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From The Pastor’s Desk:

I would like to begin by thanking God for what he alone has allowed to put together for this body of Christ, called, Liberty Baptist Church. It has taken quite some time to compile all of this data for training every new convert. However, I must say that it will be worth the time spent putting it together for the spiritual growth of the church.

It is my intent to further disciple the entire body of Christ through constant and reinforced training in the biblical truths of the scripture. It is important for every true child of God, who has a ‘hunger and a thirst for righteousness’, to apply themselves in the principles of God’s word and press their way towards that higher prize which is in Christ Jesus.

I’ve learned over the years, and from experience that new converts must be indoctrinated into the church. It is our duty to provide as much training as possible to every new babe in Christ. More often than not, people join church without the slightest clue as to what they have gotten themselves into, and as a result of this, many folks who have made that walk down the isle of change end up reverting back to their old ways – meaning the old man, and they do so because they just don’t know and there’s no one putting forth the effort to teach and train them up in the way that they should go.

We are organisms designed to grow. I am sharing this fruit of the vine with you because it is my duty to do so as your under Shepherd. The bible declares that, ‘faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.’ Like Peter and John, I can truly say that, ‘silver and gold have I none, but such as I have I’m willing to give to you.’

The Devil has figured out that he no longer has to fight the church. He has learned that penetration is far better than persecution. What’s my point? Well, you really don’t have a true and faithful member until you have a member who is willing to go through the process of being taught. When people join church and don’t want to be taught the word of God, that’s a strong indication that the devil is trying to infiltrate (penetrate) the church. For a true child of God is one who is willing to receive instruction; one who is not just a hearer of God’s word, but a doer of God’s word.

So, if you really want to know the test of obedience, then take the time to not only read but also to be a part of those who are willing to be taught, and then be the doer of what you’ve been taught. Therein is the true measure of your test, becoming the doer.
DISCLAIMER

I haven’t done this in the past but because of certain groups and other churches which have used some of my material for training, I see the need to ensure that what the spirit of truth has enabled me to do as your Pastor isn’t profited by others, or claimed by others to be their sole work and theirs alone. I have no problem with anyone who is a servant of the most-high God sharing any of this material. However, I would like to mention those pages which are not entirely mine. Credit for the Summary of creation, the bible tree, as well as, the glossary, (found at the end of the booklet) are writings and research taken from the new members orientation booklet from my dear friend and colleague in the ministry, Rev. Dr. J. R. Hatney, Pastor of Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church here in the great city of Augusta. I pray that this booklet serve you well in your desire to grow spiritually. May God richly bless you is my prayer, Pastor Darden.
SOME HISTORICAL FACTS OF LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH

Established: December 21, 1915

Previous Pastors:

Rev., Dr. R. J. Johnson, **Visionary**

Rev. J.P. Murphy

Rev. R. V. Palmer

Rev. Willie R. Rivers

Rev. Alfred Walker, Jr.

Rev. J.S. Wright, Interim Pastor

Rev. Don A. Darden, Jr., Pastor  
**(Installed: October 13, 2001)**

Sons of Liberty:

Rev. E. T. Martin  
**(Historic Springfield Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga.)**

Rev. Harvey Fields Jr.  
**(Union Baptist Church, Chesterfield, MO)**

Rev. Anthony R. Nixon  
**(Springfield Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.)**

Min. Christopher Cotton  
**(Liberty Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga.)**
THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

The Old Testament

GENESIS — Setting the Stage
Genesis is like a prologue to the rest of the Bible. It sets the stage for everything that follows by taking us back to the beginning—the very beginning—of everything.

EXODUS — Free at Last!
Israel’s deliverance from slavery in Egypt was one of the defining moments in world history. But in contrast to Hollywood’s treatment of the story, the Bible focuses on God’s revelation of Himself, first to Pharaoh and the Egyptians, then to His people the Israelites.

LEVITICUS — A Holy God, a Holy People
God’s character is absolutely perfect. He cannot be measured against some higher moral standard, because He is the standard for moral excellence and purity. Leviticus helps us gain a healthy fear of the Lord, so that we’ll live with a holy lifestyle.

NUMBERS — One Step Forward, Two Steps Back!
Do you ever wonder whether you are making progress in your faith? If so, you’ll benefit by reading the Book of Numbers. It shows that God rewards faithfulness—and always accomplishes His purposes.

DEUTERONOMY — Preserving a Godly Heritage!
What will you be remembered for? What statements of yours will your children and your children’s children pass on to succeeding generations? Deuteronomy emphasizes the importance of telling future generations about the works and words of God.

JOSHUA — God Keeps his Promises
While people are prone to go back on their word, God always keeps his promises. Joshua tells about God making good on His promise to give the land of Canaan to Abraham’s descendants. It’s a wonderful illustration of why we can place faith in God’s faithfulness.

JUDGES — From Conquest to Chaos
This book makes for troubling reading because it shows a nation in moral and spiritual decline, in which “everyone did what was right in his own eyes.” Could the troubles of modern society be the result of a similar pattern of open, self-willed rebellion against God?

RUTH — A Spark of Hope
If you ever feel that you are living in dark times, the story of Ruth can provide a ray of hope. Against the backdrop of Judges, Ruth’s faith shines like a point of light in the spiritual darkness of that era.

1 SAMUEL — God Raises Up a King

the truth that God works through history is vitally relevant to our times. Today there is a tendency to see history as either unimportant, or as a random series of incidents. But 1 and 2 Samuel remind us that God is and has been working out His purposes.

2 SAMUEL — The Reign of David
At long last, David assume the throne. This development showed that God carries out His plans in His time and in His way. He also works through the choices of people and nations to weave the tapestry of time.

1 KINGS — You Reap What You Sow
Moral and spiritual choices have long-term consequences. If we sow seeds of righteousness, we will reap the fruit of righteousness. If we sow seeds of rebellion and sin, we will ultimately reap a bitter harvest. David’s legacy yielded lasting benefits for his nation.

2 KINGS — The Kingdom Divided and Conquered
Israel began to falter as a nation as soon as it turned away from the Lord. First it split in two, then both kingdoms were eventually overrun by foreigners and taken into exile—the very consequences that God had warned His people about centuries earlier.

1 CHRONICLES — The Rediscovery of Roots
This book reminds us that God takes our heritage seriously. We can remember both the triumphs and tragedies of our ancestors as we lift up our past to the Lord of history.

2 CHRONICLES — Not Just a Repeat of Kings
The books of 1 and 2 Chronicles give an account that is similar (and in some cases identical) to 2 Samuel and 1 and 2 Kings. But it would be a mistake to see Chronicles as merely a repeat of these other books. Chronicles covers much of the same period of time, but from a different perspective.

EZRA — The Return
Throughout the world today, people are rebuilding their communities in the aftermath of war. For the Jews returning to Jerusalem following the Babylonian exile, the challenge was to rebuild not only their city, but their relationship with the Lord.

NEHEMIAH — A Model of Godly Leadership
Scripture presents numerous role models for leadership. Few, however, are as fully developed as the example of Nehemiah. This account of the rebuilding of Jerusalem’s wall offers numerous principles of effective leadership.

ESTHER — “What Am I Doing Here?”
Countless Christians in the workplace today have questions about their purpose and significance. This book shows that God never wastes a life. He always has a purpose for His people. Read this story as a way to reflect on what God’s purpose may be for your life.
JOB — Why?
Anyone who has ever tried to make sense of tragedy has struggled with the same question that occupied Job and his friends: “Why?” Only God knows the complete answer to that question. But that should drive us to the place where Job ended up—at the feet of God, in humility, worship, and praise.

PSALMS — Expressing Our hearts to God
The Book of Psalms has been the prayer book and hymnal for countless generations of God’s people. The Psalms appeal to our emotions and intuition, not just our intellect and logic. As you enter into the Psalms, try reading them out loud. Let them give voice to your spirit as you lift your heart to the Lord.

PROVERBS — A Thimbleful of Wisdom
The Book of Proverbs is a collection of biblical nuggets of wisdom, brief sayings based on God’s perspective on life. The truth contained in these sayings is not meant to be exhaustive, but potent. They are intended to make us stop and think, and hopefully to redirect our lives.

ECCLESIASTES — Life in a Fallen World
More and more people today are struggling with pessimism about the future. Ecclesiastes speaks to this condition. It’s about life in a fallen world. We can deny it, fight it, hide from it, even try to make sense of it. But we can’t escape it. The only meaningful response is to live in it one day at a time—fearing God.

SONG OF SOLOMON — A Celebration of Romantic Love
Romantic love is a gift of God, to be celebrated and enjoyed, but also protected. In the Song of Solomon, we have a picture of what healthy romance looks like. The poem offers a corrective to the confusion and excesses of our day. It gives us a positive ideal to pursue, a portrait of married love that is neither obscene nor ashamed.

ISAIAH — God’s Strategic Plan
Isaiah reads like a strategic plan of God’s intentions for the world. First it tells of God’s intention to purify His people the Israelites through judgment. Then it looks ahead to the day when He would send the Messiah to usher in an era of peace and righteousness.

JEREMIAH AND LAMENTATIONS — A Broken Heart
As you consider the world and its people, what is it that makes you weep? The prophet Jeremiah was heartbroken when he realized the extent of his people’s sin. As you read these words from the “weeping prophet,” consider whether your own heart is sensitive enough to God and tender enough toward people to cry out over injustice, immorality, idolatry, and other evils.

EZEKIEL — Messenger to the Hard-Hearted
Ezekiel is a model for modern-day messengers to those who are calloused toward God. It helps to know that a cool reception to the truth may be a vindication of one’s work, not a negation of it.
DANIEL — Living for God in a Secular Society
Daniel was a man of conviction. After decades of working in one the most godless cultures of the ancient world, the only accusation against him was that he continued to honor his God. Would you like to be known for that kind of unswerving faith and unimpeachable integrity? The account of Daniel can show you how.

HOSEA — Prodigal Wife, Prodigal People
During a time of temporary prosperity for his nation, Hosea was called to difficult assignment: he was told to endure the infidelity of his wife as an object lesson about God’s love for His wayward people. If you’ve ever been inclined to think of God in the Old Testament as merely a God of judgment, read Hosea. His love is never failing.

JOEL — The Promise of the Spirit
Joel’s prophecy of God pouring out His Spirit is like a musical theme that is heard briefly in the opening movement of a symphony, but is not fully established until the final movement. Centuries later, Joel’s melody burst forth in a symphony of praise when the Holy Spirit came on the early church gathered at Jerusalem during Pentecost (Acts 2:1–4, 16–21).

AMOS — The Sins of the City
Sin is not just a private matter between an individual and God. The Lord holds entire cities and nations accountable for the evils they commit.

OBADIAH — An Ancient Tale of Twin Brothers
The shortest book in the Old Testament tells a big story that spans the Bible from the time of the patriarchs to the last days of the Old Testament—and even into the early days of the New Testament. It offers important lessons about the dangers of nurturing long-term ethnic hostility.

JONAH — A Whale of a Tale
The story of Jonah being swallowed by a great fish (the text does not say it was a whale) is one of the most famous incidents in the Old Testament. It illustrates how far God is willing to go to ensure that His messengers deliver His Word.

MICAH — What Does the Lord Require?
How can you develop an ethical yardstick for life and work? How do you know when your practices, products, and relationships are acceptable to the Lord? Micah gives a three-part summary of God’s expectations.

NAHUM — The Bloody City
The nation of Assyria was one of the cruelest, most bloodthirsty societies in history. Just as Nahum warned, God’s judgment fell on the “bloody city” of Nineveh, Assyria’s capital, for the Assyrians’ numerous sins against God and horrible crimes against humanity.

HABAKKUK — Questioning God
Some people believe that human beings should never question the ways of God. But the Book
of Habakkuk counters that idea. It is filled with a prophet’s perplexing questions—and the Lord’s
penetrating answers.

ZEPHANIAH — The Day of the Lord
The Book of Zephaniah is short, but it contains 18 references to “the day of the Lord”—a
coming day of judgment for Judah, a coming day of judgment for other nations, and a coming
day of restoration for the righteous.

HAGGAI — Finish What You Started
It’s easy to make promises to God. It can be much more difficult to fulfill them. But God takes
our commitments seriously, and expects us to follow through. He wants us to arrange our
priorities so that we accomplish meaningful tasks for His glory.

ZECHARIAH — A Vision of Terror—and Hope
This contemporary of Ezra and Haggai foresaw even more judgment for Judah after the
Babylonian exile. But he also anticipated the bright promise of God’s forgiveness and cleansing.

MALACHI — The Lord’s Messenger
The prophet Malachi was particularly concerned about corrupt priests abusing their
responsibility to serve God and the people. His was the last word of the Lord to the Jews before
the coming of Jesus Christ.

The New Testament

MATTHEW — A Global Gospel with a Jewish Accent
Was Jesus really Israel’s Messiah? Matthew answers with a resounding yes! This Gospel is filled
with Old Testament prophecies that point to Jesus as God’s Chosen One. But Matthew is more
than a Jewish Gospel—it’s a global Gospel with a Jewish accent. In Jesus, all of us can find
hope, no matter what our background.

MARK — The Action-Packed Gospel
There are four Gospels. Which one should you read first? Try the Gospel of Mark. Even though
it is placed second among the four, it’s an ideal book for ”entry-level” readers.

LUKE — The Gospel with Universal Appeal
Who was Jesus of Nazareth and what difference does it make? That’s the question Luke
answers in this carefully researched account that reads like a newspaper series of the life of
Christ.

JOHN — A Gospel for the Thinking Person
Unlike Matthew, Mark, and Luke, which present comprehensive and similar (“synoptic”)
overviews of the Lord’s life, John’s Gospel is a highly stylized arrangement of carefully selected
events and words, all directed toward one major purpose: that readers might find life by
believing in Jesus as the Christ.
ACTS — A Message Becomes a Movement
Luke’s detailed, fast-paced account of the early believers illustrates what happens when
everyday people, filled with God’s power, apply their faith to life and society.

ROMANS — The Gospel Explained
It helps to read the Book of Romans often. Paul wrote this letter to explain the basics of the
faith. While the first five books of the New Testament tell the story of Jesus and His followers,
Romans examines their message.

1 CORINTHIANS — First-Century Christians, Twenty-First-Century Problems
1 Corinthians gets behind the stereotyped image of what the early church is “assumed” to have
been. It shows that (like today) churches were made up of real people living in the real world
struggling with real problems.

2 CORINTHIANS — A Leader Reveals His Heart
This intensely personal letter from Paul shows that even “really spiritual” people struggle with
the same problems, doubts, and feelings as anyone else.

GALATIANS — Only Christ
The transition from Judaism had been an uneasy one for some early believers, resulting in
attempts to “add on” to the simple, pure gospel of Christ. But this letter urges believers to hold
on to Christ alone so their faith and the church can grow.

EPHESIANS — The Ultimate “New Testament Church”
Have you ever longed for your church to be more like the church of the New Testament? If so,
carefully study the church at Ephesus. It illustrates what it takes to live out the gospel in a
challenging, cosmopolitan marketplace.

PHILIPPIANS — A Prison Epistle
Can Paul’s message from a Roman prison have relevance to believers today who live where
there is not as much threat of persecution for practicing one’s religion? Yes, by showing us what
ultimately matters.

COLOSSIANS — Jesus is Lord
Can Christianity compete in an age of “pop philosophies,” New Age thinking, and occult
metaphysics? Absolutely! In fact, the message of Christ can prevail over competing perceptions
of the world and systems of thought. It happened before at Colosse.

1 THESSALONIANS — Impacting the World with the Message of Christ
What does a church look like when it functions the way it should? It may well resemble the
church at Thessalonica. The reputation of the Thessalonians’ faith spread far and wide in the
first century. Their example still proves instructive today.

2 THESSALONIANS — When Hope Fades
The gospel turned Thessalonica upside down. But after Paul and his entourage left and things quieted down, the new believers there were left to learn an important reality of the faith—that lasting transformation takes time.

1 TIMOTHY — A Manual for Church Life
Paul wanted the congregation at Ephesus not merely to survive, but to thrive. So he wrote 1 and 2 Timothy, which are among the earliest guides we have for church organization.

2 TIMOTHY — Passing the Torch
As he penned 2 Timothy, Paul was doing far more than writing a directive to a subordinate. He was opening his heart as a mentor to someone who would succeed him, reaching into the mind and heart and life of his young protege with the most powerful and enduring educational tool of all—his own personality.

TITUS — The Genuine Item
Some people say that it doesn’t really matter what you believe, as long as you do the right thing. However, Paul’s letter to Titus contradicts that idea. Paul knew that people become what they think, and that everything they do in life is shaped by what they believe.

PHILEMON — A Prodigy Returns
Does Christ really make a difference in relationships? Does He really bring healing and the resolution of old grievances? Does He really overcome differences in race and socioeconomic status? The letter to Philemon offers powerful evidence that He does!

HEBREWS — The Roots of the Gospel
While warning Hebrew Christians not to slip away from the gospel, the author shows how many of the seeds of Christianity were sown in Judaism. In Christ, Jewish believers can rejoice in the completion of their faith. Likewise, we can all see ways in which God has used our histories and backgrounds to bring us to Him.

JAMES — Sermons to Successful Believers
Perhaps you’re finding it easy to be comfortable in the faith. But are you fruitful? James was written to help you consider whether Christ is affecting more than your income and lifestyle.

1 PETER — Christians Against the System
Are you feeling defeated by life these days? Whatever the circumstances, if life has become such a struggle that your faith itself feels under siege, pay attention to 1 and 2 Peter! They were written for Christians in the crucible.

2 PETER — We Can Count on God
When we’re being persecuted, sometimes it seems that just enduring it is all we can do. Coping may look like our only alternative to caving in. This letter offers great comfort to “coping Christians” by showing that we can rely on God, His Word, and the ultimate return of Jesus.
1 JOHN — Tough Love
John is often described as the “apostle of love” and 1,2, and 3 John as the “love letters” of the New Testament. But these writings are not about sentimentalism. They’re about “tough love,” love that shoots straight, even if it hurts, because it cares for others and wishes them the best.

2 JOHN — The Test of Truth
Ideas and spiritual claims need to be given a simple but crucial litmus test: what do they say about Jesus? As believers today confront an onslaught of religious systems in a pluralistic society, this letter is particularly relevant.

3 JOHN — Imitate What Is Good
This letter confronts disloyalty in the church in a striking way. John sets descriptions of two leaders side by side and then encourages the reader to “imitate ... what is good.” Apparently John felt confident that a sensible person would know which man was worthy of imitation.

JUDE — The New Testament’s Exposé of False Teachers
Using graphic word pictures and recalling a rogue’s gallery of deceivers from years gone by, Jude documents a history of subversive forces that threatened to destroy the early church. In reading this letter, we are reminded that Christianity is no game.

REVELATION — Christ, the Lord of History
How will history end? That’s the theme of this last book in the New Testament, which pulls the curtain back to reveal God’s ultimate plan for the world. What we find is a dramatic tale told in highly symbolic language. Nevertheless, its point is easily grasped: Christ will be revealed as the Lord of history.
SCRIPTURES FOR MEDITATION

The following Scriptures relate in some way to subjects in Experiencing God. They may be meaningful to you during and after your study of Experiencing God. You may want to mark these in your Bible, study them, meditate on them, and even memorize some of them. These verses are from the New International Version of the Bible.

Numbers 14:35 - "I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will surely do these things."

Deuteronomy 4:7 - What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the Lord our God is near us whenever we pray to him?

Deuteronomy 4:29 - But if from there you seek the Lord your God, you will find him if you look for him with all your heart and with all your soul.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, 0 Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord Is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse-the blessing if you obey the commands or the Lord your God that I am giving you today; the curse if you disobey the commands or the Lord your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life.

2 Chronicles 16:9 - The eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.

Psalm 5:3 - In the morning, a Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation.

