verse:

Ask God to give you the opportunity to share your testimony and the scripture based on the booklet “Knowing Where You’re Going,” with at least one person this week. A personal testimony of God’s dealings with us is one of the most effective ways to begin sharing with others.

#### 4. WITNESS BY PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Here are three steps to take:

1. Seize the opportunity (knock on the door)

* 1. Introduce self and partner.
  2. Establish a caring relationship.

Here are several questions which could lead into a conversation about spiritual things:

* + - 1. Jesus with the woman at the well – John 4:7 “MAY I HAVE A

DRINK?”

* + - 1. Philip with the Ethiopian Eunuch – Acts 8:30 “DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU ARE READING?”
      2. To a neighbor – “Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I

just wanted a chance to meet you. Do you enjoy living here?”

* + - 1. To a fellow traveler – “Hello, where are you traveling to?”
      2. To a waitress, service station attendant or other sales person – “How do you like your work?”

e. To others:

“Do you live in this city or area?”

What do you do for a living?”

“May I help you?”

“Who in your opinion are the three greatest men who have ever lived?”

* 1. Ask opening question:

“Have you reached that place in your spiritual life where you have the assurance that you are going to heaven?”

(If participant answers negatively- skip follow-up question and go to question #5)

* 1. Ask follow-up question:

“And if you were to stand before God and He were to say ‘Why should I let you into heaven’, how would you answer?”

* 1. Ask permission to share God’s Word
  2. Move beside friend
  3. Hold Bible so friend can see verses

1. Share the Word

* 1. Everyone needs answers to at least these important questions:
     1. Knowing where you are going
     2. Knowing who to believe in

*The good news is that we can know.* I John 5:13

* 1. Let me show you a man who is searching for answers to these questions.

* + 1. In John 3:3, Jesus gave Nicodemus the answer.
    2. Nicodemus had a problem- Romans 3:23 :For all have sinned…”
    3. Jesus had a solution- Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus…”

* 1. The Bible says there are four things you and I must do to have NEW LIFE and know we are going to heaven.

**STEP 1 – REPENT** Acts 3:19 “Repent then and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out…”

The first step in knowing where you are going is to make a U-turn.

* + 1. Being sorry enough to humbly and sincerely confess.

“I am wrong”

* + 1. Being sorry enough to really turn away from a self-reliant, selfserving life; abandon the self-life and embrace the Christ-life. “I won’t live like that anymore”

**STEP 2 – BELIEVE** John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him…”

* + 1. There is only one reason why we should believe in Him- HIS LOVE.
    2. Anyone who dies in the place of another demonstrates- HIS LOVE.

**STEP 3 – CONFESS** I John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us…”

* + 1. When we have decided who to believe in… we can trust the confession of our deepest needs to Him.
    2. Confession is not to man – only to God/ only He can forgive the curvature of the soul.
    3. Confession is agreeing with God’s assessment of us, freely admitting our sins, and accepting the blame for our sins.

**STEP 4 – RECEIVE** John 1:12 “But as many as received Him to them gave He power to become the sons of God…”

* + 1. Introduce the pen; have answered the two questions; show pen lines.
    2. Even though we have the answer, we need assurance.
    3. Difference between believing and receiving.
    4. Assurance is based on God’s Word.

1. Draw the Net

* 1. How can I receive Christ? Revelation 3:20 “Behold I stand at the door and knock… If any man will open the door, I will come in.”

* + 1. Who is speaking? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    2. What are we to do? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    3. What will Jesus do? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. SUMMARY:

If you have made a U-turn………………...…REPENTED OF SIN

And you know who to believe in………...…..BELIEVE IN JESUS

You are now ready to ……………………..….CONFESS TO HIM

Christ is also ready for you to ……………..…….. RECEIVE HIM

* 1. QUESTION:

Do you know of any reason why you cannot receive Christ right now?

* 1. PRAY:

We can pray together and ask Jesus Christ to come through the open door of your heart.

* 1. FOLLOW-UP:

* + 1. What did you ask Jesus to do for you?
    2. Did you ask Jesus to forgive you?
    3. Where is Christ now?
    4. What does the Bible say about you now?

II Corinthians 5:17

* + 1. What should I do now that I’ve made the big step?

1. Come to the NEW LIFE STUDY

2. Publicly acknowledge Christ before others 3. Schedule Timothy Follow-Thru session.

#### EXPECT RESULTS

When you talk about Jesus, expect people to respond. We are carrying out His orders with His power, so we have the right to claim His promises. It is inconceivable that He would not honor our faithful witness.

BE SURE THAT YOUR ARE A CHRISTIAN

NO UNCONFESSED SIN IN YOUR LIFE

**1**

**2**

BE SURE YOU ARE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

**3**

BE PREPARED TO SHARE YOUR FAITH

**4**

PRAY

**5**

GO

**6**

TALK ABOUT JESUS

**7**

EXPECT RESULTS

**8**

**FRUITFUL**

**WITNESS**

While the disciples met with bitter opposition, the Christian movement experienced phenomenal growth. Faithful witnesses became fruitful witnesses.

#### THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think so few Christians ever lead others to Christ? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What encourages the Christian to be active in witnessing? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. How does sin affect one’s witness for Christ? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Why is it important to learn how to share your faith in Christ with others? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What steps can you take to better prepare to share your faith? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What is the role of prayer in introducing others to Christ? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What is God’s remedy for fear in witnessing? (Acts 4:5-13) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Why is it important to talk about Jesus and not about the church and secondary issues?

