

What I Need to Know About My New Life In Christ

STUDENT WORKBOOK

**The Discipleship Program of
Hamilton Square Baptist Church**

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Since the material in this study course is, in the main part, from the copyrighted work of other men, it is not for sale or resale.

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IMPORTANT DATES

In My Christian Life

Fill in the blanks below as you accomplish (or have accomplished) these vitals areas of your Christian life with the appropriate date.

DISCIPLESHIP I began these lessons on:

Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

SALVATION I received Jesus Christ as my personal Savior on:

Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

Signed _____

BAPTISM I was scripturally baptized by immersion as a believer in obedience to the command of Christ, picturing my death, burial and resurrection with Him.

Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP I honored Christ in committing myself to serving as a member of His spiritual family in a local, fundamental, Christ-honoring New Testament church by becoming a member on:

Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

TITHING I began to be obedient to my Lord in giving my tithes and offerings as the Bible commands me to do on:

Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

SOUL-WINNING I personally led my first soul to Jesus, experiencing great blessing on:

Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

The name of the person I led to Jesus: _____

A PERSONAL NOTE FOR YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT

You have just taken a great step in your life — that of inviting Jesus Christ to come into your life and save you from sin. You will indeed need help, prayer and encouragement in order to be the kind of Christian that God wants you to be.

This study course has been prepared just for you. It is our prayer that you will take these materials and

- Read them *carefully*.
- Read them *completely*.
- Read them *thoroughly*.
- *Memorize* the verses *diligently*.
- *Keep them safely for future reference*, and
- Use the materials in this study to *Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ*. (II Peter 3:18)

It is our desire that through your relationship with a fellow Christian from our church in these fourteen weeks of study, that you will find a deep, abiding friendship as well as the personal help and encouragement that can really *make the difference* in your new life as a Christian.

If you will practice what is taught in these lessons, you will experience a wonderful life of peace, joy and blessing not only in this world, but also in the world to come.

Before everything else, make these verses the goal of your life:

For I do always those things that please Him. (John 8:29b)

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. (Philippians 1:21)

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. (Colossians 3:16,17)

Set your mind to stay on pace and complete your studies consistently. In order to complete the program successfully you will need to average 100 points each week (total of 1,400). Don't worry — you will have ample opportunity to accomplish this goal.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR STUDY MORE EFFECTIVE

1. Find a quiet place away from noise so that you can think and concentrate.
2. Pray: Ask the Lord Jesus to help you understand His Holy Word.
3. Exercise faith and believe, as you study, that you will grow in spiritual matters. (Hebrews 11:6)
4. Determine in your heart that you will not allow Satan to hinder you from completing these lessons.
5. When you learn a new truth, immediately seek to put it into practice in your life.
6. Try your best to complete the homework assignments each week.
7. Memorize and review the verses thoroughly.



MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE REALLY SAVED- HOW A PERSON CAN BE "BORN AGAIN"

The following Bible Studies are to acquaint you with the One about Whom the Bible is written — the *Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son*.

This lesson is intended to bring you to the place where you know for sure that you are *saved* and on your way to heaven. To be saved means to be rescued or delivered from the eternal judgment of your sins in hell. Having this wonderful assurance of salvation will enable you to live with a joyful certainty and confidence that you have as your own personal possession, eternal life.

HOW TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN THIS STUDY

After reading the question, look up the verse in the Bible. Then write the answer in your own words using the thought in the Bible verse.

