

Foundations in Christ

Discipleship Course

I want to take this moment to encourage you in what is the most important decision you can ever make in your life, which is to decide to follow Jesus and become His disciple! The following discipleship course is meant to lay the foundations of faith that we have as Christians. It is meant to equip you in God's Word and to be a tool for you to grow in your understanding of scripture and relationship with the Lord.

Before you start here are some things to consider so you can get the most out of this course.

- 1) Don't rush through the material. Take the time to go through and read each scripture reference thoroughly. This is meant to enrich you in God's Word and not meant for the sole purpose of simply accomplishing some task. Meditate on God's Word and let it speak to your heart and get into your spirit.
- 2) Write down any questions you may have. You may be doing this course with someone who is discipling you and meeting with you on a regular basis or maybe on your own. Either way write down any questions you may have if there is an area that is hard for you to understand or you need clarity with something. Bring those questions to the person discipling you or to your pastor or leader in the church who can help teach and explain things to bring clarity to the subject.
- 3) Take notes. As you are reading the scripture and going through this course I trust that the Holy Spirit will be speaking and revealing things to you. Have a separate notebook to write down any notes of the thoughts that come to you.
- 4) Pray. Pray before you start your time in this course each day you are doing it. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal truth to you. Pray when you read scripture and it touches your heart. Speak the Word over your life when it pertains to your situation.
- 5) Included at the end of each lesson is a daily devotional and Bible reading plan. Take time each day to pray and read your Bible. Then journal the minutes you spent in prayer and bible reading in the devotional chart. This will help you make a habit of setting time aside to pray and read your Bible (your daily devotional time). There are also suggested scriptures to memorize that go with each lesson.
- 6) Finally, after you have completed this course find someone else to meet with once a week and take them through the course! More instructions about this are located in the back.

What God Is Really Like

Knowing who God is and what He is like is the most important step in building a relationship with Him and growing in it. Also, when facing difficult situations, negative circumstances, or the many challenges of life it is vital that you have a proper view of Him. If not you may find it hard to trust completely in God in the midst of those circumstances and you may find yourself doubting Him when you are put in that position.

People have many different perceptions of what God is like. Some think of Him as an indulgent grandfather or a divine Santa Claus. Others see him as an angry, vengeful dictator. Many people are afraid of God because they have a distorted understanding of His character. Most of the problems people face are rooted in a false or inaccurate view of God.

How you view God and His involvement in your life touches every facet of who you are. Every area of your life - your desires, motives, attitudes, words, and actions - is influenced by your perception of God. When we see God more for who He is, our life will be transformed. The more we know about Him the more we will want to yield our lives to Him and the more we will appreciate what Jesus did on the cross for us.

God wants us to know what He is like and has given us a way to know all about Him. This is the Bible, every page God is showing Himself to us, expressing His desire for everyone to come to Him and know Him. He knows that if we really know what He is like we will want a personal relationship with Him. So, we must look to the Bible to find out what God is really like.

I. THE NATURE OF GOD

Read the following verses and write what they reveal about God: Duet. 6:4, Isaiah 45:5, & 1 Timothy 2:5

This lets us know that there is only one God. Not many gods as in other religions. We understand that all other gods are false and that we must worship the only true God. Jesus himself stressed this in Mark 12:29. Read Mark 12:29-30.

Next, check out John 4:24 and write what this tells about God.

God is not a physical being so He is not limited to a physical body. Yet, God is personal; that is, He is not a blind impersonal force. He is a person who knows you personally and wants you to know Him personally.

Knowing that His nature and person would be very difficult for humankind to understand, God gave us a full revelation of Himself. Read John 1:14, 1:18, 14:9, & Hebrews 1:1-3 and explain how God gave a full revelation of Himself.

II. THE TRI-UNITY OF GOD

The Bible teaches there is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, but they are all one. The word we use for this is trinity meaning three, from the word “tri”, and “nity” from the word unity. So basically it means three that are one. Read 1 John 5:7 and then read Matthew 3:13-17. Write how in Matthew all three are shown in these verses.

One example to help understand the trinity, God being three in one, is to look at the sun during the day. When you look into the sky how many suns do you see? You would probably say one but there are three. There is the actual sun, which can represent God the Father. There is the light that comes from the sun, which could represent Jesus. Also, you have the heat that you feel from the sun, which could represent the Holy Spirit. While this illustration doesn’t even begin to bring into understanding the depth of the Trinity it gives us an idea.

III. THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

Attributes are different characteristic traits about someone. Right now we are going to look at the different attributes of God.

I. Read John 4:23-24, John 15:15, & Jeremiah 29:13. What do these verses explain about God and the personal relationship we can have with Him?

God is gloriously incomprehensible, but He is also a personal Spirit. Through His infinite love and goodness, He has provided a way for us to have a personal relationship with Him. He has revealed himself to us through scripture, He came to earth so that humans could observe Him the thirty three years He was on earth, He destroyed the barrier of Sin that separated us from Him by having Jesus die on the cross, and He has sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in Christians that we might experience His presence. Our Creator God did all this so we could go beyond just knowing about Him and enter into an intimate relationship with Him.

2. Read Psalm 62:11, Job 42:2, Jeremiah 32:17, & Matthew 19:26. What does this tell us about God?

This is called Omnipotence. How does knowing God's Omnipotence give us a great asset? Read Psalm 121:1-2 & Phil. 4:13

3. Read Psalm 139:7-10 & Jeremiah 23:23-24 and write the attribute described here.

This is called Omnipresence. How should this comfort us? Read Matt. 28:20, Hebrews 13:5 & Isaiah 43:2

4. Read Psalm 147:4-5, Romans 11:33-34, & 1 John 3:20. What attribute do they reveal about God?

This is called Omniscience. How should this comfort us? Check out Psalm 139:1-6, Jeremiah 29:11, Matthew 6:31-32 & Matthew 10:29-31.

5. Read 1 Chronicles 29:11-12, Psalm 47:2, Psalm 115:3, & Acts 17:24. What does this reveal about God?

This shows God's sovereignty. How should we respond to the fact that God is sovereign? Read Jeremiah 10:23 & Romans 8:28.

6. Read Exodus 15:11, Isaiah 6:3, & Revelation 15:4. Write the attribute of these verses.

Our God is Holy, which means that His character is perfect in every way; His moral excellence is the absolute standard of integrity and ethical purity. How should we respond in light of God's holiness? Read 1 Peter 1:15-16.

7. Read Numbers 23:19, John 14:6, John 17:17. What does this tell us about God?

God is absolute truth. He is trustworthy, perfectly reliable, and with Him there is no falsehood or deceit. How should we respond to this? Read Psalm 86:11.

8. Read Psalm 119:137 & Psalm 145:17. Write what these verses describe about God.

God is righteous meaning His standards are right and fair. God's laws are a reflection of His own righteousness. How should we respond because of this? Read Ephesians 4:22-24.

9. Read Genesis 18:25, Deuteronomy 32:4, Jeremiah 17:10. What does this reveal?

God is totally just in all His judgments; He cannot be bribed, corrupted, or fooled at all. He will always treat you fairly, rewarding right behavior but not ignoring any act of sin. What should we think because of this? Read Ecclesiastes 12:14.

10. Read Jeremiah 31:3, John 15:13, Ephesians 2:4-5 & 3:17-19, 1 John 3:1 & 4:8-9. What do these verses reveal to us about God?

God is love and is unconditionally committed to your well-being. How should this comfort us and how should we respond to this? Read Romans 8:35-39 & Matthew 22:37-40.

11. Read James 5:11 & Titus 3:5. Write what this tells us of God.

God is merciful and shows us this by forgiving us and withholding the punishment we rightfully deserve. How should this comfort us? Read Daniel 9:9 & Hebrews 4:16.

12. Read Deuteronomy 7:9, 1 Corinthians 1:9 & 10:13, & 1 John 1:9. What attribute does this reveal about God?

God is faithful to help us in our need and is absolutely trustworthy and reliable. How does this comfort us and cause us to respond? Read Hebrews 10:23 & 1 Peter 4:19.

13. Read Malachi 3:6 & Hebrews 13:8. What does this reveal about God?

This is called Immutability. God never changes nor does His purpose, Word, promises, and commitment to you ever change. How should this comfort us? Read John 3:16

IV. THE BENEFITS OF GODS ATTRIBUTES

Here are thirteen easy to remember benefits of the attributes we just went over.

1. Because *God is a personal Spirit...* I will seek intimate fellowship with Him.
2. Because *God is all-powerful...* He can help me with anything.
3. Because *God is ever present...* He is always with me.
4. Because *God knows everything...* I will go to Him with all my questions and concerns.
5. Because *God is sovereign...* I will joyfully submit to His will.
6. Because *God is holy...* I will devote myself to Him in purity, worship, and service.
7. Because *God is absolute truth...* I will believe what He says and live accordingly.
8. Because *God is righteous...* I will live by His standards.
9. Because *God is just...* He will always treat me fairly.
10. Because *God is love...* He is unconditionally committed to my well-being.
11. Because *God is merciful...* He forgives me of my sins when I sincerely confess them.
12. Because *God is faithful...* I will trust Him to always keep His promises.
13. Because *God never changes...* my future is secure and eternal.

As you think about what God is really like, which of His attributes are particularly comforting or compelling to you?

Chapter 1 Daily Devotional Guide

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Prayer Time							

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Bible Time							

Scripture Memory Verses: *(Highlight or Underline verses with a pen and memorize)*

- 1) John 4:24 2) Jeremiah 29:13 3) Philippians 4:13 4) Isaiah 6:3
 5) John 14:6 6) John 15:13

Bible Reading: This week read the book of *John*. This book has 21 chapters so if you read 3 chapters a day you will have read it in one week.