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1. What is your responsibility and God’s responsibility in witnessing? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Apply Mark 1:17 (command) and Acts 1:8 (promise) to your life. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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For further reading: *Lifestyle Evangelism,* Joe Aldrich

**NOTES**

### DISCIPLESHIP ASSIGNMENT FOR APPOINTMENT #7

GROWING THROUGH FELLOWSHIP

1. Read Philippians as outlined:

1st day: Joy Triumphs Over Suffering Philippians 1:1-30

2nd day: Joy in Christ Philippians 2:1-11

3rd day: Joy in Salvation Philippians 2:12-30

4th day: Joy in Christ’s Righteousness Philippians 3:1-9

5th day: Joy in Christ’s Will Philippians 3:10-21

6th day: Joy in Christ’s Strength Philippians 4:1-7

7th day: Joy in Christ’s Provision Philippians 4:8-23

1. Read material on “Growing Through Fellowship.”

1. Answer thought questions on “Fellowship.”
2. Memorize John 13:34-35.

1. Review the names of the Old Testament books – Genesis through Proverbs.

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| --- |
|  |

1. Take notes on the Pastor’s Sunday sermon.

Check daily progress below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### APPOINTMENT #7 GROWING THROUGH FELLOWSHIP

(How To Relate To Others)

There is a certain chemistry that takes place as Christians come together. They learn from each other. They also encourage one another. The result is the building up of the Body. This cannot be accomplished if one is isolated from other Christians.

No Christian is higher or lower than another Christian. Someone has said, “The ground is level at the foot of the cross.” All Christians have the same privilege of being intimate members of God’s family.

Write down Ephesians 4:16 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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MEMORY VERSE:

John 13:34-35

God desires that every believer be a functioning member of the local church – a family or body of believers. In this lesson, we will look at scriptures which show our relationship to one another.

#### MEMBERS OF ONE ANOTHER

Write down Romans 12:5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The New Testament states that Christians are “members of one another.” Paul used the human body as an illustration to get this point across. He also clearly spelled out the similarity between the “human body” and “Christ’s body” which is the church. Read I Corinthians 12:14-26

Write down I Corinthians 12:27 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Paul also describes the body of Christ in at least two other places:

1. What is the main emphasis of Romans Chapter 12? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the main emphasis of Ephesians Chapter 4? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Discuss these three principles of Church body life:

1. No individual Christian can function effectively by himself.

* 1. Can one part of the body get along without another part of the body?

(I Corinthians 12:21) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. How does one body member respond to another body member who is injured? (I Corinthians 12:26) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. No member is more important than another member in Christ’s body.

* 1. Romans 12:3 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. Ephesians 4:2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. I Corinthians 12:22-23 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Each Christian is responsible to help keep the unity of the Spirit.

* 1. I Corinthians 12:12 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. I Corinthians 1:10 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Most biblical references to the functioning of the body of Christ focus on the local church.

Why is it so important to be a functioning member of a local church? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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#### DEVOTED TO ONE ANOTHER

Write down Romans 12:10a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

To be devoted to one another refers to the mutual love of a family unit. The term “brotherly love” refers to the love that should exist between family members. Applied to the church, it refers to the love Christians have for one another. We are indeed blood brothers in Christ. Read Ephesians 1:7

Christians begin as infants in Christ. As we go through the stages of development from immaturity to maturity, we often fall into patterns of self-centered behavior. However, the more we grow in Christ, the more we will reflect the nature of Christ. Read Philippians 2:3-4

What does the comparison between the “human body” and Christ’s body, “the church” mean to you? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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#### HONOR ONE ANOTHER

Write down Romans 12:10b \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Consider the example of an excellent piano accompanist who desires to help other people “look and sound good.” He is admired not so much for his own skill, but for honoring others above himself. He controls his volume so that it does not compete with the vocalist. His music enhances the other’s presentation, rather than detracts from it. He covers up the singers mistakes and is excited and satisfied when the one he has accompanied is honored for a job well done.

In the same way, every Christian should strive to make other believers “look and sound good.” That means to rejoice when others achieve and are honored for it. When this happens, the body of Christ will function beautifully with believers maturing and growing in Christ.

Read and discuss the illustration that Christ gives us as He set the example of honoring others above Himself. (John 13:1-17)

1. What kind of attitude was Jesus modeling before His disciples? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. How many situations can you recall where you attempted to honor someone above yourself? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Can you recall a situation where you failed to reflect sincere appreciation for the other person? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. How should I change in my attitude towards others? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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#### UNITY WITH ONE ANOTHER

Write down Romans 15:5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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The main attitude among believers in the church that convinces non-Christians that Jesus is God, is the spirit of unity. This represents a miracle because men everywhere tend toward independence and disunity. When non-Christians see true unity and the bond of oneness, they will seek to be a part of that kind of love. Read John 17:21-23.

The biggest obstacle to unity is satanic activity. As the author of confusion, insensitivity and false doctrine, his strategy is often successful in destroying unity among Christians. Through God’s Word, we discover how Satan can be defeated.

1. How can the believer be protected from the power of Satan? (John 17:11) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. How is division destroyed? (Colossians 3:14) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. How should our “ministry of reconciliation” produce a visible unity in the body of Christ? (II Corinthians 5:18-19) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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If unity is destroyed in Christ’s body, then we have lost the most powerful means of demonstrating to unbelievers that Christ is God. With that message obliterated or even blurred, man is doomed to despair; because he cannot know God apart from coming to know Christ. Someone has said that many reject Christ because of the ugliness of His bride. Read John 20:30-31.

We must take seriously what the Bible says about brotherly love. Evaluate your attributes and actions toward other members of your “Christian family.”

* 1. Do I spend more of my time thinking about myself rather than others?
  2. Do I spend more time praying for myself than for others?
  3. How forgiving am I toward others?
  4. How often do I become angry and resentful towards others?
  5. Do I withdraw when I am hurt, or do I continue to be involved?
  6. Does my fear of rejection keep me from reaching out to others?
  7. Do I in honor, prefer others?
  8. Am I truly interested in what others are interested in?

#### ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER

Write down Romans 15:7 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Three ways which keep Christians from not accepting one another:

1. By judging one another in legalism.

* 1. To sit in false judgment on other Christians is a violation of Christ’s love. We are not to judge others in areas that are not specified as sin. Read Romans 14:1-4, 10- 13a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. What should Christians be guarded against doing instead? Read Romans 14:13b

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* 1. We are to support the weak by not being a hindrance in any way. Read

Romans 14:17-19 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

As Christians mature, they become more sensitive toward weaker brothers and sisters in Christ. Carefulness to refrain from offending assures a stronger bond of fellowship in the body of believers.