1. Who was it that loved the whole world? (John 3:16)

2. Whom did God give for everyone in the world? (John 3:16)

3. Who is God's Son? (John 20:31)

4. Did God send His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, into the world to condemn the world? (John 3:17)

☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Why did God send His Son into the world? (John 3:17)

Just think! God loved you and all of mankind so much He allowed His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to die on the cross, so that you *personally, and all of mankind might be saved.*

6. According to the Bible, when shall those who do not believe on God's Son be condemned? (John 3:18)
-

7. If everyone who is not a Christian is condemned, what must happen to a person in order that he may become a Christian? (John 3:3,7)
-

8. Why do men hate the light that has come into the world? (John 3:19)
-

9. What does Jesus Christ call Himself? (John 8:12)
-

10. How does a person become as the Bible says, *born again*? (John 1:12)
-

11. How do we know God will accept us as His children if we ask the Lord Jesus Christ to come into our hearts? (John 6:37)
-

12. What is the work of God that we need to do? (John 6:29)
-

13. According to John 14:6, what is the only way to heaven?
-

14. Who did Simon Peter believe that the Lord Jesus Christ was? (John 6:68,69)
-

15. Do you believe that Jesus is God's Son?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Uncertain

Here is a prayer you could pray to God if you have never been saved:

Dear God, I know I have sinned against you and am worthy of eternal judgment. I know that the Lord Jesus died in my place on the cross and paid the full payment for all of my sins, and that He rose from the dead to be my Savior and Lord. I ask you, Lord Jesus, to come into my heart. Save me from my sin and make me your child. Become the Ruler of my life. Amen.

16. How do you know that the Lord Jesus will come into your heart if you pray such a prayer? (John 14:14)

Jesus said in *Revelation 3:20*: *Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.*

17. Have you ever asked the Lord Jesus Christ to come into your heart and life, take away your sin and to become the Lord of your life?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Uncertain

18. If so, please relate when you did this — not necessarily the day and date, but the circumstances surrounding your conversion and where you were at the time.

19. Do you believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has come into your heart and life and made you a *child of God*?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Uncertain

20. List five verses from the book of John that give Biblical evidence that you are a child of God and have eternal life.

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____
- D. _____
- E. _____

21. Once we really have been saved, can the devil ever get us *lost* again? (Romans 8:34-39)

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Uncertain

22. Who witnesses with our spirit that we are indeed the children of God? (Romans 8:16)

23. Do you believe you have this witness of God's Holy Spirit in your life?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Uncertain

Note: The presence of the Holy Spirit within a believer is recognized by His guidance, help in prayer, conviction regarding sin, spiritual fruit (love, joy, peace, etc.), and spiritual gifts.

24. Will a *born-again* person ever lose his salvation? (John 10:27-29)

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Uncertain

Now that you are a child of God, set aside a certain time each day to read God's Word.

25. Will you, before God, promise to make an honest effort to read the Word of God each day?

☐ Yes ☐ No



Please memorize: I Peter 2:2; John 10:28; John 3:36

Title to Verses: ASSURANCE OF SALVATION



WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU SIN - CONFESSION

In lesson one, you learned that you can be sure you are saved and on your way to heaven.

- A) This assurance is based upon our new relationship to God.
- B) By receiving Jesus Christ into our heart and life we become sons of God. (John 1:12a)
- C) This relationship is a “birth” relationship which is called being “born again.” (John 3:3,6,7)
- D) This relationship is an everlasting, never-ending relationship. (John 3:16)

Note: *I can never be “unborn” spiritually any more than I can be “unborn” physically. I will always be God’s child.*

- E) No one has the power to break this relationship. (John 10:28)

However, fellowship *with* God within this relationship can be broken just as it can be in a mother-daughter, father-son or husband-wife relationship. Sin breaks our fellowship *with* God. Sin cannot sever our relationship *to* God.

Now that I am a child of God and know it for sure, I must learn what to do when I sin.

1. Do Christians sin? (I John 1:8,10)

2. How many Christians sin? (I John 1:8,10)

3. What four things are true of Christians who say that they do not sin? (I John 1:8,10)

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

4. *Should* we sin? (I John 2:1)

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Uncertain

5. What should I do about it when I sin? (I John 1:9)

Note: Confess does *not* mean to ask for forgiveness, or to beg and plead for forgiveness. It means agreement with God that my sins are wrong and I tell him so. It means that I take God's side against my sin!