Bible Reading Tips: *The following is a great way to plan to read through the Bible in a year. Many times we can look at the Bible but not know where to begin.*

Put a bookmark at the beginning of the Old Testament and another bookmark at the beginning of the New Testament. Eachday read a few chapters through the Old Testament and then a few chapters in the New Testament. Then read a Psalm and a Proverb starting from the first ones.

If you make this a regular practice in your life you will have read through the Bible in a year or less! I can't overemphasize how important this is!

Journal: Write things that stuck out to you when you read them, any questions you thought of, and/or what life has been like walking with the Lord this week. *(Use the next blank page if you run out of room)*

The Word of God

The Bible is God's main way of revealing Himself to us so that we can continue to know Him better and grow in our relationship with Him. It's amazing how many Christians say that they have a desire to know God better but neglect to read the very letters and messages that God has written for them. There is no such thing as health or growth in Christian living apart from a clear priority on Bible reading and study in ones life. The Bible teaches us what God is like and what He is not like and how we should live our lives in order to grow closer to Him. God will never do anything that is in contradiction to His Word and whatever he has promised in His Word He will do. The Scriptures are the ultimate standard for our faith, morals, and living and are the nourishment or spiritual food for us to be strengthened in our faith, holiness, and service to the Lord. The Holy Spirit who comes to fill us once we have received Christ is the same person who has given us the Bible to guide and sustain us. In this lesson we will learn why the Bible truly is the Word of God and the importance of it.

I. The Credibility of God's Word

The *internal evidence* that scripture is the authentic Word of God is shown by the following facts:

- 1) The amazing unity of the whole Bible though it is composed of many different books written by many different authors over thousands of years.
- 2) It speaks to the human need of each generation.
- 3) The extremely high ethical standard.
- 4) Prophecies of scripture that were written centuries before their fulfillment.

The *external evidence* that scripture is the authentic Word of God is:

- 1) The tremendous influence it has had on human society
- 2) The accuracy of the Bible has been sustained through history by archeology.
- 3) The remarkable survivability of the Bible.
- 4) The effect on individual human lives through all centuries and today.
- 5) The promises / prophecies still being fulfilled.
- 6) The continuation of signs and miracles.

7) The work of the Holy Spirit through His gifts.

What does the Bible say concerning it being God's Word? Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 & 2 Peter 1:20-21.

According to 2 Timothy 3:16-17, where does Scripture originate?

What is one of the purposes for God's Word? (Vs. 17)

How does the Word equip us for every good work? (Vs. 16)

By _____ us.

By _____ us.

By _____ us.

By _____ us in _____.

What do the following verses say about the Word of God? Matt. 24:35 & 1 Peter 1:23-25

II. The Importance of the Word of God

Read 1 Peter 1:25. What does it say about the Word of God?

Read John 5:24, John 3:16, 2 Timothy 3:15, & 1 Peter 1:23. What does Scripture teach?

Read John 14:23 & 15:14. What deepens between us and the Lord through God's Word?

Read Jeremiah 15:16, Matthew 4:4, Luke 4:4, & 1 Peter 2:2. How is the Word important to us?

Read Psalm 119:9 & 119:11. What does knowledge of the Word empower us to do?

Check out John 17:17 and then John 8:31-32. What did Jesus say about God's Word and what did He say it would do if we continue in it?

Go to Romans 10:17. What does the Bible strengthen as we read it?

Read Isaiah 55:10-11. Why should this give us confidence in God's Word?

How does God's Word enable our prayer life? Read John 15:7.

As we study, read, and do God's Word what does it become for us in life? Read Psalm 119:105.

III. The Power of God's Word

Read Hebrews 4:12. What does it say about the Word of God?

What does it say the Word discerns concerning us?

Read Ephesians 6:10-18. What is the one offensive weapon described here?

Read Matthew 4:1-11. What did Jesus speak to defeat Satan?

Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-5. What is the weapon, spoken of here, able to do?

IV. How Should We Respond to God's Word?

1. Psalm 119:161 - By standing in _____ of God's Words.
2. Psalm 119:162 - By _____ in His Word.
3. Acts 17:11 - By receiving the Word with great _____, and by _____ the Scriptures for ourselves.
4. 2 Timothy 2:15 - "Be _____ to present yourself approved to God as a Workman who does not need to be ashamed, _____ the Word of truth."
5. James 1:22-25 - By being a _____ of God's Word.

What else should we do with God's Word? Read Matthew 28:19-20 & 2 Timothy 4:2.

Read Joshua 1:8 & Psalm 1:1-3. What does God promise if we read and do his word?

V. Discussion Questions

1. Do you personally see a need for God's Word in your life? Explain.

2. Do you believe that the Bible is "the inspired Word of God?" Explain.

3. How will you respond to God's Word? Will you make it a priority in your life? Explain.

Chapter 2 Daily Devotional Guide

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Prayer Time							

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Bible Time							

Scripture Memory Verses: *(Highlight or Underline verses with a pen and memorize)*

- 1) 2 Timothy 3:16 2) John 3:16 3) Matthew 4:4 4) Psalm 119:9
 5) Psalm 119:11 6) John 8:32 7) John 17:17 8) Hebrews 4:12

Bible Reading: This week read the book of *Matthew*. This book has 28 chapters so if you read 4 chapters a day you will have read it in one week.

Bible Reading Tips: *Get a highlighter and pen for when you read the Bible. When you come across a verse in the Bible that stands out to you, or one that you've heard before and want to remember where it's at in your Bible, highlight it and/or underline with your pen. This will help you remember where verses are located when you flip through your Bible*

Journal: Write things that stuck out to you when you read them, any questions you thought of, and/or what life has been like walking with the Lord this week. *(Use the next blank page if you run out of room)*

What Is Sin?

As we come to our 3rd lesson we now have a right, biblical understanding of what God is like. The next thing we must learn about is sin and how that greatly affects our relationship with God. We hear a lot about sin in church but do we really know what sin is? The topic of sin can be overwhelming but also freeing when you have a proper perspective about it. Satan would like nothing more than for you to believe you are still in bondage to sin, but God wants you to know the truth. First you should know what an act of sin is. It is “missing the mark”, “all wrong doing”, or “knowing what is good and right in God’s eyes and doing something else.”

I. What Is Sin?

How do these verses describe the act of sin?

Proverbs 24:9 - _____

James 4:17 - _____

1 John 3:4 - _____

1 John 5:17 - _____

This is what constitutes the actual acts of sin, but we must look to the core of the issue and find out what sin really is.

Read Romans 7:13-25. How does Paul describe the sin nature?

Sin itself is more like a disease with the symptoms being the acts of sin we commit. You see, we are not sinners because we sin, but we sin because we are sinners. In other words we commit these acts of sin because we have a sin nature inside of us. This is why we must receive Jesus into our lives so that we can be given a new nature, which is called being born again, or saved. When we pray to receive Christ and are forgiven the power of sin and death is broken off of our lives and we receive our new nature from the Spirit of God to live righteously.

Read Galatians 5:16-25. Notice the difference between the sinful nature/flesh and the actual works/acts of the sinful nature. Explain and write what our new life consists of.

As we have learned in these verses, we commit acts of sin because of the sinful nature inside of us, which basically is falling short of what God expects of us. Take a look back at 1 John 3:4. It says that sin is a transgression of the law or lawlessness. Throughout the Bible God has given us laws or commandments, for our own good, to live by. When we break God's law it is sin.

Imagine if you robbed a store. You would have broken the law against theft. What would happen? You would be arrested and have to go to court.

II. The Effects of Sin

What is the consequence from committing sin?

Ezekiel 18:4 - _____

Proverbs 11:19- _____

Romans 6:23- _____

Sin can lead to the physical death of your body as well as many problems in your life but even more so it leads to spiritual death. What is spiritual death?

Isaiah 59:2 - _____

God is holy, sin is not. They can't be in the same place. Where light is there can be no darkness. It is impossible. God is all good, love, holy, and righteous and heaven has no death, pain, sorrow, or sin and because of this sin cannot enter into God's presence.

III. All Acts of Sin Carry an Equal Consequence

Read James 2:10 and explain what it means in your own words.

No act of sin is greater than another. Just because you didn't kill someone but you told a lie doesn't matter. It is still sin and it has the same outcome, death.

So imagine you just robbed the store again. You have broken the law and have been put in jail awaiting your court hearing. Once you get in court you are found guilty of your crime and when the Judge gives the punishment he says, "You have been found guilty of theft and the law clearly states if you break but one of the laws you are guilty of all. We now sentence you to the death penalty."

Sounds pretty rough but that's how it is with God. When we commit a sin, even one we don't consider that bad, it has the same penalty because all sin separates us from

God.

IV. The Power of Sin

Sin is extremely powerful. It is ruthless and can destroy a person if taken lightly. Examine the next few verses about the power of sin and write the relation you have to it before you came to Christ and then after you were saved. List how your own experience relates to these verses in the appropriate column as well.

	Before Christ	After You Were Saved
John 8:32-36		
Romans 6:15-22		

Romans 8:1-14		
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V. Sin as a Child of God

When you became a child of God your sin was looked upon by God in a different light. Through His compassion and mercy, God has dealt with you by grace through His son, Jesus Christ. In the following verses, what does God say about your sin?

Psalms 103:12 - _____

Isaiah 44:22 - _____

Jeremiah 31:34 - _____

1 John 1:7-9 - _____

2 Corinthians 5:21 - _____

Eph. 1:7 - _____

VI. Protection Against Sin

The following are some ways you can guard yourself from sin. Remember, you have been set free from bondage and are no longer a slave to sin. Use these suggestions to help you deal aggressively with sin in your life.