1. By showing partiality and prejudice.

* 1. Read and write out your insights on Romans 12:16 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. Write down James 2:9 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Furthermore, they destroy the nature of the functioning body of Christ. WE ARE ALL ONE. Every member is important – rich or poor, young or old, black or white, weak or strong. If we show favoritism, we destroy the unity, harmony, and oneness in the body of Christ, which both Christ and Paul prayed for and commanded.

1. By refusing to be reconciled to others.

Cultural, racial, national and religious barriers are broken down when people are brought near to God by the blood of Christ. There is a peace between people that formerly were enemies when they become members of the body of Christ. All believers have the same access to God the Father, because the same Spirit dwells in them. Together we are being constructed into a spiritual temple of God.

* 1. Where was each person before he came to Christ? (Ephesians 2:11-12)

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* 1. What did Christ destroy when He died? (Ephesians 2:13-14) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. What is one thing maturing believers are concerned with? (Eph. 4:15-16)

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* 1. Is it difficult for you to compliment others and enjoy their successes? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. Do you need to be reconciled with someone? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

To confront another Christian about his sin is difficult. However, it is a great sign of love to be willing to risk rejection. Admonishment done in the right spirit with the right motive, using an appropriate method, goes a long way in convincing the person of your love and sincerity. Though that person may have difficulty acknowledging and confessing his sin at the moment, eventually he may have the courage to face what deep down he really knows.

Read Romans 15:14 and discover three things that constitute the basis for admonishing one another.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Live a biblical pattern of life. Keep your own act clean before you try to help someone else clean up his.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ An adequate knowledge of God’s Word. All instruction must be based on God’s Word, not what we think someone should or should not be doing.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Here are five scriptural guidelines for admonishing.

* 1. Do it with love and concern (Acts 20:31)
  2. Do it one to one. (Matthew 18:15)
  3. Do it persistently (Matthew 18:16)
  4. Do it with pure motives (I Corinthians 4:14)

F. Do it as a natural outgrowth of body life (Leviticus 19:17)

* + 1. Preventative (stay away from sin) (Colossians 3:16)
    2. Corrective (find the way back) (Galatians 6:1)

#### SUBMIT TO ONE ANOTHER

Write down Ephesians 5:21 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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The concept of submission is often used in scripture to describe a variety of Christian relationships.

The concept of submission is often used in scripture to describe a variety of Christian relationships.

1. Young men submitting to older men. (I Peter 5:5)
2. Members submitting to authority of leaders (I Thessalonians 5:12; Hebrews 13:7, 17)
3. Employees submitting to bosses (Ephesians 6:5; Colossians 3:22; Titus 2:9; I Peter 2:18)
4. Children submitting to parents (Ephesians 6:1; Colossians 3:20)
5. Wives submitting to husbands (Ephesians 5:22-24; Colossians 3:18; I Peter 3:1, 5)
6. Christians submitting to government leaders (Romans 13:1; Titus 3:1; I Peter 2:13)
7. Everyone submitting to the someone (Ephesians 5:21)

You are to be like the Lord Jesus Christ who is the supreme example of biblical submission, as demonstrated by freely submitting to the will of His Father (Philippians 2:5-8). In the world there is usually reluctant, resentful, challenging, complaining obedience, or outright insubordination. Man basically operates out of selfish motives. But in Christ we “submit” to one another out of obedience and reverence for Christ, unless a person’s demands contradict God’s Word and would force you to sin (Acts 4:19-20; Acts 5:29). All who have positions of authority (political and church leaders, husbands, parents and employers) should not be arrogant, dictatorial and overbearing, domineering over those in their charge; but instead should be humble and loving, with a servant attitude as they themselves submit to God.

This servant attitude is demonstrated by:

1. Husbands loving and honoring their wives

(Ephesians 5:25-29; Colossians 3:19; I Peter 3:7)

1. Parents encouraging and dealing sensitively with their children (Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:21)

1. Church leaders dealing with those under their leadership considerately and respectfully

(II Timothy 2:24-25; I Peter 5:1-3)

1. Employers treating workers fairly (Ephesians 6:9; Colossians 4:1)

1. Civic authorities ruling with respect for human right and dignity

(Proverbs 20:28; Proverbs 31:8-9; Romans 13:4)

How can I apply the concept of submission and servanthood to my life? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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#### SERVE ONE ANOTHER

Write down Galatians 5:13b \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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In “serving one another in love” we find true freedom in Christ. Our deepest needs are met in legitimate ways. Rather than using others to indulge our sinful nature, we minister to the other members of the body. Turning our lives over to Christ also means turning our lives over to each other. Our responsibility to one another is greater, because we are members of the family of God. Relationships based on ministry are truly satisfying.

1. How is the ministry of servanthood expressed?

* 1. By fulfilling a proper ambition. (Mark 10:35-45)
  2. By doing good to fellow believers. (Galatians 6:10)
  3. By being merciful to others. (Matthew 5:7)
  4. By meeting the spiritual, physical, mental and social needs of others.

(Matthew 25:31-45)

1. How is the ministry of servanthood evaluated (Luke 16:10; I Corinthians 4:2; II Timothy 2:2)?

Read Galatians 5:22 and see how you are reflecting the “fruit of the Spirit” in your relationships by answering the following questions.

* 1. Do you express Christian love to others?
  2. Is there evidence of Christ’s joy in your life?
  3. Do you have peace and unity with others?
  4. Are you patient with others?
  5. Are you kind in your actions and attitudes?
  6. Does your life demonstrate holiness?
  7. Are you faithful to others?
  8. Do you demonstrate gentleness with others?
  9. Do you control your speech and life-style?

#### BEARING WITH ONE ANOTHER

Write down Ephesians 4:2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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The word “bear” in Ephesians means to be tolerant toward other Christians. We are taught to bear with them, patiently enduring their weaknesses and extending a forgiving spirit toward those who may sin against us. In fact, bearing with one another and having a forgiving spirit are synonymous concepts. Some Christians carry grudges for years. This is out of character for a follower of Jesus Christ. How ungrateful for a Christian to hold a grudge against a fellow believer when Christ has cancelled his own debt of sin. Patience, forbearance and forgiveness are not automatic actions that follow conversion to Christ. These involve deliberate acts of the will. Every person who has a forbearing and forgiving spirit has chosen to do so.