Psalm 25: 4-5 - Show me your ways, 0 Lord, teach me your paths.

Psalm 33:11 – But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Psalm 37:4-5 - Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this.

Psalm 37:7 - Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him.

Psalm 40:8 -"I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."
Psalm 42:1 - As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God.

Psalm 63:1 - O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Psalm 86:11 - Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

Psalm 126:5-6 - Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow I will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him.

Psalm 127:1 - Unless the lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.

Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Isaiah 1:18-20 - "Come now, let us reason together," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land; but if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword." For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Isaiah 14:24 - The Lord Almighty has sworn, "Surely, as I have planned, so it will be, and as I have purposed, so it will stand."

Isaiah 26:12 - Lord, you establish peace for us; all that we have accomplished you have done for us.

Isaiah 30:1 - "Woe to the obstinate children," declares the Lord, "to those who carry out plans that are not mine, forming an alliance, but not by my Spirit, heaping upon Sin."

Isaiah 31:1 - Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, who rely on horses, who trust in the multitude of their chariots and in the great strength of their horsemen, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel, or seek help from the Lord.

Isaiah 40:31 - Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 41:10 - "Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God, I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous hand."

Isaiah 46:11 - "What I have said, that will I bring about."

Isaiah 48:17 - "I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go."
Isaiah 55:8-9 – “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Isaiah 64:4 - Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

Jeremiah 17:5-7 - This is what the Lord says: "Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who depends on flesh for his strength and whose heart turns away from the Lord. He will be like a bush in the wastelands; he will not see prosperity when it comes. He will dwell in the parched places or the desert, in a salt land where no one lives. But blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him."

Jeremiah 31:3 - The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness."

Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

Daniel 3:17 - "If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king."

Amos 3:7 - Surely the Sovereign Lord does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.

Zechariah 4:6 - "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit:" says the Lord Almighty.

Matthew 6:31-33 - "So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For, the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matthew 7:21-23 - "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom or heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'"

Matthew 10:24-25 - A student is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the student to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master."

Matthew 10:39 - "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

Matthew 25:21 - "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your
master's happiness!"

**Mark 9:23** - "Everything is possible for him who believes."

**Luke 6:46** - "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

**Luke 9:23-24** - He [Jesus] said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it."

**Luke 10:22** - "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

**Luke 11:28** - "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."

**John 3:16** - "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life,"

**John 6:44** - "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day,"

**John 6:63** - "The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life."

**John 6:65** - "No one can come to me unless the Father has enabled him."

**John 7:17** - "If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own."

**John 8:31-32** - "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

**John 8:36** - "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

**John 10:10** - "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

**John 12:26** - "Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me."

**John 14:6** - Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

**John 14:26** - "The Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you or everything I have said to you."
John 15:10 - "If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love."

John 15:16 - "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit - fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name."

John 16:8 - "When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment."

John 16:13 - "But when he, the Spirit or truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come."

John 17:3 - "Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent."

Acts 1:8 - "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Romans 8:26-27 - In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

Romans 8:28 - We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:35,37 - Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

1 Corinthians 2:9 - As it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him."

1 Corinthians 4:2 - It is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

1 Corinthians 15:10 - By the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them - yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

2 Corinthians 5:19 - God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

Galatians 2:20 - I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body. I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
**Galatians 5:6** - In Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor un-circumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

**Ephesians 3:20-21** - Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

**Philippians 2:13** - It is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

**Philippians 3:8** - What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness or knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ.

**Philippians 3:10** - I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship or sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. 

**Philippians 4:13** - I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

**Philippians 4:19** - My God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

**Colossians 2:8** - See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

**Colossians 2:9-10** - For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

**Colossians 3:4** - When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

**Philemon 6** - I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.

**Hebrews 1:1-2** - In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.

**Hebrews 11:1** - Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

**Hebrews 13:8** – Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

**James 1:3-4** - You know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.
James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

James 2:2 - As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

James 4:8 - Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

1 Peter 4:10 - Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

1 John 3:16 - This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

1 John 4:9-10 - This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

1 Peter 4:10 - Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.
**SALVATION**
The New Birth and What It Means

**Introduction:**
At some point in your decision to accept Christ into your life, you were probably told that according to the scriptures: Now, you are saved or you have been born again. Did you ever wonder what all of this meant? What does the word saved mean? Or, What Am I Saved From? If you’ve ever wondered about this, let us attempt to answer these questions and any other related questions through the light of God's Word.

**I. Why We Must Share Christ with others**
When we are born of our mother's womb, we are born into our natural family, which is called our natural birth. As a result of our natural birth we are born a sinner. A sinner is simply one who sins. Sin is the transgression (disobedience) of God's commandment. In other words, we are born into the world with the mind to disobey God.

**II. How We Became Sinners**
Remember: The creation story of the fall of Adam in the Garden of Eden and the fact that sin is the disobedience of God's commandment. Adam sinned against God when he ate of the forbidden fruit that the Lord commanded him not to eat. The moment Adam sinned he died, just as God said. But what type of death was God referring to at this point because Adam did not die physically until some 930 years later.

It was spiritual death that God was referring to; because of God's Holiness he hates SIN, not the SINNER and he will not allow sin to go unpunished. God also, demands that the penalty of sin be paid before man can stand in his presence again.

Therefore, when Adam sinned, he could no longer fellowship with God, and as a result, his soul became spiritually separated from God, which was spiritual death that you and I became sinners. And exactly why is this? Because when God created Adam he became the father of the human race. Since all of us are descendants of Adam, the spiritual death of Adam passed on to us, making us sinners and just as Adam could not stand in the presence of God without the penalty of sin being paid, neither can we stand in the presence of God without our sins being paid for:

The real question is, *Who makes provisions for the penalty?* The answer is God. Since we could not merit righteousness or even deserve it, and could not make ourselves righteous, God was the only one who could make provisions for the penalty. Here are some scriptural references to explain God's provision.

- **John 3:16** "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

• II Corinthians 5:21 "For He (God) hath made Him (Christ) to be sin for us, who knew no sin that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him."

• John 1:12 "To many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God."

From the scriptures we see God is the only one who made provision for our redemption through the bloodshed death of Christ on the cross. At the moment we received Christ into our lives, we were saved from the penalty of sin. Also, at the same moment we were born from above (born again) into the family of God as an heir of God, Joint-heir with Christ, inheriting eternal life (New Life), which was our spiritual birth or as we know the new birth.

Summary:

The only way one receives the new life is to be born into the family of God. One is born into the family of God the moment he or she (man, woman, boy, girl) accepts the Lord Jesus Christ as his or her Savior.

III. Results of the New Birth-

A. We have become a new creature in Christ. II Corinthians 5:17

B. We have become a child of God. John 1:12

C. We have become an heir of God and join-heir with Christ. Romans 8:17A

D. We have been blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ. Ephesians 1:3

E. We have been delivered from darkness and translated into the kingdom of his dear Son. Colossians 1:13

F. We have overcome the world. I John 5:4.
WATER BAPTISM
Its Meaning and Importance

Introduction: (To the new convert)

I have discovered that, because of a lack in understanding of the ordinance, the importance of Water Baptism in the life of the Believer is lost. This is largely due to the fact the Water baptism is not a requirement for salvation, but its observance and its symbolism add meaning to the spiritual life for the believer. The target of this lesson will be an attempt to enlighten you the believer on the importance of water Baptism through the discussion of the following topics:

- What is Water Baptism
- Brief History of the Development of Water Baptism
- Why should We Observe Water Baptism
- When should We Be Baptized

Let us begin our lesson on the first topic

I. What is Water Baptism?

The word Baptism means immersion and immersion means baptism by plunging the whole person into water to bury in the water. Therefore, to be baptized in water one must be immersed in the water, which means, "a going under (submergence) and coming up (emergence)." This definition of Water Baptism helps to dispel the myth the Water Baptism means sprinkling with water.

Question: What is Water Baptism symbolic of?

Answer: Baptism symbolizes (portrays) the death, burial, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The submergence under water aspect portrays the believer's identity with the death and burial of Jesus Christ. The emergence from the water portrays the resurrection and life of Jesus Christ. Finally, Water Baptism is also a witness to the world that one is no longer united with the Devil, but united with Christ.

II. Brief History of the Development of Water Baptism-

Water Baptism was instituted before Christ's ascension into heaven. The resurrected Christ commissioned His disciples, saying, "Go Ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" - Matthew 28:19.

III. Why should We Observe Water Baptism?

A. The Lord commands us to - Matthew 28:19
B. It is the first act of obedience to the Lord after conversion - Acts 2:38

IV. **When Should We Be Baptized?**

One should be baptized as soon as possible after his conversion. Being baptized before conversion has no meaning or significance. This understanding helps to dispel the myth that says a person is saved because he has been baptized. This is not true. A Person is not saved because he has been baptized but rather, he is baptized because he is saved.
HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

Introduction:

Just as bread is food to the physical man, so is the Word of God food to the spiritual man. In order to grow stronger physically and have strength spiritually, you must eat a balanced diet on a daily basis that contains all the nutrients and vitamins required spiritually and in order for you to have spiritual strength, you must eat the word of God on a daily basis, that is, you must read and study the Bible everyday. The Word of God is spiritual food for spiritual growth. Therefore, your spiritual growth is dependent upon how much of the Word of God you as a Christian can get into yourself on a daily basis, and how obedient you are to God's Word. James 1:22 clearly encourages us to do the following: "But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

It is a challenge to be consistent in the reading and studying of God's Word, but it is one that every child of God should willingly accept.

A. What is the Bible?

I. A book telling the story of Creation and God's relationship to his creation.
II. The record of the story of redemption, in which the Word became flesh and dwelt among us to show us God.
III. Our guide for spiritual growth and maturity, which also tells us of the last days and eternal life.

B. Why Study the Bible?

I. To Know God - II Timothy 3:16
II. To Know Christ - Matthew 11:28
III. To Find Eternal Life - John 5:39/John 20:30 -31
IV. To Profit From Doctrine, Reproof, Correction and Instruction in Righteousness - II Timothy 3: 16, 17
V. To Pray With Results - John 15:7

If you abide in Christ and let his Words abide in you, you can pray with results, because you will be praying according to His will because His Word is His Will.

C. When to Study the Bible-

Usually, many find that the best time to study God's Word is in the mornings because it is easier to get tuned in with God. During the early hours, things are more peaceful and more conducive for learning. Above all, when the Bible is read and studied in the morning, the day gets off to a
blessed start. The reader will have prepared himself spiritually to win victories over whatever spiritual battles that would come up in the day.

Those who find it difficult and challenging to study the Bible in the morning, study at lunch-time, at home, on the job, or during a scheduled break at work or at home. Then there are those who cannot study the Bible at any of these times, so they find time to study during the evening hours, and there are still others who study the Bible just before- bedtime. The major focus here in the lesson is to find time to study God’s Word.

I. What to do Before Studying God's Word-

A. Find a quite place, with proper lighting and temperature.
B. PRAY and ask God to open your eyes of understanding and your spiritual ears so that you may hear what the Spirit is trying to say to you.
C. Get a notebook for recording things you study on a daily basis. Also, after recording, review.
D. Have all your Bible tools before you. Some good Bible tools that can be used when studying are as follows:
   1. Bible Dictionary
   2. Concordance (I highly recommend STRONGS Concordance)
   3. Bible Maps
   4. Commentaries
   5. Other translations of the KJV to help you better understand the text of any lesson

II. What to Look For When Studying the Bible-

A. What is the Passage saying? A Message
B. What Commandment should be obeyed? A commandment
C. What Warnings should be heeded? A Warning
D. What Blessings can I claim? A Promise
E. What Biblical Principle from the Passage is there in the text that I can apply to my life so that I can be a better person for Christ? A Practical Application

III. How can We Understand God's word-

A. By Studying - II Timothy 2:15
B. By the Holy Ghost - I Corinthians 2:14, John 14:26
C. Through Teachers and Pastors - Ephesians 4:11
D. By teaching One Another - Ephesians 5:19
E. By Prayer - Ephesians 1:16-18
F. Study carefully, thoughtfully and prayerfully

IV. What to do after Studying God’s Word-

Memorize God's Word

After reading and studying God's Word, the next step is to hide the Word of God in your heart so that you will not sin against God (Psalms 119:11). Memorizing God's Word is one of the first steps towards hiding the Word of God in your heart. In the parable of the sower, some seeds (the Word of God) fell by the wayside and the fowls of the air came and devoured it. That means that after "they heard the Word", the bible says that Satan immediately came and took away the Word that was sown in their hearts. (Mark 4:15)

Meditate Upon God's Word

After reading God's Word meditate upon it. To meditate upon God's Word means to concentrate and think about God's Word. As you meditate upon God's Word, day and night, and do according to all that is written therein, God promised to make your way prosperous and "you shall have good success." (Joshua 1:8; Psalms 1:3). Not only that but God promised that your profiting will appear unto all (I Timothy 4:15).

Isaiah declared, in Isaiah 26:3, "That thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed in thee; because he trusteth in the Lord."

Obey God's Word

James 1:22 say, "But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves" God does not only want us to hear the Word, but he also wants us to obey it, and John himself tells us why it’s important to do so in John 5:10, "We show God how much we love Him by how obedient we are to His Word.”

Confess God's Word

The word Confess means to say the same thing as: to confess God's Word, means to say the same thing that God says in his Word. One of the greatest ways to build one's faith is to confess what God's Word says he is in Christ Jesus and the promises that belong to Him in Christ Jesus. You should confess God's Word because "It is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword." Hebrew 4:12.

Pray with God's Word

Whenever a person uses God's Word in prayer, he is praying in faith, because the Word of God is the foundation of faith according to Romans 10:17, which says, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

Whenever a person uses God's Word in prayer he can pray with confidence according to I John 5:14, because in actuality, he is holding God's word before him and we know that God definitely hears his Word. Along with this, God says in so many words in Isaiah 55:11, "His Word shall not return unto him void, but it shall accomplish that for which He please and prosper in things whereto He sent it."
V. The Results (Rewards) of Studying God's Word-

A. You shall be like a Tree planted by the Rivers of Waters. Psalms 1:2-3
B. Your way shall be made prosperous and you shall have good success. Joshua 1:8
C. Your profiting may appear to all. I Timothy 4:15
WHAT IS PRAYER?

Introduction:

Someone has said "No Prayer - No Power, Little Prayer - Little Power, Much Prayer - Much Power." What a profound illustration that points out: One's power with God is based largely upon his consistency in his prayer life. It is sad to say, however, that there are far too few Christians who know little of the power that God affords them through prayer, the channel by which they can come boldly before the throne of grace (the presence of God) that they may obtain mercy to help them in their time of need; the channel by which they could lay hold (claim) to the promises of God. There are too many Christians who do not know the blessings that prayer affords and as a result they are living spiritually defeated lives in a state of worry, confusion and frustration. It has been said, "Prayer is the very breath of one's spiritual life," Satan, also knows that prayer is one of the keys to our spiritual growth (maturity) and that victorious living is dependent upon our prayer life. Satan's goal is to hinder the prayer life in anyway he possibly can so that Christians won't be able to realize their power for Christian growth and the spiritual victory that God desires for them to have. Let us not forget why "He" came – "That they might have life, and have it more abundantly."

Therefore, it is the aim of this lesson to help you understand prayer in the following ways:

- **What is Prayer?**
- **Why Prayer?**
- **Ingredients (elements) of prayer**
- **What to Pray about?**
- **Where to Pray?**
- **When should you Pray?**
- **How to Pray with Assurance (confidence) of Answered Prayer**
- **Hindrances to your Prayer**

First of all-

I. **What is Prayer?**

Someone has said that, "Prayer is a sincere, genuine and real conversation between two people that are in love with each other."

In order to have a bona-fide genuine conversation -there must be an interchange of thoughts. In other words, a bona-fide conversation is not just one-sided where only one person gives input. Thus, prayer is not only just a sincere talk to God, but also, pausing quietly in the conversation so that God can talk back to you through his small, still voice, or through His Word.
II. **Why Pray?**

1. God Commands Us to Pray - *Luke 18: 1; I Thessalonians 5: 17*
2. It is our Responsibility to Pray for One Another - *Ephesians 5: 18; James 5:16*
3. To Pray for All Men - *I Timothy 2: 1*
4. To Pray for the Salvation of the Lost - *I Timothy 2:4 5*
5. Prayer of the upright is God's Delight - *Proverb 15:8*
6. Obtaining Mercy and Grace to Help in Time of need - *Hebrews 4: 16*
7. Exchange our Cares (Worries) for the Peace of God that Surpasses all Understanding - *Philippians 4:6-7*
8. Not to Enter into Temptation - *Matthew 26:41*
9. That We May Lead (live) a Quite and peaceable Life in all Godliness and Honesty - *I Timothy 2: 1-2*
10. To Glorify God - *John 14: 13*
11. Healing for Sickness - *James 5:15*
12. Because Prayer Changes Things and Most of all Prayer will Change You.

Someone also said, that if God through Prayer does not change the situation, he will change you to deal with the situation. So not only does prayer change things, but prayer changes you. Remember, it is no problem for God to answer your prayer if it is asked according to His will. Many times what God is working in you (Godly character and virtue) while you are waiting for Him to answer your prayer is far more valuable than what you are praying for.

III. **Ingredients (elements) of Prayer**

A good illustration of what prayer should include is found in *Philippians the 4th chapter* and verse 6 which says, "**Be careful for nothing, but in everything, by Prayer and Supplication with Thanksgiving let your request be made known unto God.**"

The first underlined word, prayer (in Greek means worship or adoration), together with the next two underlined words, supplication and thanksgiving gives us three major elements of prayer. Even though not mentioned in *Philippians 4:6*, there is another element of prayer called confession. There cannot be true prayer without confession. We would like to discuss these four elements of prayer-

1. **Confession**

Confession of all known sins must be made to God if you expect God to hear your prayer because *Psalms 66: 18* states, in no uncertain terms that, "**If you regard iniquity in your heart, then the Lord will not hear you.**" The word Confession in Greek means "to agree with God" or "say the same as God."

Whatever the sin, don't try to cover it up, or try to dress it up, just call it what God calls it -Sin. This is **TRUE CONFESSION**. Upon true confession of our sins to God, your sins are forgiven and you are cleansed from sin according to *I John 1:9*, which says, "**If we confess our sins,**
he is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”.

It is only after you are forgiven and cleansed from your sins can you truly begin to worship God. This is the foundation for true worshipers.

2. **Worship**

The word worship means to adore or admire. So to worship God is to adore God. This means to regard God with the utmost esteem, love, respect or reverence. It has been said "Worship comes from Worth-ship." Anytime that you showed the worth of God, that was worship. When you show the worth of God, you are letting God know that He is worthy of all your praises. He becomes great and your problems become small which shows that worship prepares the way for supplication.

3. **Supplication**

Supplication is defined as petition (earnest request or a formally drawn-up request addressed to God.) A person can either petition God for himself (personal petition) or petition God for others intercessory prayer). Therefore, when you talk about supplication, you are talking about personal petition and intercession. Personal Petition is a time when you are seeking God for guidance and directions in your life and whatever personal needs that you may have. Intercessory Prayer is a time when you seek God on behalf of other's need. The Bible lets us know in Hebrews 9:27 that Jesus is our perfect example of an Intercessor.

After petitioning God for yourself or for someone else, it is fitting and proper to thank God in advance for answering your prayer requests according to His will.

4. **Thanksgiving**

Someone wrote a gospel song entitled "Thank You Makes Room For More." How true it is that the more you thank God for past blessings, the more it helps make room for future blessings. To thank God is to show your appreciation and gratitude for things that he has done and is about to do. This is why the Bible exhorts us to give thanks in everything for this is the will of God concerning us. (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

IV. **What to Pray About**

According to Philippians 4:6 which says, "Be careful for nothing: but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known unto God.” In this verse, the word careful means anxious or worries. Therefore, we are exhorted to take all our worries to the Lord in prayer. No matter whether your problems are great or small, take them to the Lord in Prayer. Instead of letting tension and frustration build up from problems, just take them to the Lord in prayer and let Jesus fix it for you. As in the words of one song
writer: “Jesus will fix it for you, He knows just what to do, Whenever you pray, Just let Him have his way. Jesus will fix it for you!”