How do I confess my sin?

1. Name the sin to God.
2. Declare it to be wrong.
3. Ask God to destroy it out of my life.
4. Ask God to help me not to do it again.

When I am on God's side against my sin, I am in fellowship with Him.

6. When should confession of sin be done?

7. How often should this be done?

8. How can I approach God about these matters? (Hebrews 4:16)

9. What two things will God do when I confess my sins to Him?
(I John 1:9)

A. _____

B. _____

10. Is this a promise? (I John 1:9)

☐ Yes ☐ No

11. What does the word “faithful” mean? (I John 1:9)

12. Can I really depend on this promise? (I John 1:9)

☐ Yes ☐ No

13. Can God lie? (Titus 1:2)

14. What should I do if, after confessing my sins, I do not feel like I am forgiven? (I John 1:9; 3:19-21)

☐ believe my feelings (which can be very deceptive)?

☐ believe God’s promise?

15. Am I forgiven ...

☐ because God promised, or

☐ because I feel like it?

16. What cleanses me from sin and restores my fellowship with God?
(I John 1:7)

17. To what extent am I cleansed? (I John 1:7,9)

18. What kind of relationship do I have with God? (John 1:12; John 3:3,6,7)

19. How long will this relationship endure? (John 3:16)

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy. Proverbs 28:13



Please memorize: I John 1:9; Hebrews 4:15-16

Title to verses: CONFESSION OF SIN



HOW TO PRAY

The Bible teaches that God wants us to pray to Him. Prayer is communicating directly with God, i.e. *talking* with God.

1. What three words describe prayer in Matthew 7:7,8?
(1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____
2. How many will receive answers to their prayers? (Matthew 7:8)

3. Does God want us to pray? (John 16:24)
☐ Yes ☐ No
4. To whom should our prayer be addressed? (John 16:23)

5. Should we pray directly to God the Father? (Matthew 6:9)
☐ Yes ☐ No
6. In whose name should we pray? (John 14:13-14)

The word “name” means “authority.” Jesus Christ has given us the authority to go directly to God the Father. When we pray in His Name, we are praying with His authorization.

7. Why should we pray in Jesus’ name? (I Timothy 2:5)

Note: *A mediator is a go-between.*

8. How many mediators does God recognize? (I Timothy 2:5)
- _____
9. How often should we pray? (Psalm 88:9)
- _____
10. Should we keep “in constant touch” with God? (I Thessalonians 5:17)
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
11. What two conditions need to be met in order for us to get answers to prayer? (John 15:7)
- (1) _____
- (2) _____
12. What does God promise to do when these conditions are met? (John 15:7)
- _____
13. List some of the things that stand in the way of answered prayer.
- A. Psalm 66:18 _____
- B. Proverbs 28:9 _____
- C. Proverbs 28:13 _____
- D. Matthew 6:7 _____
- E. James 4:3 _____
- F. I Peter 3:7 _____
- G. I John 5:14 _____
14. Name an important reason why we should pray. (Matthew 26:41)
- _____
15. Is it important to believe God's promises when we pray? (Matthew 21:22)
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
16. Who will help us in our praying? (Romans 8:26,27)
- _____

The minute you asked Jesus Christ to come into your heart to save you from your sins, the Holy Spirit came to live within you. He is called the “Comforter” or “Helper” and will assist you in many ways.

17. How much of a difference can prayer make in your life? (James 5:16)

18. What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know before?

19. How can you make this a part of your everyday life?

Here is a list of some things for which you should pray:

➤ **Personal Needs:**

♦ Spiritual ♦ Emotional ♦ Physical ♦ Financial

➤ **Family**

➤ **Friends**

➤ **Church**

➤ **Pastor**

➤ **Unsaved friends and loved ones**

➤ **Our country and the government officials**

➤ **Wisdom and understanding**

➤ **Victory over temptation**

➤ **God’s leading and guidance in your life**



Please memorize: Jeremiah 33:3; Philippians 4:6-7

Title to Verses: PRAYER PROMISES

Now, begin daily to pray for certain *specific* needs that the Lord lays upon your heart. Fill in the days below to get started. You may wish to keep an ongoing prayer list in a notebook.