1. When tempted to be impatient, we should think of Christ’s attitude toward us. (I Timothy 1:15-17)

1. Christians who really care about each other will make every effort to maintain unity in the body. (Ephesians 4:2, 3)

Five practical steps for bearing with one another in love:

1. Make a list of all your shortcomings and weaknesses which irritate others.

1. Do you expect more from others and criticize them in the areas of your own weaknesses?

1. Make a list of people you have difficulty relating to, especially those you hold a grudge against.

1. Consciously and deliberately forgive every person who has ever done anything to hurt you. Forgive them not only for what they’ve done, but for *who* they are – a sinner just like you!

1. Talk to each person one by one and ask them to forgive you for your attitude, even though they may be primarily at fault. (Don’t base your forgiveness on the condition that they offer an apology. Take care of your own attitudes, and God will take care of theirs).

#### ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER

Write down I Thessalonians 5:11 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Christians are to build up and edify one another. Paul commended the Thessalonian Christians for their concern and love for one another. They had learned the importance of mutual encouragement, exhortation and comfort.

God’s Word is the primary means Christians use “encourage one another” and to “build one another up.” Fleshy praise (flattery) may puff up for the moment, but soon the hearer is left flat and empty. God’s Word is powerful, significant and reassuring. We are not built up spiritually by sharing human philosophy or ideas, but by the encouragement of the Word.

Christians must realize how important the Word is in building up others in the body of Christ.

Christians must be challenged to learn what God’s Word says. They must be ready to share the word with others who are in special need of encouragement.

**QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:**

1. Why is it important to know the Word in order to share the Word?
2. Why is the Word of God the primary means to encourage one another?
3. What are some ways I can become a better encourager of the body?
4. What is the primary purpose of the Body of Christ?

**SUMMARY:**

In the body of Christ, every member contributes to its success. No one Christian can be all things to all men, but all the body can be all things to all men. The church should be a group of people who believe the Bible, who believe that God can do all things, who love and care for “one another,” and who want all men to be saved and to experience fellowship with God and with other believers.

READ John 17:20-23

**DISCIPLESHIP**

### ASSIGNMENT FOR APPOINTMENT #8

Growing Through Temptation

1. Read the book of James as outlined:

1st day: Faith Tested James 1:1-21

2nd day: Faith Lived Out James 1:22-27

3rd day: Faith and Brotherhood James 2:1-13

4th day: Faith Dead Without Works James 2:14-26

5th day: Faith and Tongue Control James 3:1-18

6th day: Faith Rebukes Worldliness James 4:1-17

7th day: Faith in Prayer James 5:1-20

1. Read and complete material on “Growing Through Temptation.”

1. Memorize I Corinthians 10:13.

1. Memorize the books of the Old Testament – Ecclesiastes through Malachi.

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1. Take notes on the Pastor’s Sunday sermon.

Check daily progress below:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
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### APPOINTMENT #8 GROWING THROUGH TEMPTATION

(How To Be an Overcomer)

Since no one is immune to temptation and sin, it is important to understand the deliverance that God offers. First of all, remember that God is your creator, and you are His creation. He loves you, but He hates sin, because sin injures, kills, and destroys His creation. Secondly, remember that you cannot live victoriously above sin in your own strength. Thirdly, there is no way to totally avoid all temptations. However, God does have provision for victory. In this lesson, you will discover how you can appropriate God’s power over Satan and live the victorious life.

Write down Ephesians 6:10-11 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**MEMORY VERSE: I Corinthians 10:13**

Meditate on the memory verse and answer the following questions:

1. What is true about every temptation you face?

1. Who can give you victory when you are tempted?

1. What can keep temptation from leading to sin?

1. Does God remove temptation?

1. What does God do for you?

Apply the memory verse to your life.

1. What is a temptation that frequently overcomes you?

1. What do you think God’s way of escape is?

#### THE TACTICS OF TEMPTATION

New Christians sometimes think that their new life in Christ will be free from temptation. However, almost immediately they discover an ever increasing conflict with evil.

Read and summarize Ephesians 6:12 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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The ultimate source of all evil is Satan. He has tactics and battle plans. Christians must never face the enemy in a defensive or disorganized manner. In each conflict there are two important factors to consider: power and strategy. We must discover the devil’s strategy and use God’s power to launch offensive. Temptation assails us through three basic channels. In this ongoing battle, we must find out where we are most vulnerable and how we can be victorious.

**OUR THREEFOLD WARFARE IS:**

THE WORLD attacks the soul, tempting with the desire for things or fame.

THE FLESH attacks the body, tempting with the desire for the forbidden.

THE DEVIL attacks the mind, tempting with the feelings of doubt.

Write down I Thessalonians 5:23 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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#### THE WORLD ATTACKS THE SOUL

Write down I John 2:15 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Write down Romans 12:2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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The kind of world Paul is referring to is the world of unsaved men, the society, culture, and value systems that they have established. The most subtle kinds of temptation are from this channel- THE WORLD. Most of the time when you are tempted by the world, you are not tempted to do anything illegal or horrible, yet it will be devastating to your spiritual welfare.

What are the three areas of temptation in the world mentioned in I John 2:16?

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What is Genesis 13:1-18 an example of? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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ILLUSTRATION: A young couple is very zealous for the Lord and then they drop out of church. They purchase a new home and soon become so busy with landscaping that they have little time for God. Before long they are spending their weekends on the lake with their new boat and avoiding contact with Christian friends. Can you think of a similar situation? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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How can I continue to be successful in handling the problem of temptation? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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READ Matthew 6:19-34 and discuss man’s value system.

**PROBLEM:**

Probably the WORLD ATTACKING THE SOUL will be the most important temptation you

will face during your lifetime. This is particularly true since we live in a materialistic society. Suppose as a woman you find yourself enamored with the latest fashions. Clothes become a passion that is ever on your mind. Or a man gets car fever. All he thinks about are new cars.