First, let's look at how we actually fall into committing acts of sin. Read James 1:13-15. How do people fall into sin?

Read 1 Corinthians 10:13. How does God help us with our temptations to sin?

“I will _____ my ways and keep my _____ from sin.” (Psalm 39:1)

“I have hidden _____ in my heart that I might not sin against you.” (Psalm 119:11)

“So I say to you, live by the _____ and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.” (Galatians 5:16)

“Above all, _____ in your love for one another, because _____ covers a multitude of sins.” (1 Peter 4:8)

VII. Discussion Questions

Are there certain areas in your life that you still are in bondage to sin? If so, explain

What steps can you take now to protect yourself in these areas of your life?

Chapter 3 Daily Devotional Guide

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Prayer Time							

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Bible Time							

Scripture Memory Verses: *(Highlight or Underline verses with a pen and memorize)*

1) 2 Timothy 3:16 2) John 3:16 3) Matthew 4:4 4) Psalm 119:9

5) Psalm 119:11 6) John 8:32 7) John 17:17 8) Hebrews 4:12

Bible Reading: This week read the book of *Mark*. This book has 16 chapters so if you read about 2 and a half chapters a day you will have read it in one week.

Bible Reading Tips: *When God gives you insight into the scriptures, or you hear a teaching about a scripture that helps you understand it, write notes about it in the margins of your Bible next to the verses you were studying.*

Journal: Write things that stuck out to you when you read them, any questions you thought of, and/or what life has been like walking with the Lord this week.

The Gospel of Salvation

Now that we know what God is like and how sin separates us from Him let's study and see how the gospel fits in with all this. Understanding the gospel of Jesus Christ is essential, if not foundational, in your new life with Christ. Gospel means "Good News." What do the following scriptures say about the gospel?

I. What is the Gospel?

Read the following verses and write what they describe the gospel as.

Romans 1:16-17 - _____

1 Corinthians 15:1-6 - _____

Ephesians 1:13 - _____

Acts 13:38-39 - _____

Acts 20:24 - "the gospel of the _____ of God."

How would you summarize the gospel of Jesus Christ?

II. What is the Definition of Reconciliation?

Look up the definition of reconciliation in a dictionary and write it down.

What do the following verses have to do with reconciliation?

Romans 5:9-11 - _____

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 - _____

Colossians 1:19-22 - _____

Colossians 2:13-14 - _____

How does reconciliation play apart in the gospel?

In the last lesson we imagined being arrested for theft and being sentenced to the death penalty. Let's picture that again. Right now we are in the court and the sentence was just laid out. Well just imagine if all of a sudden the Judge sent His son to be executed in your place so that you could live. That is what really happened. You see, God is the righteous judge and because He doesn't want us to suffer eternal death in Hell He sent His own son to take the punishment for us. By doing this God brings us back to fellowship with Himself if we put our faith in Christ and what He has done to take our sins upon Himself.

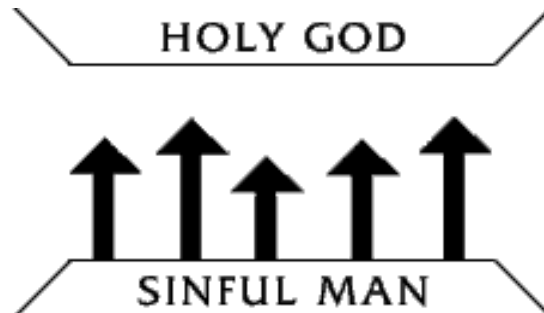
III. What Are a Few of the Benefits that the Gospel Will Provide For You?

1. "The thief comes to kill, steal, and destroy, but I have come that they might have _____, and have it more _____." (John 10:10)
2. "And this is _____, that they may know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." (John 17:3)
3. "But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the _____." (Galatians 4:4-5)
4. "...and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of _____." (Ephesians 6:15)
5. "...if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the _____ that you have heard which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made minister." (Colossians 1:23)

IV. Who Should the Gospel Be Proclaimed To?

Read Romans 3:19-20. What is the purpose of God's Law? _____

* Because God is Holy and we are sinful we are separated from God



What we deserve for sin is _____, which is eternal separation from God.
(Romans 6:23)

LAW 3 - Jesus Christ is God's Only Provision for Man's Sin.

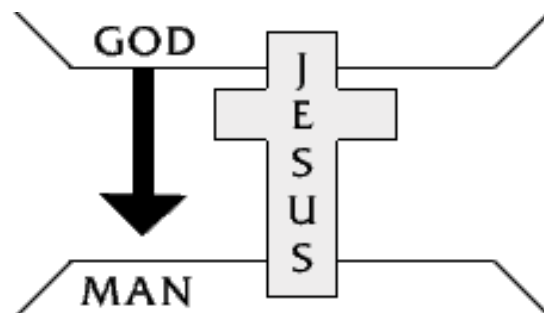
Jesus _____ in our place (Romans 5:8)

He r_____ from the _____ (1 Corinthians 15:3-6)

He is the only _____ to God (John 14:6)

Read Ephesians 2:8-9, Galatians 2:16, & Galatians 3:10-14 Why do human efforts always fail to reach God?

In 1 Peter 3:18 how did Peter explain what God has done to bring men back to himself?



* God has bridged the gap which separates us from Him by sending His son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross in our place - to pay the penalty for our sins.

- * Through Christ you can know and experience God's love and plan for your life.
- * It is not enough to know these three laws. We need to know the fourth one.

LAW 4 - We Must Individually Receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

Read Romans 6:23 again. What does it say eternal life is? the _____ of God

Is a gift something you earn or is it something freely given? _____

Read Romans 3:19-24 with emphasis on verse 24.

Due to the fact the Law showed we had all sinned, and that by trying to keep the Law we could never be made right with God by our own good doing or human efforts because we had all broken His Law, God makes us right with Him (righteous) by putting our faith and believing in what Jesus did rather than our own works.

In Romans 3:24 How does God say we are justified? (justified means God sees me "just if I had never had sinned") _____

In the same way salvation is a gift that you do not have to earn, and cannot earn. It is a free gift from God because of what Jesus Christ did for you on the cross.

To have a gift all you have to do is receive it. Read Romans 10:8-13. Explain how you receive God's gift according to these verses.

By receiving Christ personally as Lord and Savior we are saved from the penalty of death in Hell and can then know and experience God's love and plan for our lives.

- * Salvation is received by having heartfelt REPENTANCE towards your sins and believing & trusting in what Christ did on the cross to forgive you of your sin.

Read Acts 3:19 & 20:21. Explain what these verses say about repentance & faith. _____

Repent = To have a change of mind. It is not an action or work, it is to have a change of heart and thought on how you think of sin. You are willing to turn away from and have a change of mind concerning your sin and to allow God to change you and give new direction for your life. Read Ezekiel 18:30 & 33:11. What does this say about repentance? _____

* We receive Christ as LORD and SAVIOR.

SAVIOR - Asking Christ to forgive you of your sins

LORD - Giving Christ full control of your life. Not doing what you would want to do but what Jesus wants you to do.

So how you get saved / born again is by repenting of your sin and believing in/receiving Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of your life.

VII. Assurance of Your Salvation

Now let's see what the Bible says about how to know that you're saved. The next verses you will look at will equip you for your first encounters with the enemy. His first approach is often to cast doubt on the work God has done in your heart. Although you won't hear his audible voice, he will whisper this in your mind:

"You don't think you are saved and your sins forgiven just by believing and receiving Christ? Surely that is not enough!"

What will your answer be? Your only hope of successfully resisting such an attack is to resort to God's Word. What does God say about the matter? That is the important thing for you to know.

On the basis of this "testimony" - God's written Word - you can be convinced you have the Lord Jesus Christ, and with Him eternal life. You can thus overcome in this first test of your faith. The attack may recur, but now you can meet it with the Word of God in your heart.

Read 1 John 5:11-13

Who gives eternal life? _____

Where is eternal life found? _____

Who has eternal life? _____

Who does not have eternal life? _____

How do you know you have eternal life? _____

Read John 3:18. How do you know that you will not be judged for your sin and be able to have eternal life in heaven?

According to John 5:24, what things are the result of hearing and believing?

VIII. Results of Salvation

Now that you know that you have eternal life lets see what has happened to you because of your salvation.

We are C_____ from unrighteousness and our sins are F_____.
(1 John 1:9) (Matthew 26:28)

We are adopted as God's C_____. (John 1:12) (Romans 8:14-16)

You have a home in H_____ (Philippians 3:20) (John 14:2)

What else takes place when a person becomes a Christian? Read 2 Corinthians 5:17.

We learned in the last chapter that we had a sin nature, but now that we are saved what type of nature does 2 Peter 1:2-4 say we have been given? _____

This means that though we once had a nature that naturally was inclined to sin we now have been transformed into a new creation and we have a nature that is naturally inclined towards God's will and His righteousness.

How does God see you now that you are a Christian?

2 Cor 5:21 - The _____ of God in Him.

Ephesians 1:4 - _____ and without _____

Colossians 1:22 - H_____ and _____ and _____

Hebrews 10:14 - For by one offering He has P_____ forever

Understanding God's Grace

Read Romans 4:3-8. What did Abraham do to be counted as righteous? _____

In verse 6 what does it say God is accounting/imputing towards us without works?

In verse 8 what does it say God is not accounting/Imputing towards us anymore?