V. Where to Pray-

You are to pray everywhere according to I Timothy 2:8 which says, "I will therefore, that men pray everywhere lifting up holy hands without wrath and doubting." In other words, you are to pray, not only at church, but at your home, on your job, at school, in your car, on the bus, in the bathroom on the train, or in the plane. I’m sure that you get the message here.

VI. When Should You Pray?

One thing for sure, if you begin your day with prayer, you are gaining strength in preparation to deal with whatever situation may come your way. Think about the many times when you had not prayed, and then think about the time that you did pray before starting your day.

VII. How to Pray with the Assurance of Answered Prayer-

James 5:16 says, “The prayer of a righteous man avails much.” Let’s look at how a righteous man's prayer can avail much. Five things to remember:

First - Abide in Christ and let His Words Abide in You.

John 15:7 tell us that if you want your prayers answered the you must abide in Christ and let his words abide in you. To abide in Christ means to totally lean and depend upon Christ to bear fruit. When you obey Christ's words and let His word lead and guide, then you are letting his word abide in you.

Second - Pray according to His Will

Another way to have assurance of answered prayer is that you must pray according to God's will. But how do you pray according to His will? Since the will of God is revealed in the word of God, whenever you pray according to scriptures, you are praying according to His will. I John 5:14 says, "And this according to His will, we know he hears us: and if we know that He Heurs us, whatsoever we Ask, we know that we have the Petitions that we desired of Him." Another way to pray according to His will is to pray through the Holy Ghost. There will be times when you will not know what to pray for but the Holy Ghost will make intercessions for you according to the will of God. Romans 8:26

Third - Pray in Faith

Prayers that avail much are those prayers that are grounded in faith. James 5:16, "Without faith, it is impossible to please God, for he that cometh to God must first believe
that he is and that he is a rewar der of them that diligently seek him.” Hebrews 11:6. But how does faith come? According to Romans 10:17, “Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.” In other words, whenever you Pray with the Scriptures you are Praying in Faith. Someone else has said that when you pray with the scriptures you are holding God's Word before Him and you know that God is going to listen to His own words from a sincere and clean heart. Isaiah 43:46

Fourth - Pray in Humility and turn from your wicked ways

II Chronicles 7:14 gives us a very clear indication of this humility. This passage tells us about the kind of attitude we should have if we want God to hear our prayers. That is an attitude of humility. II Chronicles 7:14 says, "If my people which are called by my name shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins and heal their land."

Fifth - Do those things that are Pleasing in His sight

Another key to praying with assurance is for you to keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in his sight, according to I John 3:22.

VIII. Hindrances to Prayer-

Some of the hindrances to answered prayer:

a. An Unclean Heart with Un-confessed Sin. Psalms 66:18
b. Praying Amiss. James 4:3
c. Unforgiving Spirit. Mark 11:25-26
d. Doubt and Unbelief. Matthew 13:58
e. When the Husband does not give honor unto His Wife. I Peter 3:7
HOW TO DEAL WITH DOUBTS

Introduction:

What is doubt? It is important that every Christian knows and becomes familiar with the strategy of Satan our adversary. One of Satan’s tactics is to instill a spirit of doubt within the believer. Doubt means to deny the realness of something or to question the authenticity of something. Doubt is the enemy of faith. Doubt cancels faith. Therefore, it is imperative that every believer becomes familiar with the Satanic attack of doubt.

Strategies of the Enemy-

One of the Devil’s strategies in making it rough for the new Saint in trying to get him or her to doubt their salvation. He knows that particularly the new Saint will not reach the level of Spiritual Growth and Spiritual Maturity in the Lord until he understands with assurance (freedom from doubt) the unlimited power that God has made available through Jesus Christ.

The first strategy that Satan uses in bringing doubt of salvation is trying to get one to entertain negative thoughts. He brings to mind thoughts about the lack of one’s realness (sincere act) in his decision (commitment) to submit to Christ. Satan will also try to bring doubt by getting one to question God’s faithfulness to Him in times of trial. He whispers in the Believers mind such thoughts as those listed below:

~ You only think that you are saved
~ If God really loves you, why is He allowing you to go through so much?
~ You are no longer a child of God because you erred in your Christian Walk

You see, the devil knows that if you (entertain) feed these negative thoughts that he brings to your mind, it won’t be long before you will believe the lies that he is saying and as a result he would have succeeded in destroying your faith in God. Proverbs 23:7, “As a man thinks in his heart, so is he.” But thanks be to God that he made a way that you can overcome these negative thoughts that cause you to doubt your salvation.

How to Overcome Negative Thoughts-

You must realize that Satan is a liar and the father of lies; therefore, the thoughts that he brings to your mind are nothing but lies. John 8:44

You must realize that when these negative thoughts come to your mind, you have a choice of whether to entertain them and be trapped in the devil’s web of doubt or to rebuke these negative thoughts and win the victory. You can keep the victory by filling your mind with the Word of God that brings perfect peace.
Where Your Emphasis Should Be -

The second strategy that Satan uses in getting you to doubt your salvation is to try to get you to put the wrong emphasis on feelings, or by trying to get you to depend upon your feelings. Even though it is true that at the moment a person is saved, there is a great feeling that accompanies one's conversion because at that moment the person has become a new creature (creation) in Christ - they can't help but to feel different. But as one begins to grow in Christ from that moment on life will ultimately change, depending upon various circumstances. Understand that for you to depend upon your feeling is to place the wrong emphasis on feeling, which is spiritual error. But once again, thank God that he has given instruction in the Word of God on how to have victory from dependency on feelings.

How to have Victory from Dependence on Emotion -

A. Realize that you cannot depend upon your feelings because they are unpredictable. Realize that you can depend upon God's Word because it never changes, and God stands behind His Word.

B. Realize that you were saved by grace (not feelings) through faith in Jesus Christ who is the Word of God made flesh. You were not saved by feelings. Our Christian walk is not by feelings, but by faith. The just do not live by feelings, but by faith. Ephesians 2:8-9.

C. Realize that you are saved because the Word of God says so. Therefore, in time of feelings of doubt, you can confess the scriptures that talk about salvation. An example of scripture that talks about salvation is I John 5:13. You can confess and say:

I know that I am saved, not because I feel like it, but because God's Word says in I John 5:13, “He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. And since I have Christ I know I have eternal life.”

Another example comes in John 1:12, you can confess and say: I know that I am a child of God, not because I feel like it, but because God’s Word says, “But as many as received Him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.” And since I did receive Him as my personal Savior and I did believe on His name, I know that I am a child of God.

There are many others such as John 6:37 and Revelation 3:20 and, above all, Romans 10:9-10. Everyone will not have the same type of emotional experience upon salvation as another. A good example is the difference of Paul's (dramatic) conversion as compared to Timothy's conversion (much less emotional). Timothy was Paul’s son in the gospel. Need I mind you that seeking to have a spiritual, emotional experience is not prerequisite for salvation, nor a condition for maintaining your salvation, but Seeking ye First the Kingdom of God and his Righteousness and trusting Him on a day to day basis is the key.
Do You Have The Assurance?

If Christ were to rapture his church right now, do you know that you will go back with him, or will you be left behind? If your answer is, ‘Yes’, to this question then you have assurance; if your answer is, ‘No’, then you don't have assurance. You need to ask the Lord to forgive you of your sins and confess that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that God raised Him from the dead and thank him for saving you and begin to live for Him on a daily basis. God's assurance to you according to scripture is "I will never leave you nor forsake you and Lo, I am with you always even to the end of the world."
The Local Church
(The Place where the Family of God gathers to Fellowship with God)

Introduction:

As children of God born into the Family of God through new Birth, it is NOT God's desire that His Children live the life of Christ staying to themselves?

Understand that private devotion is necessary for keeping oneself strengthened spiritually, but through the aid of the scripture, we see that God also desires balance; that is, it's God's desire that His children also become united in Fellowship and Membership with other family members at a loving church. God's desire is clearly expressed in Hebrews 10:25, "Not forsaking the assembly of ourselves as the manner of some is but exhorting one another; and so much the more as YOU see the day approaching." In the proceeding verse the phrase exhorting one another means encouraging one another. There are other benefits that God's family receives from fellowshipping, namely Spiritual food, guidance for Spiritual maturity and training for Spiritual service.

Our first aim in this lesson is to talk about ways in which God's family can receive the benefits of encouragement, spiritual food for spiritual growth, and guidance for spiritual maturity, and train for spiritual service. Secondly, we will give some helpful guidelines on how to choose a local church that is true to the Word of God and how often one should attend church.

The Benefits that come from (as a result of) fellowshipping is:

A. Encouragement

God's family receives encouragement in the following ways:

1. Participating in Worship Service

One of the best ways that God's family can receive encouragement through fellowshipping is through the worship service. By participating in the worship service; singing, praying, scripture reading and proclamation, each person is able to give strength to the entire body. Encouragement which is so needed in preparing to fight the enemy.

Also, when God's family worship together He promised to be in their midst. There is no greater encouragement than knowing that God is present with you.

2. Loving and Caring for one another

God’s family can receive encouragement through fellowshipping with one another, through loving and caring for each other. God did not give us a heart full of love just to keep it to ourselves, but he gave it to us so that we may encourage one another by putting our love in...
action in the form of caring and sharing. It has been said that, "You can Give without Loving, but you cannot Love without Giving." How true it is that genuine love constantly seeks to fulfill needs. There will be times when each of us will face discouragement, depression, loneliness, rejection and persecution, but nothing is more encouraging than to know that you are loved and cared (concerned) for and that someone is even willing to help share your burdens and your sorrows. Never forget that most people don’t care how much you know, but they want to know how much you really CARE.

B. Spiritual Food for Spiritual Growth

Another benefit that God's family receives from fellowshipping is spiritual food for spiritual growth. If there is any one thing God desires for His family, is that they grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on a daily basis. Even God said, that His people die for a lack of knowledge. This is why God has set in the local church, Pastors and Teachers to feed His people the Word of God that they need in order to grow spiritually.

C. Guidance for Spiritual Maturity

God has not only given Pastors to feed us the Word of God, which is the food for our spiritual growth, but God has also given us Pastors to guide us towards spiritual maturity.

D. Training for Spiritual Service

Another benefit that God's family receives from fellowshipping is training for spiritual service. God has many opportunities for ministry for His people and these ministries are designed to compliment the local church where the Believer is matured. God never intended that the total obligation of fulfilling the various ministries should be the Pastor's responsibility alone. It is for this reason that God ordained the Pastor to Train and Equip his people to do the various ministries as well. There is plenty of kingdom-building work to be done by all of us. There are many lost souls to be won to Christ. There is no shortage of lost souls. Therefore, if the body of Christ is to be unified and edified (build-up), then every child of God must invest time and talent, and they must also discipline themselves to be trained for spiritual service.

E. Helpful guidelines for Choosing a Church home that is True to the Word of God

In seeking for a Church Home and one that is true to God’s Word, there are some guidelines that one should know. This is very important in your selection as you pray and are led by the spirit of God because just having any Church Home is not the wisest thing to do for you or your family. Allow me to share with you a few guidelines that you should have considered in even selecting this church to be your church home:

1. It should teach that the Bible is the only inspired and infallible Word of God.
2. It should teach that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh.
3. It should teach JESUS and him Crucified and also his resurrection.
4. It should have a well-rounded program for Growth and nurture.
5. It should have variety of programs for the whole Family.
6. It should have a good Worship order.

F. How often should One Attend?

One should attend his local church as often and faithfully as he possibly can. As in the natural, one cannot live off of one meal a week also spiritually one cannot reach the level of growth and maturity by attending only one service a week. One should try to faithfully attend the following services:

A. Sunday school
B. Sunday Morning Worship
C. Youth Meeting
D. Weekly Prayer and Bible Study
E. Monthly Teachers Meeting
F. School of Ministry
**THE LORD’S SUPPER**
*(Partaking and Meaning of Communion explained)*

**Introduction:**

Just like Water Baptism, the Lord's Supper is also an ordinance that should be observed with importance and meaning in the life of the Believer. But unfortunately, as with the discussion of Water Baptism, the lack of consideration of it's importance and meaning is due to the fact that the Lord's Supper is not a prerequisite for salvation, but yet, its observance and its symbolism do add meaning to the Spiritual life of the Believer. Therefore, in this lesson one's understanding of partaking and the very meaning of the Lord's Supper will be enhanced by discussing the following:

- When and Why was the Lord's Supper instituted?
- Why partake of the Lord's Supper?
- What’s our Preparation before partaking of the Lord's Supper?
- What is the symbolism of the two elements (Bread and the Cup)?

Let us begin our lesson with the discussion of ‘When and Why’ was the Lord's Supper instituted.

**A. When?**

The Lord's Supper was instituted on the night our Lord met with His disciples to keep the annual Passover and also the same night in which he was betrayed. (*Remember, the feast of Passover was celebrated every year for some 1500 years to remind the Israelites of how God had delivered them from bondage of the Egyptians; how God did not allow the death angel to kill the first born child of any Israelite family that obeyed God by putting the blood of the Passover lamb upon the door posts of their house)*.

**B. Why?**

During the Lord’s Supper, Jesus took the opportunity to inform His disciples that they would no longer need to celebrate the Passover as they traditionally had because after tonight, he was going to become their Passover lamb. His body was going to be sacrificed and broken for them and his blood was going to be shed for them, **I Corinthians 5:7**. The Lord's Supper was going to be from that night on a memorial of His death and suffering. Henceforth, whenever one partakes of the Lord's super, he will be showing the Lord's death until Christ's return.

**C. Why Partake of the Lord' Supper?**
We are to partake of the Lord's Supper because God commands us to do so in His Word. According to **I Corinthians 11:25**, we find these words, *"This do ye, as oft as ye drink it in remembrance of me."*

**D. What’s our Preparation before partaking of the Lord's Supper?**

Before we partake of the Lord's Super in a meaningful way, it is essential that we engage in an honest Self-Examination. We find these very words in 1 Corinthians 11:28, which says, *"But let a man Examine himself and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup."* And I'm certain that all of us should be able to ask that question – “What are some areas in our lives that should be examined?”

**The following are some areas that should be examined:**

1a. We should examine ourselves to see if there is any unconfused Sin. All of our sins must be covered by the blood of Jesus, in order to maintain communion or fellowship with him. According to I John 1:9, which says, *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"*. (We are also to confess any bitterness towards God and our fellowman).

1b. We should examine our Minds to make sure that our Thoughts are those of the ministry of Christ. *(Philippians 2:5)*, When we come to the Lord’s table, we are to set our affection on heavenly things, not on earthly things, *(Colossians 3:2)*. When our minds are fashioned in this manner, it is not hard to reflect upon the tremendous sacrifice Christ made for us at Calvary.

1c. We should examine our motives to see if everything we do and say is Pleasing to God and for his Glory. The Lord said in His Word, that his glory he would not give to another.

**What is the Symbolism of the Two Elements?**

During the Lord's Supper, Jesus used the symbolism of two elements that were present at the meal, namely, **the Bread and the Cup** (wine) to illustrate that the Lord's Supper was going to become a memorial of His death and suffering. What is the symbolism of the bread and the cup? According to **I Corinthians 10:16**, the bread is symbolic of Christ's Body that is to be broken for us and the cup is symbolic of Christ's blood that is to be shed for us.

Therefore, when a believer participates in the Lord's Supper, he is showing the Lord's death until He comes.
EXPERIENCING THE JOY OF GIVING

Introduction

The Lord not only desires his children to fulfill the responsibility of supporting the local church and its ministry through faithful membership and attendance, but He also desires fulfillment by faithfully supporting the church by the giving of finances. God has not only ordained giving to be a means by which the local church is to be supported, but he has especially ordained giving to be a means by which we (born-again believers) can be blessed bountifully.

When one stops and thinks about it for a moment, not only does everything he has belong to God, but the person himself belongs to God also. In other words, we really don't own anything, not even ourselves. Psalms 24 verse 1, says, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein." Whatever we do have, the lord is just giving us the privilege to be stewards (caretakers) of his blessings and we are to use them wisely.

Someone penned these words in a song that, "You can't beat God Giving", which let's us know that the more we give to the Lord, the more he will give back to us. The real joy of giving comes when one realizes that he doesn't own anything and that he is just a caretaker (Steward) of God's blessings and also, realizing that the more he gives to God, the more God will entrust to him: But how can we experience the joy of giving? To experience the joy of giving one must be instructed in giving and Jesus has a lot to say about giving in the Word of God. Therefore, in this lesson we would like to talk about the following, in light of God's Word:

- Why are we to give?
- What are we to give?
- What is the difference between a tithe and an offering?
- How much are we to give?
- How should we give?
- The Rewards of giving?

A. Why Are We To Give?


Real joy comes in giving when the person realizes that God ordained giving for him to be blessed. Many saints, through the ministry of giving, have moved from financial bondage to financial freedom. Not only have they found financial freedom, but spiritual freedom also.

Remember: you cannot out give God. Someone said, "You can't beat God giving and also, you can't beat him taking away."

When God gave His only begotten son that you may have eternal life, He was also giving an example to follow. God gave His best and He is the best example to follow when it comes to giving.

Giving helps support the operations of the local church and its ministry. Giving also helps the church to fulfill the great commission in spreading the gospel to all the nations. Giving also helps to support the pastoral ministry of the local church.

B. **What Are We To Give?**

We are to give tithes and offerings according to Malachi 3:8 which says, "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings." It is clear from the scriptures that we are to give tithes and offerings. A good question is "What is the difference between a tithe and an offering?"

C. **What Is The Difference Between A Tithe And An Offering?**

The difference between a tithe and an offering is that your tithe you pay God, and your offering you give God. Consequently your tithes you owe God (Matthew 23:23), and your offering is what you give God above your tithes (Luke 6:38). But how much are you to tithe and how much offering are you to give?

D. **How Much Are We To Give?**

To understand how much you are to tithe, you must first understand what a tithe is. A tithe is one-tenth or ten percent (10%) of your gross earning (before deductions) and not 10% of your take home pay (after deductions). In other words, a tithe is one penny out of every dime; ten pennies out of every dollar; one dollar out of every ten dollars. Someone may say, "But why 10% on the gross income?" Remember: even the government taxes you on your gross income and not take home pay. Isn't God greater than the government?

**Question:** Is paying part of your tithe still considered to be a tithe?

**Answer:** No. Paying part of ones tithe is not yet considered a tithe. Malachi 3:10 says, "Bring ye All the tithes into the storehouse..." Hence, tithing is bringing all and not part. Remember: keep in mind that once a person gets behind in paying his tithes it is not easy to catch up.

**Question:** How can we help one another overcome the temptation of holding back part of his tithe?
Answer: One can help himself overcome the temptation of holding back part of his tithes by immediately taking out the 10% of the gross earnings in the form of a money order, cashier's check or by writing a check to the church. After you have tithed 10% it causes the 90% you have left to become blessed. Remember how Jesus only took two fishes and five loaves of bread and fed a multitude above five thousand. Little means much when you place it in the Master's hand.

E. How Should We Give?

The story of Abel and Cain in Genesis the 4th Chapter, is a good illustration of the right way and the wrong way of giving. This Chapter is also a good illustration of how two people offered gifts (sacrifice) to God, but only one of their offerings was accepted (Abel's) and the other one's offering was .not (Cain's). This lets us know that it is possible to give and not totally be blessed.

Question: Why was Abel's offering accepted and Cain's was not?