How should this be handled? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **SOLUTION:**

We can find the answer by looking deeper into I John 2:15. When you begin to let your love for God grow cold, the world will slip into the vacuum. However, finding yourself loving the world is a symptom of a deeper problem. The real problem is that something has happened to your love for God. Here are some steps to take to correct the problem:

1. Evaluate your devotional life.
2. Get alone with God for confession and communication. 3. Set aside priority time to study God’s Word.

Getting the love back where it ought to be will make the problem disappear. If you love God with all your heart, you won’t be loving the world. The more you love Him, the less important the things of this world will become to you. It is absolutely crucial in maintaining a successful Christian life to take time every day to communicate with God through personal Bible study and prayer. So when tempted with the world, renew your love life to God.

#### THE FLESH ATTACKS THE BODY

Write down Galatians 5:17 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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The kind of flesh we are talking about refers to the old sin nature, that inborn selfishness and rebellion. Unless this enemy within has been dealt with by the power of the Holy Spirit, you have an enemy right on the inside. The flesh is the traitor within the ranks of your own personality through which Satan can operate.

ROMANS 6 refers to the flesh as “the old man.”

ROMANS 7 refers to the flesh as “the sin that is in me.”

ROMANS 8 refers to the flesh as “the carnal man.”

Now the body is the material you: the meat, the bones, the eyeballs. Some temptations are directed right at the biological drives of the body such as sex or eating. A Christian is constantly tempted to misuse and misdirect these biological drives that God has given him.

**PROBLEM:**

1. What is the major source of temptation? (James 1:13-14) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Read the example of an attack on the appetites of the body in II Samuel 11:1-4 and discuss

several ways sin could have been avoided. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The temptation of illicit sex is a big issue in our culture. Suppose a college student and his date realize they are being tempted. They decide that they will handle temptation by going to gather algae off the rocks at the beach for their biology class. If they are tempted on the lonely beach, they will kneel down on the spot and ask God to help them fight this thing.

Now that sounds pious, but it is ridiculous. It like sticking your head in the lion’s mouth and asking God to protect you from his bite.

**SOLUTION:**

Find the way to keep from yielding to temptation in II Timothy 2:22 and in I Corinthians 6:18.

We are not told to fight, but to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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We have a great example of how Joseph handled temptation in Genesis 39. When Potiphar’s wife tried to seduce him, did Joseph suggest they kneel by the bed and pray about it? No! He ran! The best way to run is to keep from being caught in a compromising situation. The best way to keep from being overcome is to recognize your weakness and stay clear of danger.

#### THE DEVIL ATTACKS THE SPIRIT

Romans 14:23b tells us that whatever is not from faith is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Scripture teaches us that there is a real devil and the he has many helpers which are called demons. Their strategy is to attack man’s spirit. Man was created to not only be aware of himself, but to be aware of God. It is this God-consciousness that Satan tries to distort or destroy. When you are tempted to deny God’s goodness, His Word or His faithfulness, it is a satanic attack on man’s relationship with God.

**PROBLEM:**

What was Satan trying to get Peter to do in Luke 22:54-62? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**SOLUTION:**

1. What is the only way to handle a direct demonic attack? (James 4:7) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. To effectively handle this kind of temptation you must know your Bible. That is why Scripture is so important. In Luke 4 we read how Jesus handled a satanic overture. Each time He used the same tactical maneuver. What did He mean by saying, “It is written?” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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The best way to resist the devil is to thrust him with the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God. For instance, if Satan tries to tell a new convert that he is not saved, the best thing to do is to throw Scripture in his face that states that all who believe in Christ have eternal life. (John 5:24)

1. What did David say in Psalm 119:11 was his greatest aid to keep from sinning?

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The more you hide God’s Word in your heart, the more you study and master it, the more you will be prepared to deal effectively with the devil’s attacks.

1. To withstand all of Satan’s schemes, we must be adorned with each part of the full armor listed in Ephesians 6:1-18.

* 1. Belt of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ v 14
  2. Breastplate of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ v 14
  3. Feet fitted with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ v 15
  4. Shield of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ v 16
  5. Helmet of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ v 17
  6. Sword of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ v 17
  7. Praying in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ v 18

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:**

1. What is the purpose of trials and temptations? (James 1:2-4) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. When the devil tempts you, what is he trying to do? (I Peter 5:8) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What does God do for you? (II Thessalonians 3:3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What does Hebrews 4:15 tell you about Christ? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What is one thing you can do to keep temptation from leading to sin? (I John 5:4,5)

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**REVIEW WARFARE STRATEGY:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Channel of Temptation** | **Area of Attack** | **Biblical Example of Sin** | **Strategy for Victory** |
| WORLD | Soul | Genesis 13:1-18 | I John 2:15 Love God |
| FLESH | Body | II Samuel 11:1-4 | I Timothy 2:22 Flee |
| DEVIL | Mind | Luke 22:54-61 | James 4:7 Resist |

For further reading: *How to Say No to a Stubborn Habit,* Erwin Lutzer

*The Strategy of Satan: How to Detect and Defeat Him,* Warren Wiersbe

**DISCIPLESHIP**

### ASSIGNMENT FOR APPOINTMENT #9

Growing Through Obedience

1. Read the book of Colossians as outlined:

1st day: Paul’s Greeting and Prayer Colossians 1:1-14

2nd day: Seven Superiorities of Christ Colossians 1:15-29

3rd day: Christ Exalted Colossians 2:1-5

4th day: Complete in Christ Colossians 2:6-19

5th day: Old and New Man Colossians 2:20-3:11

6th day: Christian Living Colossians 3:12-25

7th day: Christian Graces Colossians 4:1-18

1. Read and complete material on “Growing Through Obedience”

1. Memorize James 1:22

1. Review the names of the books of the Old Testament – Genesis through Malachi
2. Take notes on the Pastor’s Sunday sermon

Check daily progress below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**NOTES**

### APPOINTMENT #9 GROWING THROUGH OBEDIENCE

(How To Walk Obediently)

When you are obedient to Christ and actively following God’s leading, it shows in your outward life. People can see evidence in your Christianity.

Some acts of obedience are more internal. They have to do with attitudes, habits, motives, sense of values, and day-to-day thoughts. These internal acts of obedience eventually surface in relationships with other people. The proof of your love for God is your demonstrated obedience to Him.