PRAYER LIST

REQUEST	HOW ANSWERED
MONDAY	
TUESDAY	
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	
FRIDAY	
SATURDAY	
SUNDAY	



BAPTISM

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Matthew 28:19-20

Here are four things you should know about water baptism:

- (1) What does the word “baptism” mean?
- (2) Who can be baptized?
- (3) What is Bible-baptism?
- (4) What is the formula and mode of baptism?

- (1) What does the word “baptism” mean? (Read carefully Acts 8:29-40.)

The Greek word for “baptize” or “baptism” is “baptizo” which means to dip, to immerse, to submerge, to put under water and cover completely. So when the Bible is speaking about baptism, it is not talking about sprinkling or some other meaning which men give it.

- (2) Who can be baptized? (See Acts 8:36,37.)

Only persons who truly have believed and accepted Jesus Christ as their own personal Savior should be baptized. We should never ask ourselves as a Christian, “*Should* I get baptized?” but “*When* can I be baptized?”

- (3) What is Bible-baptism?

According to the Scriptures, Bible-baptism is the immersion of believers in water. It is symbolic (a picture) of the *death*, *burial*, and *resurrection* of our blessed Lord Jesus. It is an

open, public declaration of our identification with Jesus Christ.
See Romans 6:1-5 and Galatians 2:20.

(4) What is the formula and mode of baptism?

Matthew 28:19 says, “. . . baptizing them [the saved] in the name [not names] of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”

Note: The “name” (singular) tells us that while the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are three persons, they are of one essence, and are called by one name — “God.” The three persons are not three gods, but three personalities who are one Triune (three-in-one) God.

1. Was Jesus scripturally baptized? (Matthew 3:13-16)

☐ Yes ☐ No

2. Did Jesus go down into the river or was a cup of water all that was poured on His head? (Matthew 3:13-16)

3. Can baptism wash away our sins? (Ephesians 1:7, Hebrews 9:14,15)

☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Does water baptism have any connection with salvation? (Ephesians 2:8,9)

☐ Yes ☐ No

5. What is the only thing that cleanses us from our sins? (Hebrews 9:22; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:20)

6. Who sent believers to baptize all who believe and are saved? (Matthew 28:19,20)

7. Was this an “option” or a “command?” (Matthew 28:19,20)

8. How many believers should be baptized? (Acts 2:38)

9. What condition must be met in order to be “scripturally” baptized? (Acts 8:36,37)

10. Is it possible for babies or children who have never been saved to be “scripturally” baptized? (Acts 8:36,37)

☐ Yes ☐ No

11. What does this tell you about “infant baptism”?

12. What attitude toward sin and the “old life” does baptism indicate? (Romans 6:6,11)

13. How soon after salvation were the people baptized? (Acts 2:41; Acts 8:26-40)

14. Have you been scripturally baptized since you received Jesus Christ as your *Lord* and Savior?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Remember — Baptism in water is an outward sign of what has taken place already in your heart. By being baptized publicly in water, you are giving a testimony that you have forsaken the old ways of sin, turned your back on the Devil, and accepted Jesus for salvation and complete guidance in your life.

15. What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know before?

16. How can you make this a part of your everyday life?



Please memorize: Acts 2:41; Romans 6:4

Title to Verses: BAPTISM



CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The big question in many people's minds relates to church membership. For instance: *Should I join a church? Is church membership scriptural? What kind of church should I join?*

In this lesson, we will endeavor to answer these and other important questions most often asked by new Christians. The church in the Greek New Testament means a called-out assembly and refers to Christians who have been called out of this world. They are born again, baptized, and united for the purpose of strengthening one another in fellowship and carrying out the commands of the Lord Jesus Christ in fulfilling the Great Commission. See Matthew 28:19,20.