Answer: First, Abel gave with the right motive and Cain did not. The word motive means purpose or intents of the heart. Abel's motive (purpose) for giving was to please God, and he knew that the only way to please God was to offer unto God his sacrifice by faith. (Hebrews 11:4). Cain did not offer unto God by Faith. Therefore, his sacrifice was not pleasing unto God. Hebrews 11:1 says, "But without faith it is impossible to please him."

Secondly, Abel gave with the right attitude and Cain did not. The Lord had respect unto Abel's offering and had not respect unto Cain's offering. The attitude in which you give is what determines whether the Lord will receive your offering or not.

Question: What is the right attitude of giving?

Answer: The right attitude in giving, according to II Corinthians 9:7, if you want the Lord to respect (receive) your offering, then you must give with a cheerful attitude. Why? Because the Lord loves a cheerful giver. This means that the Lord wants you to be willing, thankful, and glad about your giving. It is evident Abel gave with this right kind of attitude because the Lord would not have respected his offering if he didn't.

However, the wrong attitude in giving according to II Corinthians 9:7, is that the Lord will not have respect unto your offering, if you give with a mean attitude or only because you just feel obligated to do so. The Lord does not want us to give grudgingly or of necessity. It is evident that Cain gave with this wrong kind of attitude (Genesis 4:7) because the Lord did not have respect unto his offering.
In summary, when you give cheerfully and willingly, you are giving with the right attitude. When you give just out of obligation, only then you are giving with the wrong attitude and then your offering will not be accepted.

F. The Rewards Of Giving?

The following are God's promises to you if you will pay your tithes and offerings.

1. The windows of Heaven will be opened for you and blessings will be poured out where there will not be enough room to receive it. **Malachi 3:10**
2. The devourer will be rebuked for sakes and the fruits of the ground shall not be destroyed. **Malachi 3:11**
3. You shall be called blessed by all nations. **Malachi 3:12**
4. Your barns shall be filled with plenty and thy presses shall burst out with new wine. **Proverbs 3:1**
5. Your liberal soul shall be made fat. **Proverbs 11:25**
6. You will have sufficiency in all things. **II Corinthians 9:6-8**
7. Health and life shall be yours. **Proverbs 13:7**
DISCOVERING GOD’S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE

Introduction:

I once heard a song while attending Chapel services overseas and the words went like this: "The safest place in the whole wide world is in the Will of God." If the Will of God is the safest place to be, what born again believer does not want to be in the Will of God. But the question is, "How does one begin to know what God’s will for their lives is at any given time?"

I am going to freely give you (without charge) three primary scriptures that the bible gives us for our benefit. Try your best to memorize these scriptures, so that you may – in the time needed, help someone else to understand God’s Will for their lives.

- Jeremiah 29:11 – “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.”
- John 10:10b – "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”
- III John V2 – "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou may prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prosper.”

One of the most pressing problems that Christians face in their walk with God is the problem of knowing God’s will for their lives. This is such a sad commentary, because God has so many different ways of communicating and speaking to us if we would listen. Furthermore, we are told according to scripture, to ‘walk by faith and not by sight.’ These and other factors create difficulty in determining for the Christian in being able to know what God's will is for their lives.

Therefore, in this lesson we will try to help you to understand how to go about discovering God's will for you life in discussion of the following: What is the will of God; Preparation for knowing God’s will; How can you determine whether a leading is from God; What is God’s will for your life right now and what’s your assurance in God’s will.

I. What is the Will of God?

A. The will of God in ones life is God’s divine plan, set in motion purposefully since the beginning of time. Simply put, it is a blueprint for the person's life. The reason we are saved today is because of God’s Plan of eternal life. John 3:16 shows us the extent of that purpose, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” But what we need to understand from all of this is the fact that his plan for our lives does not stop there. Along with this, His plan for our lives is that we experience the abundant life down here, and that we edify the body of Christ according to our several abilities (gifts) that he has given (gifted) us.
Not only is it wonderful to know that God has a divine purpose, plan, and blueprint for our life, but even more wonderful is the knowledge that everyday God is working everything out in our lives according to His purpose for our life. He does these things because he loves us. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! God loves us not because but in spite of how bad we are. That’s that third degree of love called “Agape” in the Greek. It’s totally unconditional. No wonder the apostle Paul described the will of God in Romans, chapter 12, V2, as being good, acceptable and perfect.

II. Why You Need to Know the Will of God?

A. God commands us to know His will for our lives. Ephesians 5:17

“That you might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing: Be fruitful in ever good work to increase in the knowledge of God.” Colossians 1:10

B. That you might know that the Word of God is True. John 7:17

In other words, Jesus was saying that in order to understand God's word, one must have the desire to do God's will. This is the only way one can truly understand and evaluate God's word.

C. That you might pray with confidence. I John 5:14-15

One of the most successful and effective keys to prayer is to pray according to God's will. In order pray according to His will one must know what God's will is all about. You get to know God’s will and what His will is all about by reading and studying His Word.

D. That you may abide forever. I John 2:17

III. What Preparation Is Required For Knowing God's Will?

To begin to understand God's will for your life, there are some things you should do in order to get in a position for God to reveal and manifest His will for your life.

A. Possess a Willingness to do God’s Will.

God’s blessings and promises are always contingent upon condition. “If my people which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked way, Then will I hear from Heaven and I will forgive their sins and heal their land.” II Chronicles 7:14. “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that gives to all men liberally and upbraided not; and it shall be given him.” James 1:15. In order to begin to know God's will for your life you must first admit that you don’t know His will but are willing to come before God on His own terms and wait before Him. As John the Baptist said, "He must increase, but I must decrease." John 3:30. In other words, you must not try to reserve the right to do what you want to do, but be willing to let
God have a free course in your life, as John the Baptist, if you really want to begin to know God's will for your life.

**B. Present your bodies a Living Sacrifice, Holy, and Acceptable unto God. Romans 12:1b**

The word present means yield. Therefore, if you want God's will to be fulfilled in your life, then you must first yield all of yourself to God. That is, you must not only yield your body, but your spirit and soul. In other words, you must yield yourself as a living sacrifice (no longer I but the Christ) holy confession and the forgiveness of known sins) and acceptable unto God (making yourself valuable to God).

**C. Be not conformed to this World: But be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind. Romans 12:2.**

A third step of preparation for knowing God's will is to heed the warning and obey the command found in Romans the twelfth Chapter, verse 2.

To know God's will one must not be conformed to this world which means that one must not let his life be a carbon copy of the world's thought patterns and ideas. Hence, it is impossible to ever begin to know the will of God for one's life. The mind of God and the mind of the world can't mix - Matthew 6:24. Obey the Command: The only way for one not to fashion his life after the world is to be transformed by the renewing of his mind. In order to be transformed (changed), your mind must be changed by renewing it or saturating it with the Word of God and meditating on his word day and night.

Therefore, in order to begin to know God's will, one must have the mind of Christ and that will not come about if one is conformed to this world.

**D. You must Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not to your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5.**

A fourth step toward preparing to know God's will for your life is once again a command to obey; "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart", and a warning to heed, "Lean not to your own understanding."

**A Command to Obey**-

To trust in the Lord with all your Heart means to put confidence in the Lord with all your heart. This is a natural fact that lack of trust shows a lack of confidence. For any lack of confidence in God would keep you from entering into God's will with your whole heart. You cannot totally trust in God and have confidence in the flesh at the same time. This is why we are warned not lean unto our own understanding.
A Warning to heed-

Even though you can pray that the eyes of spiritual understanding be enlightened, you cannot totally depend upon your understanding because you still do not know what the future holds for you. Only God can see and know what is ahead for all of us.

In summary, if you want to prepare to know God's will for your life, you must trust in the Lord with all your heart and refuse to lean unto your own understanding of God's will and God's way.

IV. How to Determine Whether a leading is from God?

When determining whether a leading is from God or not, it must be evaluated very carefully to see if it is in accordance with the following:

A. Is it harmonious with God's Word?

There will be times when a leading will be from the Lord, the Devil, or from the flesh, but **I John 4:7** says, *Beloved, believe not every spirit (leading) but try the spirits whether they are of God.* The word, try means to test or examine by a standard; the standard that we are to check (test) out a leading by is the Word of God. Consequently, if a leading is from God, it will always be in harmony with his Word. God will never lead anyone to do anything contrary to His Word. For example, a saved young man does not have to wonder whether or not the leading that he feels to marry an unsaved young lady is from God or not because all he has to do is to check it out by the Word of God in, **II Corinthians 6:14.**

B. Is it Providential?

If a leading is from God then provisions will be made by God on your behalf, and it will materialize. That's what we mean by providential. And we need to understand that, *"The Will of God won't lead you where the grace of God can't provide for you."* One thing for sure, if a leading is from God, doors may seem closed or shut in your face, but God is able to change all the circumstances and is able to workout things in your favor. A good example is the story of Abraham. The Lord told Abraham to move out from among his kinfolks and that he was going to show him a land flowing with milk and honey. Because God led Abraham, he provided for Abraham just like he said he would.

Therefore, if a leading is from God, one does not have to force it to materialize (come to pass); God will see to it materializing and the end result will be successful because God says, *"I will hasten to perform my word."*

C. Is it right in nature?

If a leading is from God it will always be right in nature. Sometimes the leading of God may be contrary to our feelings and our natural way of thinking, but one thing for sure, it will always be
right in nature. For example, there is nothing wrong with a young mother, feeling lead to go to
the mission field, but it would not be right naturally to go because this is the time that her
children need her attention more, and it would not be right scriptural because the Bible says,
"If any (man or women) provide not for his family, he or she is an infidel."

D. **Is It Accompanied by Peace after Prayer?**

If a leading is from God, peace will accompany it after prayer. God is not the author of
confusion, but a God of peace; and therefore, he will not lead anyone to do anything or be
anything that is going to bring about confusion.

**What is God’s will for My Life Right Now?**

God doesn't always reveal His will for the distance future, but there are some things that apply
to each of us. While there are some things that concern each of us individually in relation to
God’s will (or as a believer), there are also things that apply to us in general, which is the
general will of God.

A. Doing Everything from the Heart - Ephesians 6:6
B. That you abstain from fornication - I Thessalonians 4:3
C. In everything give thanks - I Thessalonians 5:18

V. **The Assurance of God’s Will**

A. Your Steps are being Ordered by the Lord - Psalms 37:23
B. Your paths will be directed - Proverbs 3:6
C. You will be instructed and taught the way in which you should go - Psalms 32:8A
D. You will be guided by the eyes of the Lord - Psalms 32:8B

**What to do after you have done the Will of God**

A. **Wait patiently on the Lord** - Hebrews 10:36

Remember: After you have done the will of God, do not jump hastily into the first door which
seems to be opened, but be patient because it is in patience that you possess your soul. (Luke
21:1)

B. **Rest in the Lord** – Psalms 23

Resting in the Lord means refraining from anxious thought about the future. It is not always
easy to decide what is God's plan, but having told Him that we sincerely desire to do His will
through our thoughts and actions we are to rest quietly in full confidence that He will make the
way plain. According to Isaiah 30:15, it is quietness and confidence that shall be your
strength. The reward of doing God’s Will, you shall Abide forever - **I John 2:17** tells us, “*He that doeth the will of God, abideth forever.*”
**HOW TO OVERCOME TEMPTATION**

**Introduction**

Will you be exempted from temptations now that your soul has been cleansed from sin and now that you have the assurance of salvation within.

The answer is **NO**.

The Bible says in **Luke 4:1** that Jesus was full of the Holy Ghost but was lead by the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the Devil. **Hebrews 4:15** says that Jesus was tempted in all points as we are, but yet without sin. Therefore, if Jesus, who was the Son of God and who was full of the Holy Ghost was tempted, then we are going to be tempted also because we are his followers (Disciples). Even through Jesus was tempted, He did not sin. Let us see that to be tempted is not a sin, but yielding to the temptation is sin.

Why do Christians yield to temptation? - Christians yield to temptation through a lack of understanding in how they are tempted and a lack of instruction on how to overcome in your hour of temptation.

**I. What is Temptation?**

Temptation as defined by Webster: An allurement or enticement. In other words Temptation is allurement to get one to go contrary to the Word of God in order to satisfy his desires or needs.

**II. Who is the Tempter?**

According to the gospel of Matthew, Jesus was led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the Devil. Therefore, we have to conclude that the Devil is the tempter and not God. God is not the tempter is also clearly brought out in James 1:13 which says, *"Let no may say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempted he any man."*

It is beyond a shadow or doubt that your enemy, Satan, is the tempter and not God. In order to gain the victory over temptation we must not only know who the tempter is, but how we are tempted.

**How are we Tempted?**

To better understand how we are tempted, we must go to **James 1:14-15** which says in today's translation, Everyone's own desire tempts him. It Draws him away and tries to trap him. When the desire conceives. It gives birth to sin and. When sin grows up it gives birth to death.
Subsequently, one is tempted when he goes contrary to the will of God (Word of God) for the satisfaction of human desires. Yes, it is through these desires that the devil uses as his target grounds for temptation. He knows that God has said: "Delight thyself in the Lord and he shall give you the desires of your heart." Therefore, the devil's strategy is to use desire - something that is not wrong in itself, God given natural desire or spiritual desire - and twist it to suggest ways of satisfaction contrary to the will of God.

Also, Temptation comes when space or ground is given to the Devil in our hearts, minds, and bodies. Ephesians 4:27 states, "Neither give place to the Devil." Ways in which place is given to the Devil for temptations are outlined below:

A. **Constant fellowship with the wrong crowd** -

When there is a fellowship or friendship on a constant basis with a group whose life-styles is not that of Christ, either one of two things will happen: the crowd will imitate the child of God or the child of God will imitate the crowd.

If a person is recently born again more than likely does not have the kind of spiritual strength yet to maintain spiritual stability in these types of situations. No wonder the Bibles says in II Corinthians 6:17 "Wherefore come ye out from among them and be ye separate saith the Lord and touch not the unclean thing."

B. **Taking your eyes OFF Jesus and looking at the spiritual inconsistencies of others**-

One of the Devil's subtle tricks is tempting one to go back on Christ is to crush his spirit through disappointment of finding out that a person whom he thought was really on top of the spiritual mountain was not, but was carnally minded or a hypocrite. Whatever the case, the Devil's job is to try and hinder one's spiritual growth and maturity by getting him to pattern himself after others who can fall and slip in their Christian walk and not after Christ, who is our perfect example.

C. **Tempting Christ** –

This may sound odd, but uncertainty can give Satan grounds to tempt you by tempting Christ. Tempting Christ means demanding that God do what is contrary to His Will or His Word (according to Ed Cole in his book on Maximized manhood.)

For example, the Devil wanted Jesus to tempt the Lord by telling him that, "If thou be the Son of God cast thyself down for it is written, he shall give His angels charge concerning thee; and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone."
Satan, first of all, had misquoted the scripture and if Jesus had yielded there would not have been protection or safety for him because Jesus would have been demanding that God provide him protection contrary to the will of God.

In conclusion, now that we have seen how we are tempted by Satan and how we can give Satan grounds to tempt us, always remember that one of his strategies is to attack us when we are at our weakest point. This is why we must watch and pray. The word watch means to live in a state of alertness at all times. It means to become fully aware of Satan’s trickery. Ephesians 6:11 says, “Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the enemy.” The word “wiles” in the Greek means, plans, tricks, schemes. Satan, in other words, is always planning, scheming and plotting how to best attack you as a child of God.

In order to gain some helpful instructions on how to overcome in the hour of temptation, let’s take a look at how Jesus, who is our perfect example (model), overcame Satan in His hour of temptation during His wilderness experience according to Matthew 4 and Luke 4.

III. How to overcome Temptation-

A. Immediately deal with the thoughts and temptation that Satan brings by rebuking them.

Notice how Jesus immediately dealt with the thoughts of temptation that Satan brought by rebuking him. Jesus’ first words to Satan were "Get thee hence, behind me Satan."

Always keep in mind that you cannot stop Satan from bringing thoughts of temptation, but you do not have to entertain them. You have a choice of entertaining the thoughts of temptation and being trapped by Satan’s web or rebuking them as Jesus did and be an overcomer. Scripture: Keep your mind filled with the Word of God. Philippians 2:5.

B. Rebuke Satan by quoting the Word of God

Notice how Jesus, during his temptation with Satan, rebuked Satan, not on His own strength or power, but with the Word of God. When Jesus told Satan that, "it is written" illustrates that he was referring to the Word of God. (And the Scriptures that Jesus quoted to rebuke Satan were all in the OLD Testament.).

Therefore, in our temptation we must rebuke Satan with power - the power of God’s Word. In order to do this, however, we must study God’s Word and hide it in your hearts by memorizing it and meditating on it.

C. Develop a constant life of Prayer and Bible Study
Remember: Jesus could not have quoted the Word of God, or said it is written to Satan, in His hour of temptation with Satan, if He had not known that the scriptures said, and certainly, if Jesus were not a praying person. He would not have had the extra power he needed in order to rebuke Satan. The Word of God, along with Prayer are our weapons against the wiles of the Devil.

**How God Uses Temptation for our Good**-

Satan uses temptation for evil to hamper one's walk with Christ by causing him to doubt his salvation. He will try through the avenue of temptation to make the Saint go back on God or weaken his faith in Christ. But, can God use the temptation for good that Satan intends for evil? The answer is: Yes!

According to James 1:3, temptations are meant by God for trying of our faith which worketh a thing called patience. In other words, temptations are meant by God to be a means of grace, an opportunity to prove that we love Him supremely. That is, in temptation's fiercest hour and in every opportunity in which we could do the opposite, God wants us to win a positive victory by choosing Him and his will.
Only when temptation is viewed in this way, is it possible to count temptations all joy because the proving (trying) of our faith worketh patience. It is joy to know that God is working out in us, Godly character, and endurance that will bring us the crown of life.

IV. **God's Assurance in Your Hour of Temptation**-

A. You don't have to fall **Jude 24**
B. Christ will assist (help) you in your hour of temptation. **Hebrews 2**
C. God will make a way of escape in your hour of temptation. **I Corinthians 10:13**
D. God has given power within **1 John 4:4**
SHARING CHRIST WITH OTHERS

Introduction

A song writer penned these words, "He (Jesus) is the joy of my salvation, yes He is." How true; Every believer can attest to the fact that the greatest thing that can ever happen to them is to receive Jesus Christ as personal Savior. Having received Jesus, WE know that all of our sins are forgiven, because the Lord is faithful and just to forgive us of all of our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. That’s scripture! Thus, we are reconciled to God. What a wonderful assurance. However, Jesus did not allow us to experience this wonderful salvation to keep it to ourselves, but rather, He desires that we share this joy with others.

However, there are too many Christians who believe that only the clergy have the responsibility of sharing Christ with others, but sharing Christ with others is the responsibility of every believer. In fact, sharing Christ with others should be a way of life, whereas the opportunity to share Christ is welcomed. However, to be effective one must be instructed in the Word of God and appropriate methods to witness. The writer of Proverbs affirms this position when he says, "He that winneth souls is wise." Proverbs 11:30

I. Why We Share Christ with others?

A. To fulfill the Great Commission - Matthew 28:19

B. To help win the lost to Christ - Luke 14:28

C. To show our shameless 'loyalty to Christ in the midst of this sinful generation - Mark 8:38

D. To strengthen one's own faith in Christ in overcoming Satan - Revelation 12:11

II. Why Most Believers don't Share Christ with Others?

A. Doubts of assurance of salvation in one's own life. Certainly it is very difficult for a salesman to try and sell a product to someone else when he/she is not totally convinced about it quality himself/herself. Similarly, it would be very difficult for anyone to share Christ with another if he/she is not totally convinced about who Christ is and what Christ means to them.