Deuteronomy 5:29 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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MEMORY VERSE: James 1:22

1. The term “walk” signifies the whole of the activity of the Christian’s life, how you should habitually live and behave. List below how the Christian should walk.

Romans 6:4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Romans 8:4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. Corinthians 5:7 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 2:10 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 5:2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 5:8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

II John 4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

II John 6 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. List below how a Christian should *not* walk.

Romans 8:4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. Corinthians 3:3 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. Corinthians 4:2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. Corinthians 5:7 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 4:17 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

When we were brought to spiritual birth by the Spirit, He came to live in us and give us a new nature (II Corinthians 5:17). Our responsibility is to feed and develop the new nature and to put off and turn from the old habits and patterns of the old in order to be pleasing and useful to the Lord.

1. In Ephesians 4:22-24

* 1. What should be our relationship to our old nature and to our new nature?

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* 1. How is our new nature’s likeness to God described? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What is the chief element of a fruitful Christian life? John 15:4-5

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* 1. How does abiding in Christ affect our walk? I John 2:6 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. What must we do in order to abide in Christ? I John 3:24 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. How do we know that Christ abides in us? I John 3:24 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### THE CHRISTIAN’S GOAL

1. What should be the goal before us? I Peter 1:13-16; Philippians 3:8-14; II Corinthians 5:9

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1. What two things will we want to do? Colossians 3:1-2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Unto whom will our eyes be turned? Hebrews 12:2a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. If our eyes are really on Him, what will follow? Hebrews 12:1 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What should be our constant desire? Colossians 3:17 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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When a man is going up in a balloon, he takes bags of sand as weights. When he wants to go higher, he throws some of the sand out. The more he throws out, the higher he goes. Our Christian walk is the same. The more of the things of the flesh, the world, and the devil, we throw overboard, the higher we will mount in the heights of spiritual blessings. “Has the Lord as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams.” (I Samuel 15:22)

#### DANGERS OF DISOBEDIENCE

1. In I Samuel 15:18-23, instead of complete obedience, King Saul substituted excuses and his own way of worship.

* 1. What was Samuel’s reply? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. To what are stubbornness and rebellion compared? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. What did the disobedience cost Saul? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Consider Zechariah 7:11-14

* 1. How did the people react to God’s instruction? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. How did it affect their prayers? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. What was the result? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### EXAMPLES OF OBEDIENCE

1. What were two of Abraham’s great acts of obedience? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. Genesis 12:1-4; Hebrews 11:8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. Genesis 22:1-3, 9-12; Hebrews 11:17-19 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What was God’s promise to Abraham’s son in Genesis 26:4-5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What was God’s remarkable commendation of David in Acts 13:22? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### CHRIST’S EXAMPLE OF OBEDIENCE

1. What was Jesus Christ’s main concern on earth? Hebrews 10:7; John 6:38

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1. Consider Romans 5:19
   1. What was the result of Adam’s disobedience? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   2. What was the result of Christ’s obedience? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**BELIEVER’S EXAMPLE OF OBEDIENCE**

1. Our obedience indicates: John 14:15 (Underline correct answer).

* 1. Our sincerity in serving Christ.
  2. Our willingness to sacrifice for Him.
  3. Our love for Jesus.
  4. Our zeal for Christ’s kingdom.

1. In I John 2:3-4…

* 1. What does obeying the Word of God prove? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What should be our attitude toward the leaders of our church? Hebrews 13:7. 17

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#### PROMISES AND BLESSINGS OF OBEDIENCE

1. What helps us get answers to prayer? I John 3:22 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What are *two* results of obeying God’s truth? I Peter 1:22 (Underline correct answers.)

* 1. It makes us more fervent in His service.
  2. It helps us love other Christians.
  3. It helps us become Christian leaders.
  4. It purifies our souls.
  5. It makes us more popular Christians.

1. True or False? Even if we fail to carry them out, good intentions are to our credit.

T F (Matthew 21:28-32)

1. To what does Jesus compare the life of a person who hears and obeys His Word?

(Matthew 7:24-27) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What blessings are reserved for the obedient Christian?

* 1. John 15:10-11 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  2. John 15:14 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  3. John 14:23 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  4. I John 2:5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**THE NATURE OF OBEDIENCE**

1. In the Old Testament God’s great standard for obedience was the Ten Commandments.

Jesus indicates that the Ten Commandments were summarized in these two Great

Commandments. What are the two Great Commandments in the New Testament?

* 1. Matthew 22:37-38 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. Matthew 22:39-40 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What should characterize our obedience? Psalm 40:8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What is James’ definition of disobedience? James 4:17 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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“Delayed obedience is disobedience.”

“In order for an act to be true obedience it must be immediate, complete, without challenge and without complaint.”

(Chapter 10 Growing Kids God’s Way)

1. What should be our response when God’s Word seems to contradict our own judgment? Luke 5:1-7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. In what area of your life does God want greater obedience? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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An obedient Christian has …

A mind through which Christ thinks

A life through which Christ shows

A voice through which Christ speaks A hand through which Christ helps.

~ The Navigators

For further reading:  *The Roof of the Righteous,* A. W. Tozer.

*My Heart, Christ’s Home,* Robert Munger.

### DISCIPLESHIP

**ASSIGNMENT FOR APPOINTMENT #10**

Growing Through Ministry

1. Read the following scriptures:

Exodus 19:3-9 (NIV)

Luke 10:1-9

Romans 16:1-16

1. Corinthians 12:12-31

Philippians 1:1-18

Colossians 3:23, 4:6

1. Timothy 3:10-17
2. Read and complete material on “Growing Through Ministry”

1. Memorize I Corinthians 3:9

1. Review the names of the books of the Old and New Testament
2. Take notes on the Pastor’s Sunday sermon

Check daily progress below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### APPOINTMENT #10 GROWING THROUGH MINISTRY

(How To Serve Effectively)

Fellow believer, you are something special. You are important to God and to the growth of His exciting kingdom. You have a unique partnership of ministry in building up the body of Christ.