God does not see you according to your own sins or works. God is no longer accounting or imputing your sins against you because He accounted for them upon Christ when Jesus was crucified on the cross as a sacrifice for your sins. God has accounted / imputed to you Christ's righteousness, His right standing before God, because you have believed in Him and trusted in His work on the cross.

He now sees you holy, blameless, and perfected in His sight through Jesus Christ's work and your belief in His grace for you. Grace means God's unmerited favor or good things you didn't earn but that are freely given to you. Jesus has taken all your sins and wrong doings and has given you His holiness and right standing before God by His grace because He loves you.

There may be times when you feel you have stumbled or failed, but always remember God's grace in that moment, and that God sees you in the righteous standing Christ has given to you because all your sins were forgiven. Your standing before God isn't based on your works, but on Christ's work on the cross for you and your belief and trust in that.

In those moments, when you may feel guilty or condemned, declare out loud you are the righteousness of God in Christ, holy and without blame before God, and continue forward in your Christian walk, rather than feeling you have to run away from God or cannot approach God because of your mistakes.

Continue to boldly come to Him with all your struggles and situations with confidence knowing He has forgiven you and is not rejecting you. Rather than feeling like you have to run away from your Father because He will be mad with you, have the assurance you can run to your Father with your struggles and problems knowing He is there to come alongside and help you. With that confidence you can come to Him as your heavenly Father and receive strength from the Holy Spirit to live as a new creation. His Spirit will give you the power to overcome your struggles and walk a transformed life.

Which of the following changes have you experienced in your life? (Check appropriate ones)

- ☐ Inner peace
- ☐ New awareness of sin
- ☐ Victory over sin
- ☐ New love for God
- ☐ Desire to read the Bible
- ☐ Attitude changes
- ☐ Sense of forgiveness
- ☐ New concern for others

If you have never given your life to Christ and received Him as your Lord and Savior so that you would be saved (born again) pray this prayer,

“Dear Lord Jesus, I pray to you now and confess that I have done wrong in my life and sinned. I acknowledge that I am a sinner but I know that you died on the cross for my sins. I ask you now to forgive me of all my sins. Come into my heart and make me into who you want me to be. I give you my life and I want to live for you. Thank you for saving me. In Jesus’ name I pray, amen.”

If you just prayed that prayer for the first time you are now born again. You must continue in your relationship with Jesus, which you just started. There are three important things you need to do to grow in that relationship. 1) Pray, talk to Jesus and let Him know what is on your heart. 2) Read your Bible and get to know more about who God is. 3) Find a church and get around other believers who will help you grow spiritually.

Chapter 4 Daily Devotional Guide

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Prayer Time							

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Bible Time							

Scripture Memory Verses: *(Highlight or Underline verses with a pen and memorize)*

- 1) Romans 3:23 2) Romans 6:23 3) Romans 5:8 4) Romans 10:9
 5) Romans 1:16 6) 2 Cor. 5:17 7) 2 Cor. 5:21 8) Hebrews 10:14

Bible Reading: This week read the book of *Luke*. This book has 24 chapters so if you read 3 to 4 chapters a day you will have read it in one week.

Bible Reading Tips: *Use different color highlighters to color coordinate different verse based on their subject. An example could be: Yellow = General Verses, Orange = Christ’s Lordship, Purple = Prophetic Verses, Pink = the Blood and*

Forgiveness, Green = Ministry and miracles, Blue = Revelation about Heaven, God, His attributes and names.

Journal: Write things that stuck out to you when you read them, any questions you thought of, and/or what life has been like walking with the Lord this week.
(Use the next blank page if you run out of room)

The Lordship of Christ

Jesus Christ, Lord of lords, has always existed and always will. Not all people presently acknowledge Him as their lord, but that does not alter the fact of His lordship. Everyone will one day acknowledge Christ as Lord, but the privilege of acknowledging and obeying His lordship is possible now. Allow Christ to be lord of your life. In this lesson we are going to study what Christ's lordship means and how we are to live accordingly.

I. Acknowledging His Lordship

Titles reveal important information about the person to whom they refer. What are Jesus Christ's titles in the following verses?

John 13:13 - _____ & _____

Acts 2:36 - _____ & _____

Revelation 19:16 - _____ & _____

Summarize what these titles reveal about Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is Lord of:

Romans 14:9 - of the _____ and of the _____

Colossians 1:16-17 - _____ & _____

Colossians 1:18 - _____

Write your own definition of the word lord as you feel it applies to Jesus Christ.

How does Christ's lordship apply to us? Read 1 Corinthians 10:31, Colossians 3:17 & Colossians 3:23.

What did Jesus say would be involved in following Him as Lord? Read Luke 9:23

Why should someone make Jesus Christ Lord of his or her life?

Jeremiah 29:11 - _____

Matthew 10:29-31 - _____

1 John 3:1 - _____

II. The Practice of Lordship

As we have learned, allowing Christ to be Lord of ones life means denying our own wants and desires and allowing Christ to direct our lives. In other words, it's not about what we want to do but what Christ wants us to do. A good way to think of Christ's lordship is to ask yourself when you are faced with a decision, "even though I would really like to do such and such, what would Jesus want me to do?" This is the way you are to determine all of your actions. Some people like to wear a bracelet to remember this, but whether you do or not remember to acknowledge Christ as your Lord in each decision you make. Below are diagrams to illustrate this point further.

Circle = Your life

Chair = The throne/control seat of your life

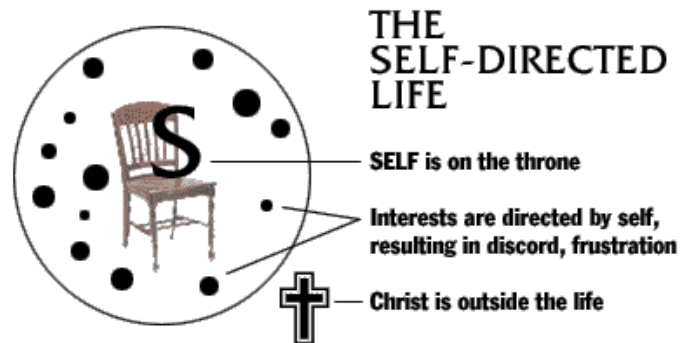
S = Your self

Cross = Jesus Christ

Black Dots = Interests and desires (family, school, work, friends, goals, etc.)

The Self-Directed Life - “He who trusts in his own heart is a fool...” (Proverbs 28:26)

Here is a picture of when you are ruling as lord of your own life. We see that self is on the throne, Christ is outside of your life and interests are directed by self.

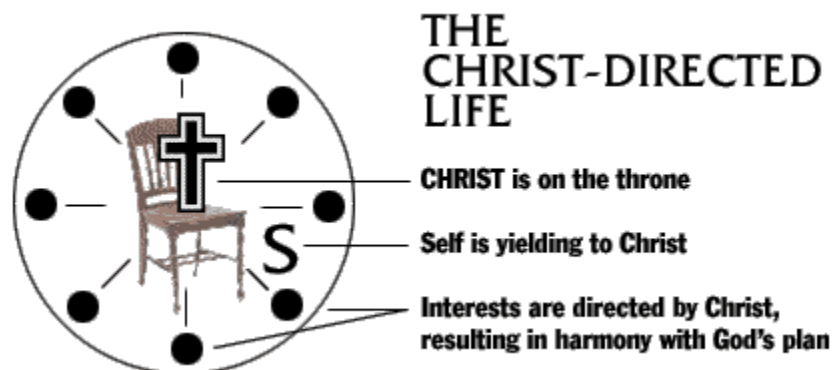


Read Proverbs 14:12. What does it say about the self-directed life?

According to Jeremiah 29:11 & Romans 12:2 what can we never come to know or live out with self on the throne of your life?

The Christ-Centered Life

Here we see a picture of the Christ-centered life. God is the center of your life and decisions. Christ is on the throne of your life directing your interests.



Read Proverbs 3:5-6. What do these verses say about the Christ-centered life?

III. Making it Personal

Once you have decided to acknowledge the lordship of Christ in your life, you will prove that He is Lord by submitting to Him moment by moment and obeying Him in the daily affairs of life.

Take a few moments to evaluate your practice of the lordship of Jesus Christ. A good way to determine if Christ is in control of an area of your life is to ask, “Am I willing to do whatever Christ desires in this area?” or “Will I be able to thank God for whatever may happen in this area?”

1. List any areas which you are not allowing Christ to fully control or control at all.

2. What can you do in these areas to acknowledge Christ’s lordship?

According to Luke 6:46-49,

1. What is a good way to evaluate if Christ is truly lord of your life?

2. What is the best foundation to build your life upon?

What does Romans 12:1-2 say you should do with your life as a Christian?

Read Romans 6:10-13, Romans 14:7-8, & 2 Corinthians 5:15. What does this say about Christ’s lordship of our lives?

How is our Christian walk supposed to be? Read 1 Peter 2:21 & 1 John 2:6

What should we continue to do if Christ is truly lord of our lives? Read Colossians 2:6-7.

What does the lordship of Christ mean to you?

Chapter 5 Daily Devotional Guide

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Prayer Time							

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Bible Time							

Scripture Memory Verses: *(Highlight or Underline verses with a pen and memorize)*

1) Jeremiah 29:11 2) Proverbs 14:12 3) Romans 12:2 4) Luke 9:23

5) Proverbs 3:5-6 6) 2 Cor. 5:15

Bible Reading: This week read the book of *Acts*. This book has 28 chapters so if you read 4 chapters a day you will have read it in one week.