III. Spiritual Foundation Necessary for Sharing Christ

A. One must know that he is Saved.

B. In order to share Christ effectively with others one must know that he is saved. He cannot guess and neither can he have any doubts of salvation. One major source of doubt is un-confessed sin, which brings guilt and condemnation that destroys the believer’s faith.
(confidence) in Christ. Therefore, one can only share Christ effectively with others when he knows that he is saved and that all known sin is confessed.

One must allow the Holy Ghost to Control and Empower Him - Acts 1:8; Ephesians 5:18; and Acts 1:8

According to Acts 1:8, the power needed to share Christ effectively with others is through the power of the Holy Ghost. Therefore, if one is not filled with the Holy Ghost, he should seek the Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

C. Pray for God's Wisdom - James 1:15; Proverbs 11:20

Before sharing Christ with others, one should pray for God's wisdom so that he may be in tune with the spirit of God. The Spirit will then give one what to say, how to say, and when to say. Proverbs 11:20 says, "He that winneth souls is wise."

IV. Methods for Sharing Christ Effectively

Two methods for sharing Christ effectively is by an outline presentation of one's Personal Testimony and Plan of Salvation. Below are listed the elements that should be included when presenting one's personal testimony and plan of salvation.

A. Personal Testimony

The following are the elements that should be included in one's personal testimony.

1. Work on telling the one that you are witnessing to what your life was like before you were saved?
2. What was life like the moment you accepted Christ?
3. How has your life been since that moment you were saved?

B. Plan of Salvation

The following are the elements that should be included in the Plan of Salvation.

I. God loves man and He desires that man be saved John 3:16; I Timothy 2:4
2. Man is sinful and as a result is separated from God Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:2
3. Jesus Christ is God's only provision for man's sin Acts 4:12
4. Each of Us must receive Christ as our Personal Savior by Faith Romans 10:9; Ephesians 2:8.

V. What to do After One has Shared Christ?

A. Offer up Prayer of Thanksgiving unto God. (List some for your own record)
Thank God for allowing you to be an instrument that the Holy Ghost was able to minister and share through. Thank god for the work that he has begun in the life of the one whom you shared Christ.

B. Be Patient and leave the results to God - 1 Corinthians 3:7

VI. Where to go and Whom to Share Christ with

There is an old “cliché” that says "Charity begins at home and spreads abroad." How True! A good place for one to start sharing Christ with others is at home where his family resides. Also, Share Christ with neighbors and co-workers.

The second strategy that Satan uses in getting you to doubt your salvation is to try to get you to put the wrong emphasis on feelings, or by trying to get you to depend upon your feelings. Even though it is true that at the moment a person is saved, there is a great feeling that accompanies one's conversion because at that moment the person has become a new creature (creation) in Christ - they can't help but to feel different. But as one begins to grow in Christ from that moment on life will ultimately change, depending upon various circumstances. Understand that for you to depend upon your feeling is to place the wrong emphasis on feeling, which is spiritual error. But once again, thank God that he has given instruction in the Word of God on how to have victory from dependency on feelings.

How to have Victory from Dependence on Emotion -

A. Realize that you cannot depend upon your feelings because they are unpredictable. Realize that you can depend upon God's Word because it never changes, and God stands behind His Word.

B. Realize that you were saved by grace (not feelings) through faith in Jesus Christ who is the Word of God made flesh. You were not saved by feelings. Our Christian walk is not by feelings, but by faith. The just do not live by feelings, but by faith. Ephesians 2:8-9.

C. Realize that you are saved because the Word of God says so. Therefore, in time of feelings of doubt, you can confess the scriptures that talk about salvation. An example of scripture that talks about salvation is I John 5:13. You can confess and say:

I know that I am saved, not because I feel like it, but because God's Word says in I John 5:13, “He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. And since I have Christ I know I have eternal life.”
Another example comes in John 1:12, you can confess and say: I know that I am a child of God, not because I feel like it, but because God's Word says, "But as many as received Him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." And since I did receive Him as my personal Savior and I did believe on His name, I know that I am a child of God.

There are many others such as John 6:37 and Revelation 3:20 and, above all, Romans 10:9-10. Everyone will not have the same type of emotional experience upon salvation as another. A good example is the difference of Paul's (dramatic) conversion as compared to Timothy's conversion (much less emotional). Timothy was Paul's son in the gospel. Need I mind you that seeking to have a spiritual, emotional experience is not prerequisite for salvation, nor a condition for maintaining your salvation, but Seeking ye First the Kingdom of God and his Righteousness and trusting Him on a day to day basis is the key.

**Do You Have The Assurance?**

If Christ were to rapture his church right now, do you know that you will go back with him, or will you be left behind? If your answer is, 'Yes', to this question then you have assurance; if your answer is, 'No', then you don't have assurance. You need to ask the Lord to forgive you of your sins and confess that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that God raised Him from the dead and thank him for saving you and begin to live for Him on a daily basis. God's assurance to you according to scripture is "I will never leave you nor forsake you and Lo, I am with you always even to the end of the world."
The Basic Beliefs and Practices of the Christian Faith From the Baptist Perspective

I. The Bible

A. Why Christians Study the Bible?

1.  
2.  
3.  
4.  
5.  

The Bible is Alive - John 6:63
For joy in Christ
For knowledge of God
To learn how to pray and what to Pray for
To hear what God is saying

II. Fundamentals of Faith (Articles)

A. The Covenant - An agreement between two or more.

B. What we believe as Christians (Baptist)

1. The Bible - God's Holy Word
2. The Creation - How the World came into being
3. The Trinity - God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
4. Sin of Atonement - Christ Died the Death of a Sinner
5. Election - God's way of choosing His followers
6. Salvation - Through Jesus Christ our Lord
7. The Ordinances - Baptism, and the Lord's Supper
8. Death - Resurrection
9. Heaven and Hell

C. Stewardship and Tithing

1. Malachi 3:8-15
2. 2nd Corinthians 9:6-15

III. Prayer - Communicating with God

Understanding Prayer
1. Prayer is a conversation with God (John 17)
2. Prayer is a means of fellowship with God (1st Thess. 5: 17)
3. Prayer is a means of affecting the lives of others (1st Tim. 2)
4. Prayer is a means of thanking God and giving Him praise.
5. Utilize a prayer list

Scriptural Keys to Effective Prayer –


IV. How to Speak and Pray in Public

1. Overcoming Fear - Practice
2. Reading Scripture - God Speaks
3. Praying - Talking to God through Christ Jesus
4. Making Talks - Publicly
5. Presiding - Over Official Meetings
6. Serving as an Officer of a Church auxiliary
7. Planning programs of service
8. Making Calls - Rendering a service to our fellowman
9. Winning People to Christ - Witnessing

V. Why People Are Not Christians

1. Sin and the love of evil.
2. The lack of Christian teaching - no sense of sin, no feeling of a need for salvation.
3. Neglect: knows he should become a Christian, but keeps putting it off.
4. Timid, wants to become a Christian, but dreads going before a group to confess his faith and be baptized.
5. Has bad habits and feels that he cannot break them, or does not want to give them up.
6. The bad example of people who profess to be Christians.
7. Believes he is good enough to be saved without becoming a Christian.
8. Depends on substitutes, such as the large, generous giving and so forth.
9. Does not believe in Heaven or Hell.
10. Does not believe God will require men to give an account of their lives in a day of judgment.
11. Does not believe in God, in Christ, or in the Bible.
12. Would have to give up his job or companions.

VI. Developing the Right Idea

1. Have a definite purpose backed by a burning desire to fulfill it.
2. Have a definite plan expressed in continuous action.
3. Close your mind to negative influences.
4. Keep your eyes on the Lord Jesus Christ.
5. Get rid of previous patterns.
7. Ask, what can I do to improve a situation rather than pointing a finger at another.

VII. Evangelism and Witnessing

A. Evangelism is:

1. From a Greek word meaning, to herald the coming of a King or some other important person.
2. A saved sinner telling another sinner where to find salvation.
3. A man born blind declaring, "One thing I know, that, where as I was blind, now I see".

The outreach of the Church is when good works are manifested outside the church by confronting with the gospel of Christ. This is an attempt to lead people to a personal commitment by faith and repentance in Christ as Savior and Lord.

The verbalizing by human lips and the "Fleshing Out" in human lives the incredible good news of what God has done by his mightiest of all acts in Jesus Christ. It is the message preached in parables.

The proclamation of the gospel to the end, that the soul and life of the lost sinner who hears it might be saved, conserved, and made useful.

The proclamation of the good news of complete salvation for lost men and women wrought out by the Son of God and offered graciously to them. So presenting Christ Jesus in the power of the Holy spirit that men shall come to their trust in God through Him, to accept Him as their Savior, and serve Him as their King in the fellowship of His Church.

B. Witnessing

Testifying to the things you have seen and heard. One may be called to testify to an event at which he was present. Things may be witnessed; a heap of stones (Genesis 31:44-50), as a sign that God witnessed, Jacob and Laban's covenant.

When we cry, "ABBA! Father!", it is the Spirit of God bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God (Rom. 8:15).

We are to test the spirits, for there are many spirits other than the Spirit of God seeking to get our attention. When you witness for God you lead people to Him and are blessed by His Spirit.

VIII. Prophesying

Prophet - A person who foretells future events by or as if by supernatural means: 1st Colossians 13:8; 1st Thessalonians 5:20; 1st Colossians 14; Romans 12.
CHURCH COVENANT

HAVING been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

WE ENGAGE THEREFORE, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain it worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

WE ALSO ENGAGE to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings; faithful in our engagements and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drink as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

WE FURTHER ENGAGE to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Savior, to secure it without delay.

WE MOREOVER ENGAGE that when we remove from this place we will as soon as possible unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.
THE CHURCH COVENANT
(Continued…)

The Church Covenant is a voluntary agreement by members of a Baptist Church where by they promise to conduct their lives in such a way as to glorify God and promote the ongoing of His Church. Every member should study it carefully, refer to it often, and seek to live by it. It clearly outlines the obligations of Church membership. The form of covenant in wide use in Baptist Churches is as follows:

I. Salvation and Baptism

(John 1:11-12) He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. (Matt. 28:19-20) Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age."

II. Duties to the Church

1. To walk together in Christian love (John 13:34-35) "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

2. To strive for the advancement of the Church and promote its prosperity and spirituality. (Phil. 1:27) Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel. (2 Tim 2:15) Do your best to present yourself to God as on approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. (2 Corinthians 7:1) Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God. (2 Peter 3: 11) Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives.

3. To sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrine. ( 10:25) Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Matt. 28:19) Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit. (1 Col 11:23-) "For I have received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my book; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (Jude 3) Dear friends, although I was very eager to
write to you about the salvation we share, I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints.

4. To give it pre-eminence in my life. (Matt. 6:33) But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

5. To contribute cheerfully and regularly. (1 Cor. 16:2) On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. (2 Cor. 8:6-7) So we urged Titus, since he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

6. To carry my membership when I move and be active in Church work wherever I live. (Acts 11:19-21) Now those who had been scattered by the persecution in connection with Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, telling the message only to Jews. Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. (18:24-2) Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervor and taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John. He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately. When Apollos wanted to go to Achaia, the brothers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples there to welcome him. On arriving, he was a great help to those who by grace had believed. For the vigorously refuted the Jews in public debate, proving from the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

III. Duties in Personal Christian Living

1. To maintain family and secret devotions. (1 Thess. 5:17-18) Pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus (Acts 17: 11). Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

2. To religiously educate the children. (2 Tim. 3:15) And how from infancy you have known the Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. (Deut. 6:4-7) Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

3. To seek the salvation of the lost. (Acts 1:8) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Jesus said in Matthew, "Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of

men." (Ps. 126:5-6) Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him. (Prov. 11:30) The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.

4. To walk circumspectly in the world, and to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our departments. Be very careful, than, how you live—not as unwise but as wise. Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe. (1 Peter 2:11-12) Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

5. To avoid gossip and excessive anger (Eph. 4:31) Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. (Peter 2:21) To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. (Col. 3:8) But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from our lips. (James 3:1-2) Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check.

6. To abstain from sale and use of liquors. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with Spirit. The wicked foe pulls all of them up with hooks, he catches them in his net, he gathers them up in his dragnet; and so he rejoices and is glad.

7. To be zealous in our efforts for Christ. (Titus 2:14) Who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

**IV. Duties to Fellow Members**

1. To watch over one another in brotherly love (1 Peter 1:22). Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.

2. To pray for one another (James 5:16). Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

3. To aid each other in sickness and distress. (Gal. 6:2) James 2:14-17).

4. To cultivate Christian sympathy and courtesy in speech (1 Peter 3:8). Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.
5. To be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation. (4:30-32). And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.
THE ARTICLES OF FAITH

The Articles of Faith should be adopted by Baptist Churches at the time of organization.

LESSON 1

I. THE SCRIPTURES

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions should be tried.

Scriptural References:

A. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
V16. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.
V17. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

B. 2 Peter 1:21
For the prophecy came not at any time by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

C. 2 Samuel 23:2
The Spirit of the Lord spoke by me, and his word was in my tongue.

D. Acts 1:16
Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit, by the mouth of David, spoke before concerning Judas, who was guide to them that took Jesus.

E. Acts 3:21
Whom the heaven must receive unto the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the age began.

F. John 10:35
If he called them gods unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken.
G. Luke 16:29-31
V29. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.
V30. And he said, Nay, father Abraham; but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. V31. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

H. Psalms 119:111
Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage forever; for they are the rejoicing of my heart.

I. Romans 3:1-2
V1. What advantage, then, hath the Jew? Or what profit is there of circumcision? V2. Much every way, chiefly because unto them were committed the oracles of God.

J. 2 Timothy 3:15
And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

K. I Peter 1:10-12
V10. Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you, V11. Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ who was in them did signify, when he testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. V12. Unto whom it was revealed that, not unto themselves but unto us they did minister the things which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Spirit sent down from heaven, which things the angels desire to look into.

L. Acts 11:14
Who shall tell thee words, by which thou and all thy house shall be saved.

M. Romans 1:16
For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

N. Mark 16:16
He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

O. John 5:38-39
V38. And ye have not his word abiding in you; for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not. V39. Search the scriptures: for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me.
P. Proverbs 30:5-6
V5. Every word of God is pure; he is a shield unto those who put their trust in him. V6. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Q. John 17:17
Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth.

R. Revelation 22:18-19
V18. For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book; V19. And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

S. Romans 3:4
God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, that thou mightiest be justified in thy sayings, and mightiest overcome when thou art judged.

T. Romans 2:12
For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law; and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law.

U. John 12:47-48
V47. And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not; for I came, not to judge the world but to save the world. V48. He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

V. I Corinthians 4:3-4
V3. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment; yea, I judge not mine own self. V4. For I know nothing against myself, yet am I not hereby justified; but he that judgeth me is the Lord.

W. Luke 10:10-16
V10. But into whatever city ye enter, and they receive you not, go your ways out into the streets of the same, and say, V11. Even the very dust of your city, which clingeth to us, we do wipe off against you; notwithstanding, be ye sure of this, that the kingdom of God is come near unto you. V12. But I say unto you, that it shall be more tolerable in that day for Sodom, than for that city. V13. Woe unto thee, Chorazin! Woe unto thee, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works had been done in Tyre and Sidon, which have been done in you, they had a great while ago repented, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. V14. But it shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment, than for you. V15. And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted to heaven, shalt be thrust down to hades. V16.
He that heareth you, heareth me; and he that despiseth you, despiseth me; and he that despiseth me, despiseth him that sent me.

**X. Luke 12:47-48**

V47. And that servant, who knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. V48. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required; and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

**Y. Philippians 3:16**

Nevertheless, as to that which we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

**Z. Ephesians 4:3-6**

V3. Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. V4. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; V5. One Lord, one faith, one baptism. V6. One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

**AA. Philippians 2:1-2**

V1. If there be, therefore, any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any tender mercies and compassions, V2. Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be like-minded, having the same love, being of one acord, of one mind.

**BB. I Corinthians 1:10**

Now, I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

**CC. I Peter 4:11**

If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth, that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**DD. I John 4:1**

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but test the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

**EE. Isaiah 8:20**

To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

**FF. I Thessalonians 5:21**
Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

**GG. 2 Corinthians 1.3:5**
Examine yourself whether you are in the faith; prove yourselves. Know ye not yourselves how Jesus Christ is in you, unless you are discredited?

**HH. Acts 17:11**
These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.
II. THE TRUE GOD

We believe that there is one and only one living and true God, an intelligent, spiritual and personal Being, the Creator, Preserver and Ruler of the universe, infinite in holiness and all other perfections to whom we owe the highest love, reverence and obedience. He is revealed to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, each with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence or being.

Scripture References:

A. John 4:24
God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

B. Psalms 147:5
Great is our Lord, and of great power; his understanding is infinite.

C. Psalms 83:18
That men may know that thou, whose name alone is the Lord, art the Most High over all the earth.

D. Hebrews 3:4
For every house is built by some man, but he that built all things is God.

E. Romans 1:20
For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse;

F. Jeremiah 10:10
But the Lord is the true God; he is the living God, and an everlasting king; at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation.

G. Exodus 15:11
Who is like unto thee, 0 Lord, among the gods? Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

H. Isaiah 6:3
And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.

I. I Peter 1:15, 16

V15. But, as he who hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of life, V16. Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

J. Revelation 4:6-8
V6. And before the throne there was a sea of glass like crystal; and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind. V7. And the first living creature was like a lion, and the second living creature like a calf, and the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. V8. And the four living creatures had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within; and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.

K. Mark 12:30
And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength; this is the first commandment.

L. Revelation 4:11
Thou art worthy, 0 Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. c'

M. Matthew 10:37
He that loveth father or mother more than me, is not worthy of me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than me, is not worthy of me.

N. Jeremiah 2:12-13
V12. Be appalled, 0 ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be ye very desolate, saith the Lord. V13. For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.

O. Matthew 28:19
Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

P. John 15:26
But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me;

Q. I Corinthians 12:4-6
V4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. VS. And there are differences of administrations,' but the same Lord. V6. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God who worketh all in all.

R. I John 5:7
For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.

S. John 10:30
I and my Father are one.

T. John 5:17
But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.

U. John 14:23
Jesus answered, and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words; and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

V. John 17:5
And now, 0 Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

W. John 17:10
And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.

X. Acts 5:3-4
V3. But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back part of the price of the land? V4. While it remained, was it not thine own? And after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? Why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

Y. I Corinthians 2:10, 11
V10. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. V11. For what man knoweth the things of a man, except the spirit of man which is in him; Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

Z. Philippians 2:5, 6
V5. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus, V6. Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God.

AA. Ephesians 2:18
For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

BB. 2 Corinthians 13:14
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

CC. Revelation 1:4, 5
V4. John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne; V5. And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loveth us and washed us from our sins in his own blood.
LESSON 3

III. THE FALL OF MAN

We believe that man was created by the special act of God, as recorded in Genesis. "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." Genesis 1:27. "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Genesis 2:7.

He was created in a state of holiness under the law of his Maker, but through the temptation of Satan, he transgressed the command of God and fell from his original holiness and righteousness; whereby his posterity inherit a nature corrupt and in bondage to sin, are under condemnation, and as soon as they are capable of moral action, become actual transgressors.

Scripture References:

A. Genesis 1:27
So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

B. Genesis 1:31
And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

C. Ecclesiastes 7:29
Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many devices.

D. Acts 17:26-29
V26. And hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation. V27. That they should seek the Lord, if perhaps they might feel after him, and find him, though he is not far from every one of us; V28. For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring. V29 Forasmuch, then, as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like gold, or silver, or stone, carved by art and man's device.

E. Genesis 2:16, 17
V16. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree: of the garden thou mayest freely eat; V17. But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

F. Genesis 3:24
So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubim, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way of the tree of life.