Unfortunately, most Christians are unemployed in the kingdom of Christ. The purpose of this lesson is to help you discover that you have a place of ministry and how to prepare yourself for that responsibility.

The enablers given by Christ to His church have one task: to prepare God’s people for works of service. (Ephesians 4:11-12)

#### GROWING THROUGH MINISTRY

MEMORY VERSE: I Corinthians 3:9

Contrary to common belief, Christianity is not a spectator sport. There are many, however, who attend church merely as pew sitters and sermon tasters. But the Scripture is clear in teaching that every believer is a minister. In fact, YOU ARE A MINISTER.

Name the following “ministers” of Christ Jesus.

II Corinthians 3:6 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Colossians 1:7 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Colossians 4:7 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I Timothy 4:6 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“You are a minister of Christ… If you are a baptized Christian, you are already a minister; whether or not you are ordained is immaterial.”- Francis O. Ayres

The spiritual reformation of the 1500’s returned the Scripture to the laity. There is little doubt but that the spiritual reformation of the coming generation will return ministry to the laity. When the clergy de-emphasizes lay ministry, spiritual growth is stifled, and when the laity deemphasizes pastoral leadership, division is precipitated. Let us study five ways to achieve a scriptural blend of ministry which is absolutely necessary for the health of the church body.

#### IT IS IMPORTANT TO GROW THROUGH MINISTRY

1. REALIZE THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH.

“The major challenge for Christians is not to do something for the Church, but to be the

Church.”

F. C. Mather

The laity are not IN the Church

They are not FOR the Church

They don’t do things AT the Church

THEY *ARE* THE CHURCH

The Church didn’t invent ministry; it was modeled for her. As the Founder and Head of the church, Christ was always ministering. In order to understand the Church, one must first understand ministry. The Church derives its ministry from Jesus.

Acts 1:1 speaks about all that Jesus began to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus said in Mark 10:45, I came to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Not to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Whoever wants to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ must be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Matthew 20:26, 27.

In order to truly have a “CHURCH,” mutual ministry must occur. The church is present when it is:

1. A worshipping congregation.
2. A healing fellowship.
3. An equipping center.
4. An evangelizing force.
5. A deploying agency.

All Ministry Must Begin Within The Body:

By each other

For each other

To each other

Reaching beyond each other to those outside the Body.

#### THE CHURCH IS MINISTRY

1. Touching: Being willing to reach out to those needing help.
2. Caring: Being willing to be inconvenienced for others.
3. Knowing: Being willing to be vulnerable and to be patient with those whose vulnerability calls for our ministry.

“If we are the Church, then I may come to you as I would come to Christ… just as I am… knowing that you will understand my tears, my anger, my sin, believing that somehow Christ will see me with your eyes, touch me with your hands, heal me with your love.”

- Ken Medema

**APPLICATION:** What is the statement of purpose of your church?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. UNDERSTAND THE CALL TO SERVE

Have you ever heard anyone say, “But I am just a layman?” Anyone who says that certainly does not understand his high calling. So the next time you hear, “I am just a layman,” congratulate him or her on the tremendous honor of being one of God’s people. Biblically, all Christians are ministers.

There is a danger to which we need to be alert. Churches can become so ingrown and self-contained that they lose vital contact with those who most need to hear the message. Certainly there is a proper time for the CHURCH GATHERED. But the church gathers only so that it can receive strength to be the CHURCH SCATTERED.

What is Lay Ministry? It is the reasonable service of all Christians responding to Christ’s command to act out a life-style of agape (supernatural, unconditional, sacrificial) love to believers and non-believers alike.

1. Christians are to be fishers of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, not rods and reels. (Matthew 4:19)

1. Christians are to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, not salt shakers. (Matthew 5:13)

1. Christians are to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, not wax candles. (Matthew 5:14)

1. Christians are to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, not oiled machinery. (Matthew 9:38)

1. Christians are to feed the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, not collect dishes. (Ezekiel 18:7)

“It is true that churches can so divorce themselves from their neighbors that, sealed off and introverted, they cannot communicate the gospel. They have disobeyed the Bible (Mark 16:15; John 17:16-18) and taken themselves out of the world. Christians must remain in the world. Like their Master, they become incarnate in the ignorant, filthy, and sinful villages and cities of their real world.” - Donald McGavran

Look up the descriptions of a Christian found in I Peter 2:4, 5, 9, 10.

Vs. 4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Vs. 5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Vs. 9 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Vs. 10 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION:**  What is my call to ministry? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3. DISCOVER YOUR GIFTS OF MINISTRY

God has given us a variety of gifts that we can respond to His call to minister. We should remember that they are truly gifts. We do nothing to merit them, so we deserve no credit for having them. One of the worst things that could occur in studying gifts would be to discover our gifts, and then fail to employ them in the service of the One who gave them to us. Gifts are given to be used in His service for His honor.

Spiritual gifts are mentioned in three New Testament letters. However, for the sake of time and simplicity, we shall concentrate our introductory study on the primary gifts listed in Romans 12. Later in another study, you will be introduced to all of the other gifts listed in I Corinthians 12 and Ephesians 4.

List the seven gifts found in Romans 12:6-8

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

It is important for us to be aware of the uniqueness of our gifts and their application to ministry. This awareness can keep us from criticizing others who have similar gifts but different ministries. It should also help us to allow others sufficient latitude to express gifts that are different from ours.

Discussion questions:

1. Does everyone have at least one gift? (I Corinthians 12:7, 11; I Peter 4:10)

1. Does anyone have more than one gift? (Matthew 25:15; Romans 12:6a)

1. How do we distinguish between the term GIFT and MINISTRY? (I Corinthians 12:4-6)

**APPLICATION:** Begin to discover your spiritual gift by answering the following questions:

1. How available are you for God to use? Not Somewhat Very

1. In what way would you like for God to use you?

1. What do *you* see as the greatest needs of the church?

1. In what area have you most effectively served in the church?

1. Have you prayed for the leadership of the Holy Spirit? No Sometimes Always

1. How sensitive are you to the needs and ministries of others? Not Not enough Very

1. In what ways have other Christians expressed themselves about your gifts?

1. I believe my gift for ministry is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

4. TRAIN FOR AREA OF SERVICE

Training is essential if one is to be involved in fruitful ministry. It is unfair to ask people to fulfill important roles in the church without offering them any training opportunities.