1. What other descriptive terms are given in the Bible that refer to the church?
 - A. Psalm 89:7 _____
 - B. Psalm 149:1 _____
 - C. Ezekiel 34:15 _____
 - D. Ephesians 1:22,23 _____
 - E. I Timothy 3:15 _____
 - F. Hebrews 12:23 _____
 - G. Revelation 21:9 _____
2. What local church is mentioned in Colossians 4:15,16?

3. Where did the church meet that is mentioned in Colossians 4:15?

4. Read Matthew 16:18.

The true Greek reading of this passage is as follows: *And I also say to you Peter, you are Peter* [Petros — little stone] *but upon this Rock* [Petra — a big rock; indicating Jesus, see Psalm 18:2] *I will build my church.*

Who is the founder & builder of the church?

5. What is Christ's relationship to the church? (Ephesians 1:22; Colossians 1:18)

6. How many people were added to the first church in Jerusalem? (Acts 2:41)

7. After the people had been saved, what took place next, adding them to the local church? (Acts 2:41)

8. How often were people added to the church? (Acts 2:47)

9. Locate in the following verses the ones Whom God has made overseers or rulers of the local churches.

➤ Acts 20:17,28 _____

➤ Ephesians 4:11,12 _____

➤ I Timothy 3:1-5 _____

➤ Hebrews 13:17 _____

➤ I Timothy 5:17 _____

10. What two offices were given to the local church? (I Timothy 3:1-8)

11. What *other* offices were given to the church? (Ephesians 4:11-15)

12. What word is used to describe the apostles and prophets? (Ephesians 2:20)

Note: *A foundation of a building is the platform upon which the building rests. The apostles and prophets laid the foundation of the church upon Jesus Christ the chief cornerstone.*

The functions of the office of apostles and prophets were fulfilled upon the completion of the New Testament Scriptures and are no longer in existence. The offices of Evangelists and Pastor-teachers remain to the present day.

13. Is there ever a legitimate biblical cause to withdraw fellowship from another professing Christian? (II Thessalonians 3:6)

☐ Yes ☐ No

14. Read Matthew 18:15-17. Explain the four steps of church discipline given in this passage by completing the following sentences:

(1) vs.15 – Go and tell him his fault _____

(2) vs.16 – If he won't hear you _____

(3) vs.17a – If he still won't hear _____

(4) vs.17b – If he won't hear the church _____

(Compare with I Corinthians 5:1-5)

15. What should be some of the basic purposes of the local church and its members?
- A. Acts 1:8 _____
 - B. Matthew 28:19,20 _____
 - C. II Timothy 4:2 _____
 - D. Acts 2:42 _____
 - E. John 4:23 _____
16. What are the marks of a true New Testament church — the kind you should join?
- A. Isaiah 8:20 _____
 - B. II Corinthians 6:14-18 _____
 - C. Galatians 1:6-9 _____
 - D. II John 7-11 _____
 - E. Revelation 18:4 _____
 - F. Revelation 22:18,19 _____
17. How should a Christian respond to those churches which violate the principles of God's Word? (Romans 16:17)
- _____

NOTE: *In the Christian world today not everything which calls itself Christian is truly Christian. We are told in Scripture that Satan distinguishes himself as an “angel of light” and his ministers as “ministers of righteousness” (II Corinthians 11:14,15). Our Lord spoke of wolves in sheep’s clothing (Matthew 7:15). Satan’s grand tactic is to counterfeit the true and genuine. He does this by perverting, twisting and compromising the Word of God (Genesis 3:4,5; Matthew 4:6).*

Of those churches which Christians must be aware are the New Evangelical, Pentecostal, Charismatic, Catholic and all liberal Protestant churches. Among the cults to avoid are the New Age Movement, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Seventh Day Adventists, Mormons, etc.