G. Romans 5:12
Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned.

H. Romans 5:19
For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

I. John 3:16
For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

J. Psalms 51:5
Behold, I was shaped in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

K. Romans 5:15, 18
V15. But not as the offense, so also is the free gift. For if through the offense of one many are dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. V16. And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift; for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offenses unto justification. V17. For if by one man's offense death reigned by one, much more they who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. V18 Therefore, as by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation, even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

L. Romans 8:7
Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither, indeed, can be.

M. Isaiah 53:6
All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way, and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

N. Genesis 6:12
And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was couupt; for all flesh had couupted his way upon the earth.

O. Romans 3:9-18
V9. What then, are we better than they? No, in no way; for we have before proved both Jews and Greeks, that they are all, under sin; V10. As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one; V11. There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. V12. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there none that doeth good, no, not one. V13. Their throat is an open sepulcher; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips; V14. Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness. V15. Their feet are swift to shed blood; V16. Destruction and misery are in their ways; V17. And the way of peace have they not known. 18 There is no fear of God before their eyes.

P. Ephesians 2:1-3
V1. And you hath he made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins; V2. In which in times past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the sons of disobedience; V3. Among whom also we had our manner of life in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Q. Romans 1:18
For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness.

R. Ezekiel 18:19, 20
V19. Yet say ye, Why? Doth not the son bear the iniquity of the father? When the son hath done that which is lawful and right, and hath kept all my statutes, and hath done them, he shall surely live. V20. The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son; the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

S. Romans 1:20
For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse;

T. Romans 3:19
Now we know that whatever things the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

U. Galatians 3:22
But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.
LESSON 4

IV. THE WAY OF SALVATION

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial office of the Son of God, who by the Holy Spirit was born of the Virgin Mary and took upon Him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by His personal obedience and made atonement for our sins by His death. Being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in Heaven, and, uniting in His person the tender sympathies with divine perfections, He is in every way qualified to be a compassionate and all-sufficient Savior.

Scripture References:

A. Ephesians 2:8
For by grace are ye saved through faith; aIld that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.

B. Matthew 18:11
For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.

C. I John 4:10
Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

D. I Corinthians 3:5
Who, then, is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?

E. I Corinthians 3:7
So, then, neither is he that planteth anything, neither he that watereth, but God that giveth the increase.

F. Acts 15:11
But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

G. John 3:16
For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

H. John 1:1:1-8
V1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. V2. The same was in the beginning with God. V3. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made, V4. In him was light; and the life was the light of men. V5. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness
overcame it not. V6. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. V7. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. V8. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. V9. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. V10. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. V11. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. V12. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the children of God, even to them that believe on his name; V13. Who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. V14. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us land we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

I. Hebrews 4:14
Seeing, then, that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

J. Hebrews 12:24
And to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

K. Philippians 2:6, 7
V6. Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God. V7. But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men;

L. Hebrews 2:9
But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor, that he, by the grace of God, should taste death for every man.

M. Hebrews 2:14
Forasmuch, then, as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same, that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.

N. 2 Corinthians 5:21
For he hath made him, who knew no sin, to be sin for us, that we might be made th( righteousness of God in him.

O. Isaiah 42:21
The Lord is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honorable.

P. Philippians 2:8
And, being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.
LESSON 5

V. JUSTIFICATION

We believe that justification is God’s gracious and full acquittal upon principles of righteousness of all sinners who believe in Christ. This blessing is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but through the redemption that is in and through Jesus Christ. It brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other needed blessing.

Scripture References:

A. John 1:16
And of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace.

B. Ephesians 3:8
Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ.

C. Acts 13:39
And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

D. Isaiah 53:11, 12
V11. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. V12. Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

E. Romans 8:1
There is, therefore, now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

F. Romans 5:9
Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

G. Zechariah 13:1
In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

H. Matthew 9:6
But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins (then saith he to the sick of the palsy), Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.

I. Acts 10:43
To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

J. Romans 5:17
For if by one man's offense death reigned by one, much more they who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.

K. Titus 3:5-7
V5. Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit, V6. Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ, our Savior, V7. That, being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

L. I Peter 3:7
In like manner, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers be not hindered.

M. I John 2:25
And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.

N. Romans 5:21
That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ, our Lord.

O. Romans 4:4, 5
V4. Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt, V5. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

P. Romans 6:23
For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Q. Philippians 3:7-9
V7. But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. V8. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but
refuse, that I may win Christ. V9. And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith;

**R. Romans 5:19**
For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

**S. Romans 3:24-26**
V24. Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. V25. Whom God hath sent forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; V26. To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness, that he might be just, and the justifier of him who believeth in Jesus.

**T. Romans 4:23-25**
V23. Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him, V24. But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus, our Lord, from the dead; V25. Who was delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification.
LESSON 6

VI. THE FREENESS OF SALVATION

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel. It is the duty of all to accept them by penitent and obedient faith. Nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner except his own voluntary refusal to accept Jesus Christ as Teacher, Savior and Lord.

Scripture References:

A. Isaiah 55:1
Ho, every one that thirsteth, come to the waters, and he that hath no money; come, buy and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

B. Revelation 22:17
And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

C. Luke 14:17
And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready.

D. Romans 16:25, 26
V25. Now to him that is of power to establish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, V26. But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith;

E. Mark 1:15
And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; Repent, and believe the gospel.

F. Romans 1:15-17
V15. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. V16. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. V17. For in it is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

G. John 5:40
And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.
H. Matthew 23:37
0 Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them who are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

I. Romans 9:32
Why? Because they sought it not by faith but, as it were, by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone;

J. Proverbs 1:24
Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man Regarded.

K. Acts 13:46
Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you; but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, 10, we turn to the Gentiles.

L. John 3:19
And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

M. Matthew 11:20
Then began he to upbraid the cities in which most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not.

N. Luke 19:27
But those mine enemies, who would not that I should reign over them, bring here, and slay them before me.

O. 2 Thessalonians 1:8
In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ;
LESSON 7

VII. GRACE IN REGENERATION

We believe that regeneration or the new birth is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit, whereby we become partakers of the divine nature and a holy disposition is given, leading to the love and practice of righteousness. It is a work of God's free grace conditioned upon faith in Christ and made manifest by the fruit which we bring forth to the glory of God.

Scripture References:

A. John 3:3
Jesus answered, and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

B. John 3:6, 7
V6. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. V7. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

C. I Corinthians 2:14
But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him, neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

D. Revelation 14:3
And they sang, as it were, a new song before the throne, and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, who were redeemed from the earth.

E. Revelation 21:27
And there shall in no way enter into it anything that defileth, neither he that worketh abomination, or maketh a lie, but they who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

F. 2 Corinthians 5:17
Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

G. Ezekiel 36:26
A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

H. Deuteronomy 30:6
And the Lord thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.
I. Romans 2:28, 29
V28. For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision which is outward in the flesh; V29. But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

J. Romans 5:5
And hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who is given unto us.

K. I John 4:7
Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

L. John 3:8
The wind bloweth where it willeth, and thou hearest the sound of it, but canst not tell from where it cometh, and where it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

M. John 1:13
Who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

N. James 1:16-18
V16. Do not... my beloved brethren. V17. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. V18. Of his own will begot he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

O. I Corinthians 1:30
But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.

P. Philippians 2:13
For it is God who worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Q. I Peter 1:22-25
V22. Seeing that ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently, V23. Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever. V24. For all flesh is like grass, and all the glory of man like the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and its flower falleth away, V25. But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

R. I John 5:1
Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God; and everyone that loveth him that begot loveth him also that is begotten of him.

**S. Ephesians 4:20-24**

V20. But ye have not so learned Christ, V21. If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: V22. That ye put off concerning the former manner of life the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, V23. And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; V24. And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

**T. Colossians 3:9-11**

V9. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds, V10. And have put on the new man, that is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him; V11. Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free, but Christ is all, and in all.

**U. Ephesians 5:9**

For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth.

**V. Romans 8:9**

But ye are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of us.

**W. Galatians 5:16-23**

V16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. V17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. V18 But if ye be led by the Spirit, ye are not under the law. V19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, V20 Idolatry, sorcery, hatred, strife, jealousy, wrath, factions, seditions, heresies, V21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, and the like; of which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. V22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, V23 Meekness, self-control; against such there is no law.

**X. Ephesians 2:14-15**

V14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us, V15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contain-ed in ordinances, to make in himself of (two) one new man, so making peace;
LESSON 8

VIII. REPENTANCE AND FAITH

We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby, being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger, and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession, and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest, and King and relying on Him alone as the only and all sufficient Savior.

Scripture References:

A. Mark 1:15
And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe the gospel.

B. Acts II:18
When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

C. Ephesians 2:8
For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

D. I John 5:1
Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God; and everyone that loveth him that begot loveth him also that is begotten of him.

E. John 16:8
And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

F. Acts 2:37, 38
V37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? V38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

G. Acts 16:30, 31
V30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? V31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

I. Luke 15:18-21
V18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee. V19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son; make me as one of thy hired servants. 20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. V21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

J. James 4:7-10
V7 Submit yourselves, therefore, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. V8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded. V9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep; let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to heaviness. V10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

K. 2 Corinthians 7: 11
For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what full punishment! In all things ye have proved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

L. Romans 10:12, 13
12 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek; for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. 13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

M. Romans 10:9-11
V9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. V10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. V11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

N. Acts 3:22, 23
V22 For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord, your God, raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things, whatever he shall say unto you. V23 And it shall come to pass that every soul, who will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.

O. Hebrews 4:14
Seeing, then, that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.
LESSON 9

IX. GOD’S PURPOSE OF GRACE

We believe that election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners. It is perfectly consistent with the free agency of man and in no way interferes with the salvation of any individual. It is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility. It encourages the use of means in the highest degree.

Scripture References:

A. 2 Timothy 1:8, 9
V8 Be not thou, therefore, ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner; but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God, V9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.

B. Ephesians 1:3-14
V3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ, V4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him, in love. V5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of sons by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, V6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, through which he hath made us accepted in the Beloved; V7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace, V8 In which he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence, V9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself; V10 That in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth, even in him; V11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will, V12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ; V13 In whom ye also trusted, after ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also after ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, V14 Who is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

C. I Peter 1:1, 2
V1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the sojourners scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, V2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of
God, the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

**D. Romans 11:5, 6**
V5 Even so, then, at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. V6 And if by grace, then is it no more of works; otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace; otherwise work is no more work.

**E. John 15:16**
Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain; that whatever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

**F. I John 4:19**
We love him, because he first loved us.

**G. 2 Thessalonians 2:13, 14**
V13 But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth, V14 Unto which he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**H. Acts 13:48**
And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord; and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

**I. John 10:16**
And other sheep I have, that are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

**J. Matthew 20:16**
So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many are called, but few chosen.

**K. Acts 15:14**
Simeon hath declared how God first did visit the nations, to take out of them a people for his name.

**L. Exodus 33:18, 19**
V18 And he said, I beseech thee, show me thy glory. V19 And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee, and will be gracious to whom I will show mercy.

**M. Matthew 20:15**
Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?

**N. Romans 9:23, 24**
V23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had before prepared unto glory, V24 Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

**O. Jeremiah 31:3**
The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore, with loving kindness have I drawn thee.

**P. Romans 11:28, 29**
V28 As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes; but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. V29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

**Q. James 1:17, 18**
V17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. V18 Of his own will begot he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

**R. Romans 11:32-36**
V32 For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all. V33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! V34 For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been his counselor? V35 Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? V36 For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory forever.

**S. I Corinthians 4:7**
For who maketh thee to differ from another? And what hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou had not received it?

**T. I Corinthians 1:26-31**
V26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called; V27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; V28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nothing things that are, V29 That no flesh should glory in his presence. V30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and
sanctification, and redemption; V31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

U. Romans 3:27
Where is boasting them? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? Nay, but by the law of faith.

V. Romans 4:16
Therefore, it is of faith, that it might be by grace, to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all.

W. John 17:10
And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.

X. Acts 5:3-4
V3. But Peter said, Ananias, why hast Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back part of the price of the land? V4. While it remained, was it not thine own? And after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? Why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

Y. I Corinthians 2:10, 11
V10. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. V11. For what man knoweth the things of a man, except the spirit of man which is in him; Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

Z. Philippians 2:5, 6
V5. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus, V6. Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God.

AA. Ephesians 2:18
For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

BB. 2 Corinthians 13:14
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

CC. Revelation 1:4, 5
V4. John, to the seven. churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne; V5. And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loveth us and washed us from our sins in his own blood.
W. Colossians 3:12
Put on, therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, tender mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

X. I Corinthians 15:10
But by the grace of God I am what I am; and his grace, which was bestowed upon me, was not in vain, but I labored more abundantly than they all; yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

Y. I Peter 5:10
But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, establish, strengthen, settle you.

Z. I Thessalonians 2:12, 13
12 That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory. V13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it, not as the word of men but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

AA. I Peter 2:9
But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a people of his own, that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light

BB. Luke 18:7
Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God like a little child shall in no way enter it.

CC. 2 Timothy 2:10
Therefore, I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

DD. I Corinthians 9:22
To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak, that I might by all means save some. I am made all things to all.

EE. John 6:37-40
37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. 38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will but the will of him that sent me. 39 And this is the Father's will who hath sent me, that of all that he hath given me should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. 40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that everyone who seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.
FF. 2 Peter 1:10
Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure.
LESSON 10

X. SANCTIFICATION

We believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of my holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration; and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means, especially the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness, and prayer.

Scripture References:

A. I Thessalonians 4:3
For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication;

B. I Thessalonians 5:23
And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C. 2 Corinthians 7:1
Having, therefore, these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

D. 2 Corinthians 13:9
For we are glad, when we are weak and ye are strong; and this also we wish, even your perfection.

E. Ephesians 1:4
According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him, in love.

F. Proverbs 4:18
But the path of the just is like the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

G. Hebrews 6:1
Therefore, leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and" of faith toward God.

H. 2 Peter 1:5-8
V5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue; knowledge; V6 And to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, patience; and to patience, godliness; V7 And to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. V8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I. Philippians 3: 12-16
V12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect; but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. V13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, V14 press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. V15 Let us, therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded; and if in anything ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. V16 Nevertheless, as to that which we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

J. I John 2:29
If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that everyone that doeth righteousness is born of him.

K. Romans 8:5
For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

L. John 3:16
For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

M. Philippians 1:9-11
V9 And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more arid more in knowledge and in all judgment; V10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, V11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

N. Philippians 2:12, 13
12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. 13 For it is God who worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.
LESSON 11

XI. THE PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS

We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare; and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Scripture References:

A. John 8:31
Then said Jesus to those Jews who believed on him, live continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

B. I John 2:27, 28
27 But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you; but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him. 28 And now little children, abide in him, that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

C. I John 3:9
Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him, and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

D. I John 5:18
We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not, but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

E. I John 2:19
They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us; but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

F. John 13:18
1 speak not of you all (I know whom I have chosen), but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me. ..

G. Matthew 13:20,21
20 But he that received the seed in stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and immediately with joy receiveth it; 21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but endureth for a while; for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, immediately he is offended.
H. John 6:66-69
V66 From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. V67 Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? V68 Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. V69 And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the Living God.

L. Romans 8:28
And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

J. Matthew 6:30-33
V30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, 0 ye of little faith? V31 Therefore, be not anxious saying. What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, With what shall we be clothed? V32 For after all these things do the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. V33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.

K. Jeremiah 32:40
And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from doing them good, but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me.

L. Psalms 121:3
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved; he who keepeth thee will not slumber.

M. Psalms 91:11, 12
V11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. V12 They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

N. Philippians 1:6
Being confident of this very thing, that he who hath begun a good work in you will perform it unto the day of Jesus Christ;

O. Philippians 2:12, 13
V12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. V13 For it is God who worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

P. Jude 24, 25
V24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, V25 To the only wise God, our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.
Q. Hebrews 1:14
Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?
LESSON 12

XII. THE HARMONY OF THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL

We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just, and good; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

Scripture References:

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets, I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.

A. Luke 16:17
And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail.

B. Romans 3:20
Therefore, by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight; for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

C. Romans 4:15
Because the law worketh wrath; for where no law is, there is no transgression.

D. Romans 7:12
Wherefore, the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

E. Romans 7:7
What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin but by the law; for I had not known coveting, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

F. Romans 7:14
For we know that the law is spiritual; but I am carnal, sold under sin.

G. Romans 7:22
For I delight in the law of God after the inward man;

H. Galatians 3:21
Is the law, then, against the promises of God? God forbid; for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.

I. Romans 8:7, 8
V7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither, indeed, can be. . V8 So, then, they that are in the flesh cannot please God:

J. Joshua 24:19
And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the Lord: for he is an holy God; he is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins.

K. Jeremiah 13:23
Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.

L. John 6:44
No man can come to me, except the Father, who hath sent me, draw him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

M. John 5:44
How can ye believe, who receive honor one of another, and seek not the honor that cometh from God only?

N. Romans 8:2-4
V2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. V3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh, V4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit.

O. Romans 10:4
For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth.

P. Hebrews 8:10
For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord: I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts; and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people.

Q. Hebrews 12:14
Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord;

R. Jude 20, 21
V20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, V21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life
LESSON 13

XIII. A GOSPEL CHURCH

We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by his laws; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by his word; that its only Scriptural officers are bishops, or pastors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims, and duties are defined in the epistles to Timothy and Titus.

Scripture References:

A. I Corinthians 1:1-13
V1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes, our brother, V2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, both theirs and ours: V3 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God, our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. V4 I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ, V5 That in everything ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge, V6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in You; V7 So that ye come behind in no gift, waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, V8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that Ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. V9 God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. V10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. V11 For it hath been declared unto me of You, my brethren, by them who are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. V12 Now this I say, that every one of You saith, lam of Paul; or I, of Apollos; or I, of Cephas; or I, of Christ. V13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptized in the name of Paul? 

B. Matthew 1:8:17
And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church; but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a tax collector.

C. Acts 5:11
And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.

D. Acts 8:1
And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.
E. Acts 11:21-23
V21 And the hand of the Lord was with them; and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord. V22 Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem; and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch, V23 Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them, all, that with purpose of heart they would cling unto the Lord.

F. I Corinthians 4:17
For this cause have I sent unto you Timothy, who is my beloved son and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which are in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church.

G. I Corinthians 14:23
If, therefore, the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?

H. 3 John 9
I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.

I. Acts 2:41, 42
V41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized; and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. V42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

J. 2 Corinthians 8:5
And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave themselves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.

K. Acts 2:47
Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

L. I Corinthians 5:12, 13
V12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are outside? Do not ye judge them that are within? V13 But them that are outside God will judge them. Therefore, put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

M. I Corinthians 11:2
Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you.
N. 2 Thessalonians 3:6
Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly and not after the tradition which he received of us.

O. Romans 16:17-20
V17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them who cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. V18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the innocents. V19 For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad, therefore, on your behalf; but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil. V20 And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

P. I Corinthians 11:23-34
V23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread; V24 And when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, take, eat; this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. V25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do, as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. V26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come. V27 Wherefore, whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, un-worthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. V28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. V29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. V30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. V31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. V32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world. V33 Wherefore, my brethren, when ye come together to eat, tarry one for another. V34 And if any man hunger, let him eat at home, that ye come not together unto judgment. And the rest will I set in order when I come.

Q. Matthew 18:15-20
V15 Moreover, if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault, between thee and him alone; if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. V16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. V17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church; but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a tax collector. V18 Verily I say unto you, WHATSOEVER YE SHALL BIND ON EARTH SHALL BE BOUND IN HEAVEN; AND WHATSOEVER YE SHALL LOOSE ON EARTH SHALL BE LOOSED IN HEAVEN. V19 Again I say unto you that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them by my Father, who is in heaven. V20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.
R. 2 Corinthians 2:17
For we are not as many, who corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.