Any person who takes his service to God seriously must give adequate attention to

preparation. Ministry is not automatic. It needs avenues for training and expression, and it needs to happen on purpose. Training must be designed with clear objectives, goals and methods. The lay person is not trained for ministry as a “side job.”

The ones best qualified to do the training are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 4:11)

The ones best qualified to be trained are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Ephesians 4:12)

#### A. OBJECTION TO TRAINING

Sometimes laypersons who refuse any kind of training find themselves experiencing difficulties. It is also possible that some persons do not appear to need much training.

They are not excited about training, because they do not realize the value of it.

Sometimes, it is better not to force the issue to fill a need until the person is aware of it. Sooner or later as they are challenged to grow spiritually, they will sense the need to learn new skills. At that time, it is important to have training available.

**B. THE TRAINING PROCESS INVOLVES FIVE STAGES:**

1. Association – Being with the person training you.
2. Impartation – Learning the basic how-to’s of ministry
3. Demonstration – Watching the example of someone at ministry.
4. Delegation – Receiving the assignment to do a certain ministry.
5. Supervision – Being accountable to the one who is monitoring (overseeing) the ministry.

#### C. THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND FOR EFFECTIVE TRAINING

1. Continually focus on the call to minister.
2. Look for others who are successful in the area of your gifts.
3. Study scriptures and literature that will assist you in your area of ministry.
4. Find creative ways to give expression to your gift.
5. Serve as an apprentice to a more experienced Christian.
6. Attend a support group or ministry module.
7. Establish clear lines of accountability.

If layman are trained to use their gifts fully, more ministry will be taking place through the church than could ever take place through paid pastors. Plus, these trained laymen will have that training for a lifetime. The Kingdom will benefit wherever those people go in the future.

**APPLICATION:** What training for ministry do I have? (II Timothy 2:15) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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5. PUT YOUR GIFTS TO WORK

Often new believers are unaware of the ministry opportunities that are open to them in and out of the church. The doctrine of ministry affirms that God is vitally interested in every sphere of our life: Church, family, leisure and occupation. God does not limit His interest to our “churchly” activities. He is as interested in how we paint a house, or teach school as He is how we pray, read the Bible or sing a hymn. God does not make a distinction between “secular” and “sacred.” All is under His sovereignty. God’s call on our lives causes us to view every activity as an opportunity through which we can praise

God and serve humankind. Rather than saying, “I am not a minister, I’m a carpenter,” one should explain, “I’m a minister through my carpentry.” The mere task does not make it ministry. It becomes “ministry” when done in a manner which conforms to biblical principles and when it is viewed as an opportunity to cause others to think more highly of Christ. We are most the church when we are not in the church building!

* 1. What did Jesus promise He would do with His disciples? (John 17:18 and John

20:21) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. What did the church do with Barnabas? (Acts 11:21-22) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

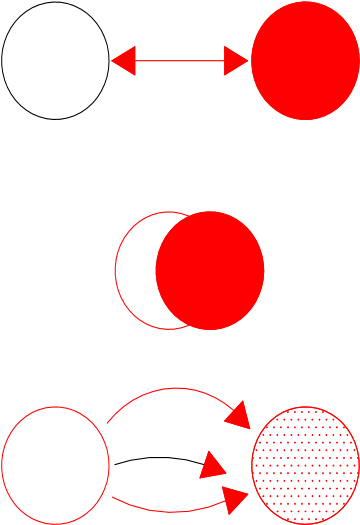
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* 1. What did the Holy Spirit say to do with Barnabas and Paul (Saul)? (Acts 13:2-4)

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THREE WAYS THE CHURCH VIEWS ITS MINISTRY TO THE WORLD:



1. Opposition which results in conflict

1. Arbitration which results in compromise.

1. Invasion which results in conquest.

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* 1. Christians are *first called* out of the world into the church.
  2. Christians are *then sent* out of the church into the world.

“God’s dwelling place on earth is no longer conceived of as a building set apart from the world, but as a people sent into the world.”

**THREE VOCATIONAL MINISTRY PRINCIPLES:**

1. Do everything to glorify God.

1. Make serving others the purpose of your work.

1. Let Jesus touch others through you as you work.

The doctrine of vocation is sometimes paraphrased as the “theology of the dust mop.” Monday through Friday secular work is an act of praise to God. Elton Trueblood once noted that “Work which has no other incentive than the pay check is closer to slavery than it is to freedom.” But work properly perceived produces wholeness and is an extension of our worship which results in ministry.

#### MINISTERING THROUGH THE CHURCH

Different ministries will produce different results. One ministry leads to conversions; another ministry helps Christians grow in grace. There are varieties of gifts, varieties of services and varieties of results.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **LAY MINISTRY IS NOT**   1. Being recruited 2. Being coaxed 3. Being elected 4. Being used 5. Being frustrated | **LAY MINISTRY IS** | |
|  | 1. Recognizing a call 2. Discovering a gift 3. Being equipped 4. Serving others 5. Being fruitful |

Beginning to Minister:

1. Be willing for trial and error.
2. List all possible ministries where you might use your gift.
3. Use checklist of ministry opportunities in your church.
4. Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit and other mature believers who are in authority.

**APPLICATION:** What results do I desire to see in my ministry?

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. What are the various offices of leadership training given to the church? (Ephesians 4:11)

1. What is one purpose of all training? (Ephesians 4:12)

1. Why is ministry of enablement the pastor’s primary work?

1. Draw a comparison between the traditional style of ministry and the equipping style of ministry.

1. Why do some pastors object to the development of the equipping ministry?

1. How did Paul feel about church members ministering to one another? (Romans 15:14)

1. Why do some church members object to the development of the equipping ministry?

If it is the job of the laity, not the pastor to do the work of the church, then the church will not accomplish its mission unless each one is doing HIS part. (Ephesians 4:16)

“Without God, we cannot; without us, God will not.”

- St. Augustine

**NOTES**