Bible Reading Tips: *Ask the following questions when studying a scripture:
Who is speaking? To whom are they speaking? What are they speaking about?
What was the meaning of what was said to the people that heard it at that time?
What is the truth of what was said that is true no matter when it was said? What
is the application of this truth to my life right now?*

Journal: Write things that stuck out to you when you read them, any questions you thought of, and/or what life has been like walking with the Lord this week.
(Use the next blank page if you run out of room)

Prayer - Communication with God

In building a relationship, whether it is marriage, friendship, business, etc., communication is always the most important thing. You can't have a healthy relationship without it. Most importantly, in our ongoing relationship with God we must be able to communicate with Him. It is vital to our Christian walk and the only way we will grow in our intimacy with Him. Prayer is simply talking with God and spending time with Him. In order to effectively pray we must know how to pray according to the guidelines God has laid out and what types of prayer there are. Again we must look to the scripture, God's Word, to get an understanding on this subject.

I. How to Pray

Read John 16:23-24. According to these verses what is prayer?

Who should we pray to and in whose name should we pray?

What results from prayer?

In these verses Jesus was not saying that the disciples had never prayed before but He said they had never before asked *in His name*. To ask in His name means to ask in the authority and merit that Jesus has in heaven. In order to pray effectively you must offer

your prayers to God in the name of Jesus. You can't come to God based on the merits of your own name but you can come to Him in a name that is always acceptable, the name of Jesus Christ.

A good example of using the name of a man would be when you go to the bank to cash a check. If you went to the bank with a check signed by a millionaire (which is the same as him giving you his name), you would be able to get money out of the bank as easily as he could. This is the way that Jesus has given us his name to use. When we pray using His name we are assured to receive just as much as if Jesus was praying for the same things.

II. Conditions of Successful Prayer

God has laid out certain guidelines for us to pray successfully. If we walk and pray according to how God has instructed us in His Word then we will have open communication with heaven.

What did Jesus say is the prerequisite for effective prayer? Read John 15:7

What must we pray according to when praying? Read 1 John 5:14-15

We know that we are praying inline with God's will when we pray for what God has promised us in His Word. His Word is His will. Therefore, in order to be more effective in our prayers we must know what the Word says.

What do we need to have when praying to God? Read Mark 11:22-24

III. Hindrances to Answered Prayer

Sometimes there are things in our own life that hinder our prayers from being answered. We must carefully examine our own heart to make sure there is nothing in our lives that would hinder our communication with God.

What does Luke 22:42 reveal about this subject?

What is one major reason that prayers are not answered? Read James 4:3 and explain.

What are some other major things that can hinder our prayers?

James 1:6-7 - _____

1 John 3:20-21 - _____

IV. Jesus' Teaching on Prayer

The Lord gave the best model for how we actually are to go about praying. It is recorded in Matthew 6:5-15. According to verse 6, where are we supposed to go when we pray and where do we find the Father?

Jesus stressed the importance of private times of prayer with God rather than just praying in church or with others. Jesus said when we do this we are praying to our father who is in the secret place. Read all of Psalm 91 and write some of the benefits of continually spending time with God in the secret place.

Now, go back to Matthew chapter 6 and let's look specifically at verses 9 through 13. This is commonly called the Lord's Prayer. As Jesus taught in verse 7, this is not supposed to be a prayer that we repeat word of word, over and over again. Jesus said, in verse 9 that we should pray in this manner, meaning that we should use the same principals when we pray. Right now we are going to look at these principals and how we are to incorporate them into our daily prays.

1) *"Our Father in heaven, Hallowed by Your name."* Read Psalm 100:4. How are we to enter into our prayer time with God?

Always start your time with God by praising Him for who He is, what He has done, and how important He is in your life. Thank Him for all that He has done, is doing, and is going to do for you and others. This could take a few minutes or a few hours. Just allow yourself to get lost in your praise and thanks for Him. Never put a time limit on the time you will spend with God. Remember if you respect His time with you He will respect your time for the other important things you need to do.

2) *"Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."* Read Ezekiel 22:30, Isaiah 59:16, & 1 Timothy 2:1. What do these verses show us about this next part of prayer?

In this part of prayer we ask God to intervene in people's lives and situations on earth. We are to pray for family, friends, the lost, nations, ministries, and whatever other problems and situations there might be. This is called intercession. You're standing in the gap for certain people or things asking God to work in them according to His Word. Remember, what He said in His Word is His Will.

3) *"Give us this day our daily bread."* Read Matthew 6:31-33 & 7:7-8, & Philippians 4:19. What does God say about asking for our daily bread?

Here, Jesus teaches us to ask for the needs we have, whether they are physical, financial, material, or spiritual. Always remember though, Jesus said in Matthew 4:4, "man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God", and our greatest need is to receive God's Word spoken to us each day. Then all the other needs we ask for will come as we seek His kingdom first.

4) *"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."* As a New Testament believer what does Colossians 2:13-14 say about your sins/debts?

Remember as a New Testament believer we always approach God from the stand point of what Christ has done for us. Now we thank God that all of our sins are forgiven; nevertheless we should always be honest about areas we are struggling and need help in. We acknowledge any sins in our life to him, not so we can be forgiven but understanding we have already been forgiven because of Christ's work on the cross, and to receive strength as we are honest about our current short comings to overcome them by His Spirit

Read these verses but from the view point of what Christ has done for us. Psalm 32:1-5, Matthew 6:14-15 (*remember these verses are written before Jesus died on the cross for us*). Now read Ephesians 4:32 which was written after Christ's work for us. How does it differ from the previous verses? How is it similar?

Ultimately this is the part of prayer where we pray for strength concerning areas of sin we may be struggling in and forgive others that may have done us wrong. We've freely been forgiven and because of that we freely forgive others. Daily make it a point to walk in love and forgiveness.

5) *"And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."* Job 1:9-10, 1 Corinthians 10:13, & Ephesians 6:11-18. What do these verses reveal about this part of prayer?

God never tempts us with evil or sin but he allows us to be tested by trials in life in which the enemy will then try and tempt us with sin. We should pray to be able to stand against these temptations and make it through times of trials in victory. Remember, if you are going through hard times and trials God is there to see you through and deliver you through the attacks of the devil. When you do make it through you will see how those hard times caused you to grow in your spiritual walk with God much more than if you hadn't gone through it at all.

6) *"For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."* Read Psalm 34:1. How should we end our time of prayer?

Just as you came into the presence of God to pray so should you leave it. At the end of your prayer praise and thank Him again for who He is and also for the answers to the prayers you just prayed.

Remember you don't have to make it a strict rule to pray exactly like this every time but you should incorporate each of these guidelines into your prayer time to effectively pray.

V. Different Types of Prayers

When praying by yourself or with others there are different types of prayer you can use. Some of these we have already gone over briefly and will spend less time on and others that haven't been discussed we will go a little deeper into.

1) The Prayer of Faith - Mark 11:24 - What does it mean to pray a prayer of faith?

This type of prayer is most effective and great to remember when praying for your own needs, but is important no matter who or what you are praying for. When you pray in faith you must believe that you already have what you just prayed for before you see it in the physical. God has given it to you and it is yours even though you can't sense it in the physical at the moment. As you stand in faith knowing that what you prayed for is yours and you possess it in the spiritual realm you will then receive it in the physical.

Read John 3:27. Why can't we abuse this type of prayer to get whatever we want?

Remember we must pray according to God's will which is His Word. Whatever He has promised in His Word is ours to receive in prayer by faith.

2) The Prayer of Intercession - Read Ezekiel 22:30 again. What are we doing when we intercede? _____

We covered this topic in the last session. Basically, when we intercede we aren't praying for ourselves but we are praying for others. Intercession is one of the most important things we can do.

3) The Prayer of Thanksgiving & Praise - Psalms 100:4 & 103:1 - What does thanking and praising the Lord do for God?

The way we minister to God is by praising Him. Our Father delights in nothing greater than having His children show their love for Him. Thanking, Praising, and worshiping God is the way to touch His heart.

4) The Prayer of Agreement - Matthew 18:19. What does this verse say about the prayer of agreement?

This prayer is used when praying with other Christians. When two or more Christians come together to pray about certain issues they should pray and agree together concerning the answer to the prayer. This type of prayer should be voiced out loud one at a time by each individual coming into agreement with the prayer.

5) Fasting & Prayer - Acts 13:2-3 - What did prayer and fasting cause the disciples to be sensitive to? _____

When we set apart a time to go without food and spend time in prayer ministering to the Lord (thanking, praising, and worshiping) it causes us to be much more sensitive to Him and His voice. Fasting doesn't change God, it changes us. We are able to draw closer to Him and become much more sensitive in our spirit to what He is doing and wants us to do.

VI. Characteristics of God's Answers to Prayer

What is characteristic of God's answers to prayer?

Jeremiah 33:3 - _____

Ephesians 3:20 - _____

How should we be, knowing that God answers prayer? Read Philippians 4:6-7

What do we receive, according to verse 7, from God when we pray?

Because of this how often should we pray? Read Psalm 55:17, 1 Thess. 5:17, Luke 18:1

VII. Discussion Questions

What is your attitude towards prayer after learning the material of this lesson?

What steps could you take in your life to spend more time with God in prayer?

How important do you feel prayer is in your life?

Chapter 6 Daily Devotional Guide

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Prayer Time							

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Bible							

Time							
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Scripture Memory Verses: *(Highlight or Underline verses with a pen and memorize)*

- 1) Mark 11:24 2) Matthew 6:9-13 3) Psalm 91:1 4) Jeremiah 33:3
 5) Philippians 4:6-7 6) Matthew 18:19

Bible Reading: This week read the book of *Ephesians*. This book has 6 chapters so if you read at least 1 chapter a day you will have read it in one week.