S. I Corinthians 4:17
For this cause have I sent unto you Timothy, who is my beloved son and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which are in Christ, as I. teach everywhere in every church.

T. Matthew 28:20
Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age: Amen.

U. John 14:15
If ye love me, keep my commandments.

V. John 15:12
This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you.

W. I John 4:21
And this commandment have we from him, that he who loveth God love his brother also.

X. John 14:21
He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me; and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him,

Y. I Thessalonians 4:2
For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.

Z. 2 John 6
And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment that, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.
LESSON 14

XIV. BAPTISM AND THE LORD’S SUPPER

We believe the Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit; to show forth, in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation; and to the Lord’s Supper in which the members of the church, by the sacred use of bread and wine are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ -preceded always by solemn self-examination.

Scripture References:

A. Acts 8:36-39
V36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water; and the eunuch said, See, here is water. What doth hinder me to be baptized? V37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. V38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still; and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

B. Matthew 3:5, 6
V5 Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about the Jordan, V6 And were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins.

C. John 3:22, 23
V22 After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judaea; and there he tarried with them, and baptized. V23 And John also was baptizing in Aenon, near to Salome, because there was much water there; and they came, and were baptized.

D. John 4:1, 2
V1 When, therefore, the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John. V2 Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples.

E. Matthew 28:19
Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

F. Mark 16:16
He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
G. Acts 2:38
Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

H. Acts 8:12
But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

I. Acts 16:32-34
V32 And they spoke unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. V33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes, and was baptized, he and all his, immediately. V34 And when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

J. Acts 18:8
And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all of his house; and many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized.

K. Matthew 28:19
Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

L. Acts 10:47, 48
V47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, who have received the Holy Spirit as well as we? V48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then asked they him to tarry certain days.

M. Galatians 3:27, 28
V 2 7  F o r  a s  m a n y  o f  y o u  a s  ha v e  b e e n  b a pt i z e d  i n t o  C h r i s t  h a v e  p u t  o n  C h r i s t .  V 2 8  T h e r e  i s  n i t h e r  J e w  n o r  G r e e k ,  t h e r e  i s  n i t h e r  b o n d  n o r  f r e e ,  t h e r e  i s  n i t h e r  m a l e  n o r  f e m a l e ;  f o r  y e  a r e  a l l  o n e  i n  C h r i s t  J e s u s.

N. Romans 6:4
Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death, that as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

O. Colossians 2:12
Buried with him in baptism, in which also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

P. I Peter 3:20, 21
V20 Who at one time were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was preparing, in which few, that is, eight souls, were
saved by water; V21 The like figure unto which even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Q. Acts 22:16
And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

R. Acts 2:41, 42
V41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized; and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. V42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

S. Matthew 28:19, 20
V19 Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, V20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and 10, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age. Amen.

T. The Acts and The Epistles

U. I Corinthians 11:26
For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come.

V. Matthew 26:26-29
V26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. V27 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; V28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. V29 But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

W. Mark 14:22-25
V22 And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. V23 And he took the cup, and when he 4ad given thanks, he gave it to them; and they all drank of it. V24 And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many. V25 Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God.
LESSON 15

XV. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath; and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

Scripture References:

A. Acts 20:7
And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the next day, and continued his speech until midnight.

B. Genesis 2:3
And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it, because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

C. Colossians 2:16
Let no man therefore, judge you in food, or in drink, or in respect of a feast day, or of the new moon, or of a Sabbath day,

D. Mark 2:27
And he said unto them, The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.

E. John 20:19
Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

F. I Corinthians 16:1, 2
V1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. V2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

G. Exodus 20:8
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

H. Revelation 1:10
I as in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

I. Psalms 118:24
This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

**J. Isaiah 58:13, 14**
V13 If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable, and shalt honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words; V14 Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob, thy father; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

**K. Psalms 118:15**
The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacles of the righteous; the right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly.

**L. Hebrews 10:24, 25**
24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works. 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together; as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another, and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

**M. Acts 11:26**
And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass that for a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught many people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

**N. Hebrews 4:3-11**
V3 For we who have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest, although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. V4 For he spoke in a certain place of the seventh day in this way, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works. . V5 And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest. V6 seeing therefore, it remaineth that some must enter into it, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief. V7 Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, Today, after so long a time; as it is said, Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts. V8 For if Joshua had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. V9 There remaineth, therefore, a rest to the people of God. V10 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. V11 Let us labor, therefore, to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.
LESSON 16

XVI. CIVIL GOVERNMENT

We believe that civil government is divine appointment for the interests and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed; except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

Scripture References:

A. Romans 13:1-7
V1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God; the powers that be are ordained of God. V2 Whosoever, therefore, resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God; and they that resist shall receive to themselves judgment. V3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou, then, not be afraid of the power? Do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same; V4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain; for he is the minister of God, an avenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. V5 Wherefore, ye must need be subject, not only for wrath but also for conscience sake. V6 For, for this cause pay ye tribute also; for they are God’s ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. V7 Render, therefore, to all their dues; tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

B. Deuteronomy 16:18
Judges and officers shalt thou make thee in all thy gates, which the Lord thy God giveth thee, throughout thy tribes, and they shall judge the people with just judgment.

C. 2 Samuel 23:3
The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spoke to me, He who ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.

D. Exodus 18:21-23
V21 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of ten. V22 And let them judge the people at all seasons; and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge; so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee.

E. Jeremiah 30:21
And their nobles shall be of themselves, and their governor shall proceed from the midst of them; and I will cause him to draw near, and he shall approach unto me; for who is this that engaged his heart to approach unto me? saith the Lord.

F. Matthew 22:21
They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render, therefore, unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God, the things that are God's.

G. Titus 3:1
Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,

H. I Peter 2:13
Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether it be to the king, as supreme.

I. I Timothy 2:1-3
V1 I exhort, therefore, that first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men. V2 For kings, and for all that are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. V3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God, our Savior,

J. Acts 5:29
Then Peter and the other apostles answered, and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

K. Matthew 10:28
And fear not them who kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

L. Daniel 3:15-18
V15 Now, If ye be ready that at that time that ye hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, to fall down and worship the image which I have made, well; but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. And who is that God, that shall deliver you out of my hands? V16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, 0 Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. V17 If it be so, our God, whom we serve, is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, 0 king. V18 But if not, be it known unto thee, 0 king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

M. Daniel 6:7-10
V7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counselors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a
final decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any god or man for thirty days, except of thee, 0 king, shall be cast into the den of lions. V8 Now, 0 King, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. V9 Wherefore, King Darius signed the writing and the decree. V10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did previously.

N. Acts 4:18-20
V18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. V19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it is right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. V20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

O. Matthew 23:10
Neither be ye called masters; for one is your Master, even Christ.

P. Romans 14:4
Who art thou that judgest another man's servant; To his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be held up: for God is able to make him stand.

Q. Revelation 19:16
And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

R. Psalms 72:11
Yes, all kings shall fall down before him; all nations shall serve him.

S. Romans 4:9-13
V9 Cometh this blessedness, then, upon the circumcision only, or upon the uncircumcision also? For we say that faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness. V10 How was it then reckoned? When he was in circumcision, or in un-circumcision? Not in circumcision, but in un-circumcision. V11 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised, that righteousness might be imputed unto them also; V12 And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father, Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised. V13 For the promise that he should be the heir of the world was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

**LESSON 17**
XVII. THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked. Those only who are justified through the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and sanctified by the Holy Spirit and truly righteous in His sight. Those who continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked and are under condemnation. This distinction between the righteous and the wicked holds in and after death, and will be made manifest at the judgment when final and everlasting awards are made to all men.

Scripture References:

A. Malachi 3:18
Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

B. Proverbs 12:26
The righteous is more excellent than his neighbor, but the way of the wicked seduceth them.

C. Isaiah 5:20
Woe unto them who call evil, good, and good, evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

D. Genesis 18:23
And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

E. Acts 10:34, 35
V34 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons; V35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

F. Romans 6:16
Know ye not that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are whom ye obey, whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

G. Romans 1:17
For in it is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, the just shall live by faith.

H. Romans 7:6
But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.
I. I John 2:29
If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that everyone that doeth righteousness is born of him.

J. I John 3:7
Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

K. Romans 6:18
Being, then, made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

L. Romans 6:22
But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

M. I Corinthians 11:32
But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

N. Proverbs 11:31
Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth; much more, the wicked and the Sinner.

O. I Peter 4:17, 18
V17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God; and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God. V18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

P. I John 5:19
And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

Q. Galatians 3:10
For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, cursed is everyone that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.

R. John 3:36
He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him.

S. Isaiah 57:21
There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.

T. Psalms 10:4
The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God; God is not in all his thoughts.

**U. Isaiah 55:6, 7**

V6 Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near; V7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God; for he will abundantly pardon.
LESSON 18

XVIII. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We believe that Christianity is the religion of enlightenment and intelligence. In Jesus Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. All sound learning is therefore a part of our Christian heritage. The new birth opens all human faculties and creates a thirst for knowledge. An adequate system of schools is necessary to complete a spiritual program for Christ's people. The cause of education in the Kingdom of Christ is coordinated with the causes of missions and general benevolence, and should receive along with these the liberal support of the churches.

Scripture References:

A. Proverbs 10:14
Wise men lay up knowledge, but the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.

B. Proverbs 8:10-12
V10 Receive my instruction, and not silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold. V11 For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it. V12 I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.

C. Acts 7:22
And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds.

D. Acts 13:1
Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers, as Barnabas, and Simeon, who was called Niger and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, who had been brought up with Herod, the tetrarch, and Saul.

E. Acts 17:30
And the times of this ignorance God overlooked, but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent.

F. John 8:32
And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

G. John 8:12
Then spoke Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.
H. John 5:39
Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me.

LESSON 19

XIX. SOCIAL SERVICE

We believe that every Christian is under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ regnant in his own life and in human society; to oppose in the Spirit of Christ every foif11l of greed, selfishness and vice; to provide for the orphaned, the aged, the helpless, and the sick; to seek to bring industry, government and society as a whole under the sway of principles of righteousness, truth and brotherly love; to promote these ends Christians should be ready to work with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth. All means and methods used in social service for the amelioration of society and the establishment of righteousness among men must formally depend on the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in Christ Jesus.

Scripture References:

A. Matthew 25:35, 36
V35 For I was hungry, and ye gave me food; a stranger, and ye took me in; V36 Naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; came unto me. was thirsty, and ye gave me drink;...

B. James 1:27
Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

C. Mark 9:38-41
V38 And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out demons in thy name, and he followeth not us; and we forbade him, because he followeth not us. V39 But Jesus said, Forbid him not; for there is no man who shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. 40 For he that is not against us is for us. V41 For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward.

D. Ephesians 5:5
For this ye know, that no fornicator, nor unclean person, nor covetous man (who is an idolater) hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

E. Acts 11:29
Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren who dwelt in Judaea;

**F. Romans 15:26**
For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints who are at Jerusalem.
LESSON 20

XX. STEWARDSHIP

We believe that God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. We have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in our possessions. We are therefore under obligation to serve Him with our time, talents and material possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to us to use for the glory of God and helping others. Christians should cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately and liberally contribute of their means to advancing the Redeemer's cause on earth.

Scripture References:

A. I Peter 4:10
As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

B. I Timothy 6:17-19
V17 Charge them that are rich in this age, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy. V18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to share, V19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

C. Malachi 3:8-10
V8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, How have we robbed thee? in tithes and offerings. V9 Ye are cursed with a curse; for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. V10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in mine house, and test me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

D. I Corinthians 16:1, 2
V1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. V2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him, in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

E. Matthew 16:24
Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

LESSON 21

XXI. EVANGELISM AND MISSIONS

We believe that it is the duty of every Christian man and woman, and the duty of every church of Christ to seek to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life. It is also expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by personal effort and by all other methods sanctioned by the gospel of Christ.

Scripture References:

A. Matthew 28:19, 20
V19 Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, V20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, am with you always, even unto the end of the age. Amen.

B. Mark 16:15
And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

C. Acts 8:30-35
V30 And Philip ran there to him, and heard 4im read the prophet, Isaiah, and said understandest thou what thou readest? V31 And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he besought Philip that he would come up and sit with him. V32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth; V33 In his humiliation his judgment was taken away, and who shall declare his generation? For his life is taken from the earth. V34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? Of himself, or of some other man? V35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.
LESSON 22

XXII. THE RESURRECTION

We believe that the Scriptures clearly teach that Jesus rose from the dead. His grave was emptied of its contents. He appeared to the disciples after his resurrection in many convincing manifestations. He now exits in his glorified body at God's right hand. There will be a resurrection of the righteous and the wicked. The bodies of the righteous will conform to the glorious spiritual body of Jesus.

Scripture References:

A. Matthew 28:1-6
V1 In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulcher. V2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. V3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow; V4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. V5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not for I know that ye seek Jesus, who was crucified. V6 He is not here; for he is risen, as he said, Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

V1 I Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulcher, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. V2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher. V3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. V4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them, in shining garments; V5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, why seek ye the living among the dead? V6 He is not here, but is risen! Remember how he spoke unto you when he was yet in Galilee. V7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

C. Mark 16:1-7
V1 And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary, the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. V2 And very early in the morning of the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulcher at the rising of the sun. V3 And they said among themselves, Who shall roll away the stone for us from the door of the sepulcher? V4 And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away; for it was very great V5 And entering into the sepulcher, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were amazed. V6 And he saith unto them, Be not amazed. Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified; he is risen; he is not here. Behold the place...
where they laid him. V7 But go your way, tell his disciples, and Peter, that he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him, as he said unto you.

D. John 20:1-10
V1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulcher, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulcher. V2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulcher, and we know not where they have laid him. V3 Peter, therefore, went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulcher. V4 So they ran both together; and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulcher. V5 And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. V6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulcher, and seeth; the linen clothes lying there, V7 And the cloth, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. V8 Then went in also that other disciple, who came first to the sepulcher, and he saw, and believed. V9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead. V10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

E. I Corinthians 15:1-8
V1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and in which ye stand; V2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. V3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; V4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures. V5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve. V6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain unto this present time, but some are fallen asleep. V7 After that, he was seen of James: then, of all the apostles. V8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

F. John 5:28
V28 Marvel not at this; for the hour is coming, in which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice.
LESSON 23

XXIII. THE RETURN OF THE LORD

We believe that the New Testament teaches in many places that visible and personal return of Jesus to thin earth. "The same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." The time of His coming is not revealed." Of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." (Matthew 24:36) It is the duty of all believers to live in readiness for His coming and by diligence in good works to make manifest to all men the reality and power of their hope in Christ.

Scripture References:

A. Acts 1:11
Who also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

C. Revelation 19:11-16
V11 And I saw heaven opened and, behold, a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. V12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. V13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood; and his name is called The Word of God. V14 And the armies that were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, V15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations, and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. V16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.
LESSON 24

XXIV. THE WORLD TO COME

We believe that the end of the world is approaching; that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

Scripture References:

A. I Peter 4:7
But the end of all things is at hand, be ye, therefore, sober minded, and watch unto prayer.

B. I Corinthians 7:29-31
V29 But this I say, brethren, The time is short; it remaineth that both they that have wives be as though they had none; V30 And they that weep as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; V31 And they that use this world, as not abusing it; for the fashion of this world passeth away.

C. Hebrews 1:10-12
V10 And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands. V11 They shall perish, but thou remainest; and they all shall become old as doth a garment, V12 And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed; but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

D. Matthew 25:31
When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his Glory.

E. Matthew 28:20
Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age. Amen.

F. Matthew 13:37-43
V37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; V38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom, but the tares are the children of the wicked one; V39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are the angels. V40 As, therefore, the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so shall it be in the end of this age. V41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels and they shall gather out of his kingdom all
things that offend, and them who do iniquity. V42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire; there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. V43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

G. I John 2:17
And the world passeth away, and the lust of it; but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.

H. 2 Peter 3:3-10
V3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lust, V4 And saying, where is the promise of his coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. V5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water, V6 By which the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished. V7 But the heavens and the earth which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. V8 But beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. V9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness, but is I longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. V10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat; the earth also, and the works that are in it, shall be burned up.

I. Acts 1:11
Who also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as Ye have seen him go into heaven.

J. Revelation 1:7
Behold, he cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see him, and they also who pierced him; and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

K. Hebrews 9:28
So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

L. Acts 3:21
Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the age began.

M. I Thessalonians 4:13-18
V13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them who are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even m others who have no hope. V14 For if we believe that
Jesus died and rose again, even so them also who sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. V15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not precede them who are asleep. V16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first; V17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore, comfort one another with these words.

O. Acts 24:15
And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

P. Luke 14:14
And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee; for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.
A SUMMARY OF CREATION

MAN AND CREATION

The opening chapters of Genesis provide us with the view of man which is held consistently throughout the Bible. There, man is seen to be the crown of God's creation. He is a being created in the image of God, indicating his authority over creation and his capacities for creativity and goodness. In the fall, man expresses his unwillingness to accept his limitation and attempts to become like God. As a consequence, he thwarts God's original purpose for him and becomes a slave to sin. Thenceforth, all his acts are tainted by his sinfulness. Freedom from this servitude to sin comes only through the redemption wrought through Christ. As in Adam all die, so in Christ, the true man, all may be made alive to fulfill the purpose for which God originally created mankind. Collaboring with God's Holy Spirit, redeemed man seeks to bring his life into conformity with God's will and word, perfectly revealed in Christ. Contrary to the oft-expressed notion, the Bible does not review man as a soul which possess a body. The soul does not exist independent of the body, but is regarded as the life principle of the body. When in a disembodied state, Christians believe in a continuation of life after death is based not on the Greek concept of the immortal soul, but on belief in the resurrection of the body. We cannot comprehend the nature of the resurrection body, but we may infer that life after death involves the whole man in the fullness of personal existence.

REMEMBER

God said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air.

CREATION

The Biblical account of creation must be understood as religious and not scientific. Its purpose is not to sketch in detail every aspect of god's bringing the universe to its present state. It is intended primarily to impress upon us the notion that God is prior to and distinct from his creation, that he is directly responsible for its having come into being, through the agency of his word, that its continued existence is depended upon him, and that man has been given the highest position of honor and responsibility in the universe.

GOD AS CREATOR

Isaiah 40:12 said: "Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of earth in a measure, and weighted the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?"
Isaiah 40:26 said: "Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: He calleth them all by names by greatness of his might, for that he is strong in Power; not one faileth."

Isaiah 42:5 said: "Thus saith God the Lord, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth earth, and that which cometh out of it.

**CREATION IS BY THE WORD**

*Genesis* 1:3, "And God said, let there be light; and there was light."

*Psalm* 33:9, "For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast."

*Psalm* 148:5, "Let them praise the name of the Lord: for he commanded, and they were."

*John* 1:1-3, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made."

**AS THE CREATOR**

*Genesis* 1:1, "In the beginning God created the Heaven and the Earth."

*Genesis* 1:27, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."

*Nehemiah* 9:6, "Thou, even thou, art Lord alone; thou has made heaven, the heavens of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee."

**THE SCRIPTURES**

1. What is the Bible?
   It is a book containing the revelation of God to man.

2. What Kind of book is the Bible?
   It is a Holy Book.

3. Why is it called a Holy book?
   It is called a Holy book because it contains the Holy Scriptures.

4. How many General Parts are there into which the Bible is divided?
It is divided into two general parts.

5. What are they?
They are: The Old Testament and the New Testament.

6. What is a Testament?
It is a will.

7. When is a will enforced?
A will is enforced after the death of the testator.

8. How was the Old Testament Enforced?
It was enforced by prayers, tithes, and shadows.

9. Into how many parts is the Bible divided as to matter?
It is divided into five parts as to matter.

10. What are they?
They are: Law, Poetry, History, Prophecy, and Doctrine.

11. How many law books have we in the Old Testament?
There are five law books.

12. How many historical books are in the Bible?
There are twelve historical books in the Bible.

13. How are the prophets divided?
They are divided into two classes.

14. What are they?
Major and Minor prophets.

15. How many major prophets are there?
There are four major prophets.

16. Why call them major prophets?
Because they wrote more extensively.

17. How many prophetical books are in the Bible?
There are seventeen.

18. How many men wrote these prophetical books?
Sixteen men wrote the prophetic books.
19. How do you account for the seventeen books?
Because one prophet wrote two; namely, Jeremiah and Lamentation. The prophetic books of the Bible begins with Isaiah and ends with Malachi. (These are the prophetic books of the Old Testament).