The true church that God has for you is the one which is totally committed to believing and practicing all the Word of God.

18. What does Hebrews 10:25 say about my need for a local, Bible-believing church?

19. What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know before?

20. How can you make this a part of your everyday life?



Please memorize: Hebrew 10:24,25; Acts 2:47

Title to Verses: CHURCH MEMBERSHIP



CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP - or - TITHES AND OFFERINGS

When people were saved in Bible times, it is clear from the Scriptures that they began immediately to give of their possessions to the ministry of the local church. (Read carefully Acts 4:32-37.)

In this lesson we will learn the importance of *giving* in the Christian life.

1. From whom have we received everything we have? (James 1:17)

2. To what extent has God been generous with us? (John 3:16)

3. Who is the real owner of all things? (Compare Psalm 24:1 with Psalm 50:10 and Haggai 2:8.)

4. What is the proper response toward God's generosity toward us? (Deuteronomy 8:18)

5. Read Luke 16:1-8. Define what a "steward" is:

6. As stewards of the possessions which God has given us, to whom will each of us give account for our stewardship? (Romans 14:12)

7. Is it good stewardship to incur excessive debts? (Proverbs 22:7; Psalm 37:21)
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
8. What is the dictionary definition of the word “tithe”?
- _____
9. What is the Bible definition of the word “tithe”?
- A. Genesis 28:22 _____
- B. Leviticus 27:32 _____
10. How much is a tithe of \$100.00? \$ _____
11. Name the first person in the Bible who paid tithes. (Genesis 14:20 – compare with Hebrews 7:1,2.)
- _____
12. What do God’s servants of long ago furnish for us? (I Corinthians 10:11)
- _____
13. To whom does the tithe belong? (Leviticus 27:30)
- _____
14. Do you think it is possible to rob God, as it is possible to rob people? (Malachi 3:8)
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
15. How is it possible to rob God? (Malachi 3:8)
- _____
16. What happened to those who withheld their tithes and offerings from God? (Malachi 3:9)
- _____
17. The Bible tells us of two people who lied to God concerning their giving. How serious was this matter before God? (Acts 5:1-11)
- _____

Many people try to argue with the *Lord* when it comes to giving their money to *God*. They say, “I don’t have enough for myself, let alone giving the Lord 10% of my total income.” The bottom line of tithing is a question of faith — trust in God.

18. Can I really trust God for everything in my life including my financial well being?

☐ Yes ☐ No

19. Did Jesus promise to meet my needs? (Matthew 6:33)

☐ Yes ☐ No

Remember: *God can make your nine-tenths go farther than you can make your ten-tenths go. God can do much more with what you have than you can alone.*

20. Is there a difference between giving a tithe and giving an offering? (Deuteronomy 12:6,17; Nehemiah 10:38,39; II Chronicles 31:12)

According to the Bible, the tithe was used basically for the support of the priesthood, and the offering was a *voluntary* (free-will) offering for other projects such as building the temple, the needs of the people, the poor, etc. (See Numbers 18:21 and I Corinthians 9:14.)

21. What did Jesus say positively or negatively about the practice of tithing? (Matthew 23:23)

Note: The tithe belongs to God. It is not ours to use as we please. *We are accountable to God for what we do as His stewards.*

22. What does God promise to one who is faithful in giving tithes and offerings to Him? (Malachi 3:10)

23. On what day of the week should we give our tithes and offerings?
(I Corinthians 16:1-2)

24. What should our attitude be as we give? (II Corinthians 9:7)

Note that the Word of God is clear from Genesis to Revelation on the matter of giving:

- Abraham started it (Genesis 14:20)
- Jacob continued it (Genesis 28:22)
- Moses incorporated it (Leviticus 27:30)
- Nehemiah restored it (Nehemiah 13:11,12)
- Malachi commanded it (Malachi 3:8-10)
- Jesus commended it (Matthew 23:23)
- God ordained it (I Corinthians 9:14)
- Paul explained it (I Corinthians 16:2; Hebrews 7:8)

A Bible-believing church does not raise money for the preaching of the Gospel by bake sales, pie suppers, etc. because God's plan is to meet these needs through tithes and offerings. Every Christian should give his tithes and offerings for the support of the local church.