Bible Reading Tips: *A great Bible study tool to have is a Strong's Concordance. A concordance is like a dictionary of Bible words. The New Testament was written in Greek and the Old Testament in Hebrew. The Strong's Concordance allows you to look up every word in your Bible in English and then the meaning of those words in their original languages giving you a greater grasp and understanding of scripture.*

Journal: Write things that stuck out to you when you read them, any questions you thought of, and/or what life has been like walking with the Lord this week.

Praise & Worship - The Pathway to God's Presence

In our relationship with the Lord the way we express our inner most love for Him is through worship. We were all created to live in an atmosphere of praise-filled worship to our Creator. As we begin to experience such a walk of open praise and worship to God it will cultivate a deep devotion, faithful obedience, and constant joy. Worship from His children is what ministers to God's heart more than anything else. As we bless Him through praise and worship we enter into His very presence and receive His love as we pour out our hearts to Him. To learn more about our worship of God we will look to scripture to find out how we are to praise Him and what the result of it is.

I. The Call to Worship

Who should praise the Lord? Read Psalm 117:1 & 150:6

When should we praise Him? Read Psalm 34:1, 113:3, 146:2

Why should we praise God?

1 Chronicles 16:29 - To "Give to the Lord the _____ to His Name."

1 Chronicles 16:34 - Because "He is _____ and His _____ endures forever."

Isaiah 6:1-7 - Because “_____, _____, _____ is the Lord.”

Psalms 18:3- The Lord “is _____ to be praised.”

Psalms 63:3 - Because His “_____ is better than _____.”

1 Peter 2:9-10 - Because He “called us out of _____ into His _____.”

II. Ways to Praise and to Worship God

Here we are going to look mostly into the book of Psalms to see the models given for worship. The book of Psalms actually means the “Book of Praises” in Hebrew, which a large portion was written by King David. The Bible says that King David was a man after God’s own heart and one thing is for sure, he knew how to praise God. Therefore, there is no better place to study true, heartfelt worship than the book of Psalms. Write how the following sets of verses call us to express our worship to God.

Psalms 28:7, 33:3, 40:3, 95:1, 100:2, 146:2, 147:1

Psalms 134:2, 141:2, 63:4, 143:6, 1 Timothy 2:8

Psalms 32:11, 47:1, 66:1, 100:1

Psalms 30:11, 149:3, 150:4

Psalms 47:1 (the first part), 98:8

1 Kings 8:54, Psalms 95:6

Psalms 33:2, 68:25, 87:7, 150:3-5

Psalms 4:4, 46:10, 63:6, Habakkuk 2:20, Zechariah 2:13

How should we praise God? Read Psalms 103:1 & 111:1

III. What Happens When We Worship the Lord?

Worship brings us into the closest and most intimate fellowship with God. There is no higher call than to be a worshiper. If you are hungry to experience more of God praise and worship is the pathway to Him. Here we are going to look to the Bible to study this awesome privilege we have of worshipping God.

How does God respond to our praises? Read Psalm 22:3

The most incredible and exciting thing about honest and heartfelt praise is taught in this verse. Praise brings the presence of God. Although His presence is everywhere he specially manifests His presence in the atmosphere of praise. The actual word for enthroned or inhabit in Hebrew means to sit down, to remain, to settle, or marry. In other words when we praise and worship the Lord His presence comes, fills, and then settles upon us in the place where we are worshiping. Not only does the presence of His Spirit fill the room but it also fills us afresh with the Holy Spirit. There is nothing truly like it. Psalm 34:8 says, "O taste and see that the Lord is good." Once you taste of His goodness through praise and worship you will want nothing else but Him.

What do we experience in the presence of the Lord? Read Psalm 16:11

Why is it so important to experience the Lord's presence? Nehemiah 8:10, Isaiah 40:31

When we come before God in praise and adoration it blesses and brings Him joy. The one thing that touches God's heart the most is our love to Him expressed through praise and worship. As we do this it brings God joy and in return He comes to visit us in a special way and it brings us the fullness of joy. When we experience this it strengthens us. It strengthens us to seek Him more, to live right, and to continue on in life. If you are ever feeling lonely, discouraged, or depressed then begin to praise Him. Simply compose a song of God's goodness and testimony in your life. It might be one you know or you might just make up the words, either way begin to praise the Lord. The result: God enters and His presence will live (take up residence) in your life and His joy will fill your heart.

IV. Examples From the Bible

Here we are going to look at some accounts from the Old and New Testament of people praising and worshipping God. Remember, what God did in the lives of people in the Bible He will also do for us as we walk with Him.

Read 2 Chronicles 5:11-14. How did God's people come together to praise God?

What was the result of their praise and worship of God?

Read 2 Samuel 6:12-15 & 1 Chronicles 15:25-16:6. Describe the different aspects of worship shown in David and Israel's worship to God.

Read Luke 24:52-53. What was the disciples' attitude towards praise?

How often were they praising God?

V. Praise a Form of Spiritual Warfare

Not only is praise the means of entering into God's presence but it is also a way that we battle the enemy. Praise is one of the mighty spiritual weapons given to us. Through praise we enthrone God to deal directly with our enemies.

What does praise execute upon demonic principalities and kingdoms? Read Psalm 149:6-9.

Ephesians 6:12 says that we fight against demonic "principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places." When we lift up worship and praise to God we destroy the powers of the enemy.

Read 2 Chronicles 20:15-29. What was the outcome for Israel when they praised God in the battle they were greatly outnumbered in?

Who fought the Battle for them?

Read Joshua 6:16-20. What happened to the fortress city when God's people praised the Lord?

The enemy has put up many walls around people, cultures, cities, and nations to keep God's people from coming in and proclaiming the gospel. The Devil will do all that he can to stop Christians from reaching lost souls so that they can be saved. The way we can combat this is to lift up victorious praise to the Lord to see the walls come down and for God's people to take neighborhoods, cities, and nations for the Kingdom of God.

Read Acts 16:19-26. What happens when we praise God in difficult circumstances when there seems to be no way out?

When our backs seem to be against the wall and we feel that we are chained down to the bondages that the Devil uses to entrap us, then PRAISE THE LORD!! When you do God will shake the foundations of your prison and every chain that seems to hold you down will fall behind you.

We read earlier in Psalm 22:3 that God literally "enthrones" himself in our praise. Those who sit on a throne are kings. Read Psalm 24:7-10. What does it describe about the King?

Also notice that those verses talk about lifting the gates and doors to his temple or city for the King to come in. In the New Testament we, His church, are His temple and His city the place where God dwells. The imagery here is that as we worship God we are opening the door for Him to come in and manifest himself. When you worship God in your situation you are literally enthroning him as King in the midst of your circumstances and He fights those battles. When you worship God in the midst of hard times His presence changes the atmosphere over your life and breakthrough takes place.

Finally, read Isaiah 61:3. We have the garment of _____ for the spirit of _____

When we are feeling "heavy" under anxiety, fear, or depression the act of praising God and entering His presence causes that dark cloud to lift and the atmosphere over your life to change. Next time you feel down begin to worship God and watch your spirit be lifted up.

VI. Discussion Questions

What are your thoughts about seeking God through worship?

Is there any part of worship you have not felt comfortable to express?

What are some things you can do to move into a more passionate worship of God?

Have you experienced the presence of the Lord before during worship? If so, tell about it.

VII. Taste and See

During your time alone with God play a worship CD that you can sing along with. Begin to worship God and express your innermost feelings to Him. By doing this you will be able to experience the presence of God and deepen your worship life.

Also, read some of the Psalms to get an idea of the heart of a worshiper. The following are exceptionally good: Psalm 27, 34, 42, 63, 84, 100, & 150.

Chapter 7 Daily Devotional Guide

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Prayer Time							

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Bible Time							

Scripture Memory Verses: *(Highlight or Underline verses with a pen and memorize)*

- 1) Psalm 22:3 2) Psalm 16:11 3) Isaiah 40:31 4) Psalm 34:1
5) Psalm 63:3

Bible Reading: This week read the book of *Galatians*. This book has 6 chapters so if you read at least 1 chapter a day you will have read it in one week.

Bible Reading Tips: *Another great tool for your times of Bible study are commentary books. These are books that are written on individual books of the Bible by scholars and theologians that give verse by verse teaching to help you understand the scripture.*

Journal: Write things that stuck out to you when you read them, any questions you thought of, and/or what life has been like walking with the Lord this week. (Use the next blank page if you run out of room)

The Holy Spirit

God wants to live and move through our lives. He wants a relationship that doesn't just take up a part of our lives but all of it. The way that God is able to live in us and through us is by His Spirit. It starts with us being born again of His Spirit. Once that happens the Holy Spirit comes and indwells inside of us. From there God wants us to grow in our fellowship with His Spirit in order to be able to know Him better. There are a lot of ideas about who the Holy Spirit is and how He works in our lives but the only way to have an accurate understanding of Him is to look to the Bible.

I. The Promise of the Holy Spirit

Read Joel 2:28-29 & Acts 2:16-18. Whose spirit is being poured out?

The Holy Spirit is equal to God and Jesus because they are a trinity (see lesson 1). He is God himself and should never be thought of as less than God.

On whom is the Holy Spirit promised to be poured out upon?

Read John 15:26 & 16:7. Why did Jesus say it was good for Him to go away?

When Jesus was on earth he could only do so much in the physical because He was confined to his human body. Now that the Holy Spirit has come to fill those who are saved, Jesus is able to live through them by His Spirit. We are His body to operate through to reach the world with the power of the gospel. That is why the church is called the body of Christ. Not only that but before Jesus left he could only teach and guide men by speaking to them from the outside. A lot of times the disciples misunderstood because of this and their limited understanding. But now Jesus is able to speak right into our hearts to teach and guide us because He is living in us by the Holy Spirit.