20. How many poetical books are in the Bible?
There are five. *(Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Songs of Solomon).*

21. How many books are there in the Bible?
There are sixty-six.

22. How many are there in the New Testament?
There are twenty-seven.

23. How many are in the old Testament?
There are thirty-nine.

24. How long was the Bible being written?
It took sixteen centuries.

25. How many men wrote the Bible?
Thirty-six or more men.

26. What kind of men wrote the Bible?
They were Holy and Inspired Men.

27. What is meant by inspired?
It means to breathe into. *(II Tim. 3:1, 6:17)*

28. What effect had this inspiration upon men?
It lifted them above the possibility of making a human error.

29. Who is the author of the Bible as to composition?
It’s author is man.

30. Who is the author of the Bible?
God.

31. What are the Historical Books of the New Testament?

32. What is the prophetical book of the New Testament?
Revelation.
33. How is the New testament divided as to matter?
Into three parts.

34. What are they?
History, Doctrine and Prophecy.

35. How many doctrinal books are in the New Testament?
There are twenty-one doctrinal books. (Romans and Jude)

36. What is the great end of the Bible?
It is salvation.

37. What does the Bible teach us?
It teaches us the will of God, our duty to Him and to our fellowman.

38. What is the matter of which the Bible is composed?
It is composed of the Truth.

39. What principles does Bible reveal to us?
The principles by which we shall be judged.

40. How long shall these principles stand?
To the end of the World.

41. What kind of standard is the Bible?
All human conduct, creeds, and opinions.

42. By this standard, what ought to be tried?
All human conduct, creeds, and opinions.

43. What is a creed?
A summary of Christian belief.

**JUSTIFICATION**

1. What is justification?
Justification is the act of assuming the righteousness of the one justifier.

2. How many kinds of justification are there?
There are two kinds.

3. What are they?
They are legal and evangelical.
4. What is Legal Justification?
It is justification according to the law.

5. What is Evangelical Justification?
Justification according to the Gospel.

6. What is opposite Justification?
Condemnation is its opposite.

7. Does justification change the heart of man?
No. It changes his state.

8. What does justification do for him?
It declares him free without the imputation of guilt.

9. What does justification include?
It includes the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life.

10. Do we merit justification.
No. (John 3:16)

11. Through or by whom do we obtain Justification?
By the merit of Jesus Christ.

12. What kind of blessing is justification?
It is a gospel blessing. (Acts 13:39)

13. Who are the subjects of justification?
Sinners.

14. How does evangelical justification differ from legal justification?
It is justification by grace.

15. What do we mean by grace?
It is unmerited favor of Christ. (St. John 1:16)

16. Who is the Great Justifier?
God is the Great Justifier.

17. What was man's previous state?
It was a condemned state.

**REGENERATION**
1. Who are the subjects of Regeneration?
Sinners. (John 3:3)

2. Of what does regeneration consist?
It consists of giving a holy disposition to the mind.

3. How is it affected?
In a manner above our comprehension.

4. What is the nature of regeneration?
It is a spiritual nature.

5. Why do we say it is a spiritual nature? .
Because it takes place in the spirit of the subject. (John 3:5)

6. Who is the author of regeneration?
The Holy Spirit.

7. How do you account for this?
The Bible says, "Born of the Spirit". (John 3:5)

8. What are the instrumentalities used in regeneration?
Repentance, faith, and newness of life.

9. Does regeneration change the physical man?
No.

10. What part of man does it change?
The spiritual man.

11. How is the physical man affected by regeneration?
It changes his life from one of sin and his moral influence exhort over the physical mind.

13. How does it affect the will?
It changes the will.
THE BIBLE TREE – PSALMS 1:3

THE
BIBLE
CONTAINS
3,566,480 letters
810,697 words,
31,175 versus,
1,189 chapters, and 66 books.
The longest chapter is 119th Psalm
The shortest and middle chapter is the 117th Psalm.
The middle versus is the 8th of the 118th Psalm.
The middle verse contains 50 letters.
the longest name is in the eight chapter of Isaiah.
The word "and" occurs 46,672 times throughout the entire Bible;
while the word "Lord appears" 1,855 times.
The 37th chapter of Isaiah and the 19th chapter of the second book of Kings are alike.
The longest verse in the Bible is the 9th verse of the 8th chapter of Esther,
and the shortest verse is the 35th of the 11th chapter of John.
With the exception of the letter J the Alphabet is found in Ezra 7:21.
The name of God is not mentioned in the book of Esther.
The model prayer is the 17th Chapter of John.
The Lord wants each church member to be an Attender, not an Absenter.
A Pillar, not a Sleeper,
A Wing, not a Weight,
A Goer, Not a Gadder,
A Booster, not a Knocker,
A True Soldier, not a Slacker
The Bible Contains History,
Romance,
Justice,
Salvation
Holiness
Knowledge
Wisdom and Love.

THIS IS THE TREE OF LIFE. I TRUST YOU WILL HIDE YOURSELF IN ITS BRANCHES
AND BRING FORTH FRUIT. BY: Lucille M.. Campbell
GLOSSARY

Abba - "father", a transliteration of the ceramic form of Hebrew word abba.
Abound - to be great in number or amount.
Abuse - to use wrongly or improperly, misuse.
Accrue - to increase or accumulate.
Acknowledge - recognize as being valid.
Adequacy - barely satisfying or sufficient.
Adoption - to take on and assume as one's own.
Aerodynamics - the dynamics of gases, esp. of atmospheric interactions with moving objects.
Alert - attentive, watchful, mentally responsive, and perceptive, quick.
Ambivalence - mutually conflicting feelings or thoughts (love & hate together).
Antinomians - Christians believing faith alone is necessary for salvation.
Antipathy - a feeling of aversion or opposition.
Anxiety - uneasiness and distress about future uncertainties.
Apostle - one sent forth, messenger, chosen by Jesus.
Appraisal - an estimation of value or quality.
Arrogant - overly convinced of one's own importance.
Attitude - a state of mind or feeling.
Atonement - Generally used as referring to the expiation of sin and reconciliation to God by the incarnation, life, suffering and death of Christ.
Authority - right and power to command, judge, enforce laws.
Baptism - Complete immersion under the water, it is the public profession of faith and discipleship. Baptism signifies: 1) A confession of faith in Christ; 2) A death to sin and a new life in righteousness; Romans 6:3-4; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 18:26-27. The modes or subjects for baptism are BELIEVERS IN CHRIST.
Battleground - a field where battle is fought.
Behavior - actions, reactions of persons under specified circumstances.
Believers - to have faith, confidence, or trust.
Bondage - the condition of a slave or servitude.
Bragging - arrogance or boastfully speaking.
Carnal Sin - sins of the world.
Character - qualities, features distinguishing one person from another.
Cheerfulness - being in good spirits, happiness.
Christ - the official title of Jesus, meaning the Anointed one.
Christians - believers in or followers of Christ.
Circumcision - a religious ceremony in which someone is circumcised.
Comforter - The Holy Spirit; the intercessor promised by Christ to help guide believers. John 14:26, 15:26, 16:7
Command - to direct with authority, give orders to.
Commission - giving authority to carry out a particular task or duty.
Commitment - binding or obligating oneself.
Communicate - to express oneself in such a way that one is readily and clearly understood.
Concern - regard for or interest in someone or something.
Conclusion - the close or termination of something; the end; the finish.
Condemnation - giving punishment to; pronouncing guilty.
Confess - saying what you believe; telling your sins to another.
Confession - to admit sin or fault, particularly as a sign of repentance; to acknowledge God's redeeming acts and openly acknowledge that Jesus is the Messiah, Lord and Son of God. Romans 10:10; Matthew 16:16; Mark 8:29; Luke 9:16.
Confidence - a feeling of assurance or certainty especially concerning oneself.
Confirmation - a rite admitting a baptized person to full membership in church.
Conflict - to come into opposition.
Conform - to agree with and try to be like someone; to do what others say.
Confusion - mistaking one thing for another.
Conqueror - defeated or subdued by force. Gained secured control of.
Conscience - a sense of right and wrong.
Consequences - That which logically or naturally follows from an action or condition. Context - subject matter.
Contradiction - asserting or expressing the opposite of.
Contrast - to show differences when compared.
Conversion - When a person accepts the saving power of God through Jesus Christ he experiences a CHANGE. He changes from a worldly life or a life of sin to a new life in Christ Jesus. Matthew 13:15; Mark 14:12; John 12:40; II Corinthians 5:17.
Convert - a person who has changed from one belief to another.
Conviction - a fixed or strong belief.
Convince - to bring by argument and evidence to belief cause to believe something.
Corruption - destroying or subverting the honesty or integrity of.
Covenant - a binding agreement made by two or more persons or parties.
Creation - God's primal act of bringing the world into existence.
Crucified - having been put to death by railing or lying a persons body to a cross.
Death - The state of being without life; the act of dying; symbol of the final state of the unsaved and of the power that rules over man in the age of sin. John'8:51; Romans 6:23; Revelations 20:6; Romans 5:14; Revelations 6:8.
Debtors - something that one person owes another (also, debt).
Decay - to become a ruin; fall into ruin. Deity - God.
Delegate - a person authorized to act as representative for another or others.
Demanding - to ask for urgently or firmly, leaving no chance for refusal or denial.
Destiny - deciding ahead of time.
Diagnose - to perform an examination of.
Diligence - persistent effort; long steady applications to ones occupation or studies.
Disappointment - failing to satisfy the hope, desire or expectation of.
Disciple - a learner, a follower, particularly one who follows Jesus Christ. Matthew 10:1; Luke 6: 13; Matthew 2:12.
Discipline - to correct; to teach what is right.
Dishonor - loss of honor, respect, or reputation; disgrace, shame.
Disregard - to pay no attention or heed to; fail to consider -ignore
Disruptive - upsetting the order of.
Dissent - disagree; quarrel.
Diversity - a point or respect in which things differ.
Divine - Given by God.
Doctrine - Teaching or instruction, particularly that of Jesus or the Apostles concerning God's will. Job 2:4; Matthew 7:28, 22:33; Mark 1:22, Luke 4:32.
Encouragement - inspire to continue on a chosen course.
Endearment - an expression of affection.
Enemy - one who manifests malice or hostility toward another.
Epistle - a formal letter.
Error - the condition of having incorrect or false knowledge.
Eternity - infinite time; the totality of time without beginning or end.
Evaluate - to examine and judge.
Evangelist - a person who preaches the good news about Jesus.
Evidence - that which serves to indicate or suggest.
Evil - wicked; doing things against God's will.
Exaggerate - to make greater than is actually the case.
Experience - accumulation of knowledge or skill.
Expiation - Atonement to remove sin from God's sight and thereby restore to holiness. Used only in the King James version. Numbers 35:33;
Exposition - a setting forth of meaning or intent.
Faith - belief and trust in God.
Fear - to be afraid of.
Fellowship - Companionship; a group of persons with a common interest. Among Christians, it is their common bond of faith in Christ, particularly in partaking of the Lord's Supper. I Corinthians 1:9; Gal. 2:9; Phil. 3:1; I John 1:3.
Fertile - capable of growing and developing, able to mature.
Flesh - the body as distinguished from the mind and soul.
Folly - a lack of good sense, understanding or foresight.
Foundation - the basis on which a thing stands.
Free - not bound or constrained.
Frustrated - having caused feeling of discouragement.
Fulfill - to complete a promise or project.
Futile - having no useful result.
Generosity - nobility of thought or behavior.
Gentile - anyone who is not a Jew.
Glorified - honored, praised.
Glory - a highly praise worthy asset.
Gospel - the good news that Jesus died for our sins and rose again.
Grace - The unmerited favor of God, not earned it is the gift of God. John 1: 17; Romans 5: 15; 1 Corinthians 1:3; Eph. 1:2, 2:5, 8, 9.
Grievous - expressing grief; mourning. Groan - to suffer oppression or strain.
Heir - someone receiving the property or blessings of a dead person.
Holy - belonging to God; pure; godly; to be set apart to live a clean and separated life.
Holy Spirit - He is the Third Person of the Trinity, Godhead; the Divine Spirit through which man receives power, particularly effective through Jesus Christ in bringing men into fellowship with God. Matthew 28:19; Mt. 3: II; John 1:33; Luke 1:15; Acts 2:33; Romans 9:1; 1 Corinthians 12:3.
Hostile - not hospitable.
Humanity - human beings collectively; human race; mankind.
Humble - not proud; not pretending to be important.
Humility - the quality or condition of being, humbles; lack of pride.
Hypocrisy - pretending to love God.
Ignorant - without education or knowledge.
Image - the character projected by someone or something of the public.
Inaccurate - mistaken or incorrect.
Insight - the capacity to discern the true nature of a situation.
Intention - a plan of action, a design.
Intercede - to beg or plead for another person.
Intercession - A plea on behalf of another. John 17:1-26; Isa. 53:12; Romans 8:26; Hebrews 7:25.
Invisible - incapable of being seen.
Jurisdiction - the territorial range of authority or control.
Justice - fairness.
Justification - God's action in treating us as if we had never sinned.
Law - God's rules which help his people know what is right and wrong.
Leadership - the capacity to be a leader; ability to lead.
Legalism - adherence to law.
Liberty - the condition of being not subject to restriction or control.
Love - God's benevolence and mercy toward man.
Marriage - the state of being husband and wife, wedlock.
Mediator - One who acts as a go-between in making an agreement between two parties. Christ is the one mediator between God and man. I Timothy 2:5.
Meditate - To study and contemplate. Psalm 1:2
Mercy - Forgiveness or kindness, particularly to a wrong doer. Exodus 34:6; Psalms 67:1; Matthew 5:7; Luke 18:13.
Merit - to earn, deserve, to have the right to claim.
Metamorphosis - a transformation, a change in appearance.
Ministry - the act of serving; the profession, duties and services of a ministry of religion.
Moral - designed to teach goodness or corrections of character and behavior.
Mortify - to cause to experience shame, humiliation or wounded pride.
Myopia - shortsightedness or lack of discernment in thinking or planning.
Obedient - carrying out a request or command.

Objections - to oppose or disapprove.

Obligation - binding oneself by a social, legal, or moral tie.

Omission - to exclude, leave out, neglect.

Ordained - to set in order, arrange; set apart; bring into being.

Ordinance - Law; the Baptist Church has 2 ordinances: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; I Corinthians :23-26.

Pagan - one who has no religion; non-Christian.

Parable - A short story teaching a moral lesson.

Pastor - Under shepherd of the flock; God - called, God-ordained preacher of the gospel with a field of labor in a local church. Authorized by the Holy Spirit, held accountable to God. Eph. 4:11; Acts 20:28; Hebrews 13:17; Jer. 3:9,15

Peace - (O.T.) greetings; a spirit of tranquility and freedom from inward or outward disturbances.

Penalty - a punishment established by law or authority for a crime or offense.

Pentecost - A Jewish festival on the 50th day after Passover. Acts 2

Perception - an impression in the mind of something through any of the senses.

Performances - beginning and carrying out through to completion.

Perish - To die, to be destroyed. John 3: 16; Psalms 1:6

Perseverance - to persist in or remain constant to a purpose, action, or belief without giving way.

Pivotal - a turn.

Placate - to lessen the anger of; appease.

Possibilities - potentially favorable results.

Power - the ability or capacity to act or perform effectively; to exercise control; authority.

Preamble - the introduction to a formal document that explains its purpose.

Predestinated - decided in advance.

Pride - pleasure or satisfaction taken in one's work.

Privilege - a special advantage, immunity, permission, right, or benefit granted to or enjoyed by people or person.

Proclivity - a natural inclination; predisposition.

Profession - an occupation or vocation requiring training.

Promise - a declaration assuring that one will or will not do something; vow.

Prophecy - the inspired utterance of what God is saying to a people by a prophet.

Prophet - A man called by God to be His Spokesman. Deut. 18:18; Matthew 13:57; Eph. 4:11.


Proportion - a part considered in relation to the whole.

Proselyte - a foreign resident.

Publican - Tax Collector. John 19

Punish - to subject to a penalty for a crime, fault, or misbehavior.

Reality - being true.

Reconciliation - to re-establish friendship between; to settle or resolve.

Redeemer - One who buys back, rescues or ransoms. Jesus is called the Redeemer, through His sacrificial death, although the word does not appear in the New Testament.
Redemption - to buy back; the idea of deliverance and the price of that ransom.
Refusal - to decline to do, accept, give, or allow.
Regeneration - Being spiritually reborn; spiritual change in a man brought about as an act of God through the Holy Spirit; it is the condition of a spiritual change that takes place in a man as his sinful nature is changed, enabling him to enter into fellowship with God through faith. Jesus Christ. Matthew 19:28; Titus 3:5; John 3:3, 6, 7; 1 John 5:4.
Reject - to refuse.
Rejoice - to feel or be joyful.
Religion - the services and ritual and rules by which faith in and devotion to deity were expressed.
Repent - To feel regret, to turn from the ways of sin and the world to the mercies of God; to become Godly sorry. Job 42:6; Matthew 3:2; Luke 13:3; Act&: 2:38, 3:19.
Repercussions - indirect effect, influence, or result produced by an event or action. Reproof - rebuking for a fault or misdeed.
Resistant - opposing actively.
Resurrection - Arising from the dead to return to life eternal, immortality never dying again. This is unlike RESTORATION where immortality is not a factor. Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20; 1 Corinthians 15; Revelations 20:5.
Revelation - unveiling; making known of truth in prepositional or experiential form.
Reverence - a feeling of profound awe and respect and often love.
Right - conforming with or conformable to justice, law, or morality.
Righteous - One who does what is right, a virtuous person. Matthew 9: 13; Psalms 1 :6.
Ritual - the prescribed form or order of conducting a religious or solemn ceremony.
Rulers - one that governs.
Sacrifice - An offering usually of the life of a person or an animal, made to God. Exodus 5:17; Mark 12:33; Hebrews 9:26.
Saint - that which is separated or dedicated unto God; personal holiness.
Salvation - Deliverance from evil, danger, trouble or Hell; God's gift through Christ, to save men's souls. Psalms 25:5; Phil, 1:19; Titus 2: n; Hebrews 2:10.
Sanctification - to separate from the world and consecrate to God.
Sanctify - To set apart as holy; to consecrate to religious use, to make holy. Genesis 2:3; Romans 15:16.
Savior - One who saved or delivers; Christ, as the one who delivers us from the sins of this life through who salvation is obtained; God, as the Deliverer of the Israelites from oppression and as the Redeemer of all peoples. n Sam. 22:3; Isaiah 45:21; Luke 1:47; John 4:42; Phil. 3:20.
Servant - employed.
Thank You...

Thank you for taking the time to learn. Thank you for taking the time to know Christ in a personal way. I pray that you’ve been blessed by this training booklet. I would like to give credits to my secretary (LaTisha Toole) for her labor in putting the booklets together in a timely manner, so that you might profit spiritually from it. I thank the Liberty family for their desire to grow spiritually in the Lord. Through you, I have learned not to be lazy (slothful). Your hunger has kept me in the books and I am appreciative of this desire that those of you in this body of Christ have about learning more about God’s word.

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With Divine Love,
Husband, Father, Pastor and Friend,

Don Jr.