II. The Person of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is a person and not an it. He has been involved with the works of God since the beginning. Here we are going to look at some scripture to really learn who the Holy Spirit is.

Read Genesis 1:2. What was the Holy Spirit involved in at the beginning?

Read 2 Peter 1:20-21. What was the Holy Spirit involved in doing here?

Read Acts 13:2 & 28:25, & Revelation 2:7. What does this show about the Holy Spirit?

What are some Characteristics of the Holy Spirit?

Hebrews 9:14 - He has always existed and is an _____ Spirit.

Isaiah 11:2 - He is the Spirit of _____ and _____.

John 14:17 - He is the Spirit of _____ and will be _____ you and _____ you.

Ephesians 4:30 - He can be _____.

Mark 3:29 - He can be _____.

1 Thessalonians 5:19 - He can be _____.

Acts 7:51 - He can be _____.

Acts 5:3 - He can be _____ to.

2 Corinthians 13:14 - We can have _____ with Him.

From this we have learned that the Holy Spirit is a person who acts in intelligence and wisdom, has feelings and can be loved, honored, hurt, and grieved, and He can be known and communicated with. Now we are going to look at what specific work he does in the lives of believers.

III. The Work of the Holy Spirit in Believers

How are we saved and given spiritual life? Read John 3:5-8 & Titus 3:5.

Who did the Holy Spirit come for? Acts 2:38-39

When we are saved where does the Holy Spirit reside? 1 Corinthians 6:19 & John 14:17

This is called the *indwelling* of the Holy Spirit. At the moment of salvation, when we are saved, the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of us.

How does God assure us that we are saved and are a part of the Kingdom of God?
2 Corinthians 1:21-22, Ephesians 1:13-14.

Read John 14:16-18, John 14:26, John 15:26, and John 16:7-15. In these verses what word does Jesus use to refer to the Holy Spirit? _____

Depending on your Bible translation the word Jesus uses for the Holy Spirit is translated either “Comforter”, “Counselor”, “Advocate”, or “Helper.” The word in the original Greek is “Parakletos” from the Greek word “Para”, meaning “to come alongside and help”, and “kletos” meaning “one who is called or summoned.” So literally the Holy Spirit is the one who is “called to come alongside and help you” or “summed to come and give assistance” to your life. It is amazing to think that Jesus said to His disciples that it was better for them that He went away so that the Holy Spirit, who is their Advocate/ Comforter/ Helper, would be able to come to them. Think how awesome and precious the gift of the Holy Spirit and His abiding presence is in your life.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:13. What does scripture say the Holy Spirit does here?

Here the Holy Spirit brings us into or “baptizes” us into the body of Christ. The body of Christ is a term to mean the church, which is all the people who believe in Christ. He unites us with our brothers and sisters in the Lord when we are saved by indwelling in us. What we all have in common, and what unites us, is that the Holy Spirit now indwells in each of us thus making us all together His church/His people, one with Him with Him living in us.

This is different than the baptism *in* the Holy Spirit, which is us being filled or completely immersed in the Holy Spirit, which we will discuss later in the lesson.

These things which we just went over all happen at the point of conversion in the life of a believer. Now we are going to look at what the Holy Spirit does in a Christian's life after they start living their life in Christ.

Read John 14:26. What does this verse say the Holy Spirit is for us?

Read John 16:13-15 and list the work the Holy Spirit does in these verses for a believer.

What does the Holy Spirit pour out in our heart according to Romans 5:5?

What does the Holy Spirit convince us of? Romans 8:16

Read John 14:15-21. How does the Holy Spirit make the presence of Jesus real to us?

Read Luke 11:13. What is promised concerning the Holy Spirit in this verse?

Read Romans 8:26-27. What does the Holy Spirit help us with here?

Probably one of the most important things the Holy Spirit does in the life of the believer is described in Romans 8:1-4 (specifically verse 2) and Galatians 5:16-25. Read them and explain it in the following few blank lines.

Because we have been born again and regenerated by the Holy Spirit we no longer have a sin nature but have become a new creation in Christ and have a divine nature. Read 2 Peter 1:2-4. What has His divine power given to us in verse 3?

According to Verse 4 what are we partakers of? _____

IV. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit

When a person is saved they have the Holy Spirit indwelling inside of them. However

scripture teaches that there is an experience subsequent to salvation called the baptism in the Holy Spirit. This is a beautiful life changing gift that is available for all believers to receive and the most important thing for a believer after receiving salvation. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is when Jesus immerses or fills us to overflowing with His Spirit.

Read John 7:37-39. What did Jesus say it would be like when we are filled and overflowing with the Spirit?

In the book of Acts we have the first account of when the Holy Spirit was poured out. Up until this time the Holy Spirit was not able to live inside of God's people because their sin had not been taken away by what Jesus did on the cross. When the Holy Spirit was poured out at the beginning of the book of Acts He came to indwell inside of the disciples and filled them. Jesus promised this before He ascended to Heaven. Read Acts 1:4-5. What did Jesus promise here?

Earlier in the gospels John the Baptist spoke of this work that Jesus would do. Read Matthew 3:11, Mark 1:8, and Luke 3:16, & John 1:33. What does it say Jesus would baptize people with?

Water baptism is an outward symbolic act of what should have happened in our heart when we repent and put faith in God. We are dead and buried to our old life (symbolized in being submerged under the water) and washed from our sins. We are then risen to new life in Christ (symbolized by coming out of the water).

What John the Baptist was saying was that he baptized people in water as a sign or symbol of what had happened in their heart. Because this was a symbolic outward act it didn't necessarily mean that there was a transformation or change of heart in the people that went through the ritual of baptism. Even today many are baptized simply out of tradition rather than having a true born again, heart transforming, experience with Jesus.

So in essence what John the Baptist was saying was that his water baptism was only on the outside and only symbolic of what was supposed to have happened on the inside, but when Jesus comes He wouldn't baptize them outwardly with water but it would be a baptism in His Spirit that would be on the inside transforming their hearts and lives.

Now read Acts 1:5 again and then Acts 2:1-18 and describe what happened here (*specifically in chapter 2, verse 4*).

Read Acts 10:44-46 & 19:6. What happened here and in Acts 2 to show they had been

filled with the Holy Spirit?

Through these passages of scripture we know that the initial evidence of the baptism in the Holy Spirit is speaking in other tongues. Remember this is the *initial* evidence but the on-going evidence is much more.

The baptism in the Holy Spirit leads us into a more passionate pursuit of God, a deeper devotional and worship life, an experience of the supernatural and gifts of the Spirit (1 Cor. 12:7-11), a walk of victory over the sinful nature, and a more abundant and fruitful life where the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) is more evident.

Read Luke 24:49 & Acts 1:8. What do these verses say we would receive and be endowed/clothed with after the Holy Spirit comes upon us? _____

According to Acts 1:8 what are we empowered by the Holy Spirit to be? _____

V. Receiving the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The baptism in the Holy Spirit is something we should desire to receive after we have been saved. When we become a Christian the Holy Spirit indwells and lives within us but we should desire to receive the Holy Spirit until we are full and overflowing. Let's look at scripture to prove this point.

Read Acts 8:5-17. How do we know that the Samaritans were saved before they received the baptism in the Holy Spirit?

Read Acts 9:1-17. When did Paul believe and when was he baptized in the Holy Spirit?

Read Acts 19:1-6. What question did Paul ask that proves that he believed that receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit was something that happened after you were saved?

In order to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit you should know a few things to help you receive easily. So many times wrong ideas and teaching have kept people back from receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

1) The Gift has already been given. God has already given the Holy Spirit to believers, and now all we have to do is receive the gift. You do not need to beg God to fill you with the Holy Spirit. God's promise to send the Holy Spirit to believers was fulfilled on the Day of Pentecost in Acts chapter 2. The Holy Spirit came then and has been here ever since, and people have received the filling of the Holy Spirit ever since.

In Acts 19:1-6 Paul didn't instruct the disciples to pray that God would give them the Holy Spirit. Paul laid his hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. A believer also does not need to wait, or "tarry", for God's "timing" for God to baptize them in Holy Spirit. They do not need to be discouraged thinking they have something blocking them from getting baptized or that it's not their time yet. God have the Holy Spirit to the Church on the day of Pentecost. Now all we have to do is receive the gift that has already been given.

2) Salvation is the only prerequisite. Anyone who is saved is ready to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Read Acts 2:37-38. What was promised that people would receive after repenting and putting faith in Jesus? _____

Anyone who is saved is ready to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit now. Some people think there are certain things they have to do to qualify to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. However, Jesus was crucified and His blood was shed to completely cleanse us and remove every sin and every "block" that would separate us from God. If a person is saved they couldn't possibly be any cleaner than they are at that moment because the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

Read Colossians 1:12. Who does it say about our qualification for our inheritance? _____

Now read Colossians 1:12-14. How did God qualify us according to verse 14? _____

3) By faith expect to receive and speak in tongues. When someone lays hands on you and prays for you to receive or even if you are alone and asking to receive have faith and expect the Holy Spirit to move upon your vocal chords and to put supernatural words on your lips that you are to speak out in cooperation with the Holy Spirit. Read Galatians 3:2. How do we receive the Spirit according to this verse? _____

By faith you must believe that if you ask, you will receive. (Mark 11:24)

4) Receive the Holy Spirit and step out and speak the language He gives. You have to exercise what God has given you. Having asked, having received, having been willing to obey, and having believed, you need to respond in a biblical fashion.

Read Acts 2:4. Who *began* to speak and who *gave them the utterance* or words to speak? _____

When we pray to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit the Spirit will give us words to speak out that are not of our language, but we must be the ones to speak them by vocalizing words and syllables through our lips and tongue, and out of our mouth. God will not force us to speak the words He gives us by making our vocal chords sound forth and moving our tongue. That is our job. He will fill us with the Spirit and give us the words to say, that is His job.

When we respond in faith to this some people feel a tremendous sense of the presence of the Holy Spirit and others do not. We must remember this is by faith and we must respond by faith. When we respond and speak out the words the Spirit gives us we know that we have received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the initial evidence of speaking in other tongues.

5) A child of God does not need to fear of receiving something false. Sometimes people fear that they might receive something false or counterfeit when they seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit. At times people see the Holy Spirit move and fall upon others and they think they may receive an unclean or evil spirit.

Read Luke 11:11-13. What does it say our heavenly Father will give us if we ask? _____

Jesus used the expression “serpents” and “scorpions” to refer to evil spirits. If you are a child of God and you come to your heavenly Father seeking the Holy Spirit you will not receive an evil spirit, you will receive the Holy Spirit.

6) Understand that all believers can speak in tongues after receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Some Christians misuse the verse in 1 Cor. 12:30 that implies not everyone has the gift of tongues. However, Mark 16:17-18 Jesus lets us know that believers can all speak in tongues just like they all can use His name to take authority over demons to cast them out, believe for protection against harm, and lay hands and pray for sick people to be healed.

Read 1 Corinthians 14:2-4 & Jude 20. Why is practicing our prayer language of tongues daily so important for ourselves?

The word “edify” in verse 4 literally means to charge up. When we pray in tongues we are charging ourselves up just like when you plug a rechargeable battery into an electric socket. Also, we are allowing the Holy Spirit to intercede and pray through us for situations we would not be able to pray properly about or know about. If there is ever a situation you don’t know how to pray for begin to pray in the Spirit using your prayer language (tongues).

Every believer can receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit and begin praying in tongues which is to edify and build yourself up. Sometimes some believers may feel prompted to speak loudly in a church gathering a message in tongues, not in prayer to God, but as a message to the people from God. This is the gift of tongues found in 1 Cor. 12:10 and should always be interpreted by someone with that gift so the church can know what was said. The Bible says in 1 Cor. 14:28 that if there is no interpreter then they should just pray in tongues between themselves and God. In the church not everyone will operate in the gift of tongues to bring a message to the church in tongues, but everyone can pray to God in tongues for their own edification.

7) When you pray in tongues it is not another known language. Some people wrongly teach that the tongues the Holy Spirit will give will always be another known language of the world that you never knew. Like if you started speaking perfect Spanish although you only knew how to speak English. People believe this because the first time the Holy Spirit was poured out in Acts chapter 2 people from different countries heard their own native languages.

However, in 1 Cor 14:2 and throughout that chapter the Bible makes it clear that when we speak in tongues no man will understand and we are speaking mysteries in the spirit. When you receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit do not begin to praise God in your own natural language. As the Holy Spirit moves upon you lift up your voice and speak out whatever sounds and syllables that seem easy to make, regardless of how they sound. Begin to praise God with those words until a free clear unknown language, that isn't any language on earth, begins to come forth. Just like John 7:37-39 a river of living water will be flowing out of your innermost being.

VI. Staying Filled with the Spirit

Read Ephesians 5:18. What does Paul exhort us to do here?

Once we are filled with the Holy Spirit we need to stay filled. It is not a one time occasion. The word “filled” in verse eighteen connotes being continually filled with the Spirit. We receive Him at first and begin to speak in tongues but we must daily be filled.

According to Ephesians 5:19-21 how do we stay filled?

When we come the Lord in worship it is like drinking from His presence. Read John 7:37-39 again. When Jesus says if any man is thirsty let him come to me and drink, the word “drink” also means to continually drink. We are to keep coming to Jesus and drinking in the presence of the Holy Spirit. One of the greatest ways to experience that is through times of worship.

We must stay in close fellowship with the Lord by spending time with Him in the Word and prayer, by praying in the Spirit (tongues), worshiping God, and living in obedience. If we continue in this and keep our hearts open before the Lord we will stay filled with His Spirit.

Read 1 Corinthians 14:18. How much did Paul say he spoke in tongues?

Read 1 Corinthians 14:15. How did Paul pray and sing in worship to the Lord?

I want to encourage you to each day when you spend time with the Lord reading the Bible and praying to pray with your understanding, meaning to pray in the language you normally speak (English, Spanish, etc.) and to spend time praying in the Spirit, your prayer language in tongues. Spend time singing along with worship music singing the lyrics or your own words in your natural language and spend time singing in tongues. As you do you will experience the rich filling of His presence each day and be built up in your faith to live in the power of His life!

VI. Making it Personal

How have you experienced the Holy Spirit in your life so far?

What are some ways you might have grieved the Spirit in your life?

Have you ever received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in other tongues? If you have, describe the experience. If not, would you like to?

If you have never received the baptism in the Holy Spirit find a private place of prayer where you can get alone with God or see if you can have your pastor or a church leader pray with you for you to receive.

Take a moment to thank and worship Him for everything He has done for you. Then ask the Father to fill you with the Holy Spirit. In faith believe that you are receiving and then begin to step out and praise God out loud, but not in any language you know. Don't even

think about it, just step out by faith and praise and worship God with whatever words and syllables that come out of your mouth as you speak.

As you do you may feel an overwhelming sense of God's presence or you may not feel much, regardless believe by faith you have received and respond in faith accordingly by speaking out loud in tongues. As you do you will be stirring and building up your spirit and as you practice praying in the Spirit as a regular part of your prayer time you will begin to have experiences in His presence and you will see a difference in your life and walk of faith in the Spirit.

Chapter 8 Daily Devotional Guide

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Prayer Time							

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Bible Time							

Scripture Memory Verses: *(Highlight or Underline verses with a pen and memorize)*

- 1) Acts 1:8 2) Acts 2:4 3) Ephesians 5:18 4) John 7:37-38
 5) 1 Corinthians 14:2 6) 1 Corinthians 14:4 7) Acts 2:17-18

Bible Reading: This week read the book of *Romans*. This book has 16 chapters so if you read 2 to 3 chapters a day you will have read it in one week.

Bible Reading Tips: *The Holy Spirit is your greatest helper and teacher in reading the Bible. You have the privilege of personally knowing the author of the Bible, the Holy Spirit. As you are reading, be sensitive to times when verses seem to jump out at you or really speak to your heart. This is God the Holy Spirit speaking to you through His Word. If you have been baptized in the Holy Spirit as you read the Bible pray in tongues. Every time you go to read the Word take a moment to pray and invite the Holy Spirit into your time of Bible reading.*

Journal: Write things that stuck out to you when you read them, any questions you thought of, and/or what life has been like walking with the Lord this week. *(Use the next blank page if you run out of room)*

Congratulations!

You have just completed the Foundations in Christ Discipleship Course. I hope and trust that your life was enriched and that you have been grown in the Word of God. Now that you have completed this course I want to give you a challenge. Find someone else that could benefit from learning the Word as outlined in this course and commit to taking them through it. In other words now begin to disciple someone else with what you have just learned!

“And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” – 2 Timothy 2:2 (NKJV)

Here are 7 points on how to go about doing that:

- 1) Ideally lead an unbeliever to Christ by sharing the gospel with them or find someone who is a believer who would benefit from this course and ask if they would like to meet weekly to study the Word and pray together. *(You should not attempt to meet and disciple someone of the opposite sex. Men should find another man to mentor/disciple and likewise women should find another woman to mentor/disciple)*
- 2) Set an initial meeting place. This could be at your house, a church, restaurant, or

coffee shop. The location doesn't have to be the same each week but it usually works best if it is. In the initial meeting share your testimony and have them share theirs. Give them a copy of the Foundations in Christ Discipleship Course and have your completed copy. Read the introduction together and explain the points given in the introduction to help get the most out of this course. Let them know that the purpose of meeting regularly together over the next few months is to encourage each other in the faith, have help with accountability in any areas that may be a struggle in life, and to grow in the Word as you study the course.

- 3) Have them go over the first section at home and instruct them to complete it over the next week by filling in the blanks. It is not mandatory that a section be completed each week but if it is the entire course will take 8 weeks, or about 2 months, as there are 8 sections total. You should also review your completed section to be prepared for the next meeting. *(Each week they will go through the course at home and you both will review and discuss the completed chapter when you meet together)*
- 4) In the next meeting open by praying together, share any things God has been speaking to each of you during the week, have them share any areas they are struggling with and asking you to keep them accountable in *(Make sure that anything regarding accountability is kept confidential between you and them unless they permit you to share it with others. If you feel it is something that needs to be shared with the Pastor make sure to let them know and have their understanding beforehand)*
- 5) Review the previous section of the discipleship course with them going through each scripture and answer together. Help answer any questions they may have and discuss any topics that the Holy Spirit may bring to light as you go through the course and read the scripture.
- 6) Close by praying for one another and set the next time, place, and date to meet the following week.
- 7) Try to contact them by phone to briefly check in and encourage them outside of church during the week.

If you have any other questions about how to lead someone through this discipleship course contact the church or Pastor. It is best that you are comfortable and confident in being able to lead someone to faith in Christ which is detailed at the end of the "Gospel of Salvation" section and how to lead someone into receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit which is taught in the last section entitled "The Holy Spirit." If you would like further instruction on how to minister to others in regards to these areas contact the Pastor or a church leader.

May ministering and teaching others the gospel be an ever present reality in your life and an exciting adventure as you walk this journey with the Lord!