The author learned to tithe and give offerings early in his life, and it has proven, in his life, that it pays to give the Bible way. May God bless you as you determine to start this week to obey His Word.

25. What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know before?

26. How can you make this a part of your everyday life?



Please memorize: Malachi 3:10; II Corinthians 9:6-8

Title to Verses: TITHES & OFFERINGS



OBEDIENCE

Though we have been willing to trust God for our salvation, we are often reluctant to trust God *completely* with the rest of our lives.

My goal as a Christian should be to live a joyful, victorious, fruitful life with a capacity to serve God and man. This can only become possible for me through the practical application of God's commands to my life.

Obedience means that I desire to obey *God*, and that I desire to do everything in my power to please Him.

1. Jesus said if we are really disciples what will we do? (John 8:31)

2. If we do what the Bible teaches, what will we know? (John 8:32)

3. What will the truth do for us? (John 8:32)

4. Who is the *truth*? (John 14:6)

Because the Lord Jesus Christ *is* the truth, we cannot have the truth unless we have *Him*. Also, because the Lord Jesus Christ is the truth, *He* is the One who sets us free. There is no knowledge of truth or freedom from sin apart from *Him*.

5. Many people say that the Bible says one thing, others say it says another. How did Jesus say we can tell what is right and what is

wrong? (John 7:17; I Corinthians 2:13; Isaiah 8:20)

6. The *Lord Jesus* said, if a man loves *Me* he will do what? (John 14:23a)
-

7. If we do as the *Lord Jesus* commands, what will *He* do? (John 14:23b)
-

8. Who else will love us? (John 14:21b)
-

9. Do you love *God* and *His Son, Jesus Christ*?

☐ Yes ☐ No

10. Why will a person *not* keep Christ's sayings? (John 14:24)
-

11. Do you always want to be found *obedient* to the *Lord* in every area of your life: *business, church, social, family*? (Think about it.)

☐ Yes, in every area ☐ No, not in every area

To be *obedient* to *God* and *Jesus Christ*, is to do what *He* says in *His Word* to do. Think carefully about several areas of practical obedience in your life: baptism, church membership, tithing, witnessing, prayer, moral purity, controlling the tongue, separation from the world, etc.

12. What is the *first* thing the Lord Jesus tells us to do in John 15:7a?
-

13. Define the word "abide" (use a dictionary).
-
-

14. What is the *second* thing the Lord Jesus tells us to do in John 15:7a?

15. What is the promise if we do these two things? (John 15:7b)

16. Who has *God* given to every believer to help understand everything God has said? (John 14:26)

17. What is true about a person who hears (accepts or welcomes) the *words* of *God*? (John 8:47a)

18. What did the *Lord Jesus* say was the reason people would *not* hear *His Word*? (John 8:47b)

19. What was Christ's attitude toward His Heavenly Father? (John 8:29)

20. What should be the source of our obedience to God? (Romans 6:17)

21. Is God's expectation of obedience and dedication reasonable or unreasonable? (Romans 12:1,2)

22. Do you desire to keep *God's Word*?

☐ Yes ☐ No

23. Are you still doing your best to read the Word of *God each day*, as you promised you would in the first lesson?

☐ Yes, daily ☐ Yes, most days ☐ No, only sometimes

This is being obedient to the Lord, also.

24. Are you still praying *each day*?

☐ Yes, daily ☐ Yes, most days ☐ No, only sometimes

25. What kind of response can I often expect from the unsaved when I obey God? (II Timothy 3:12; Matthew 5:10-12)

26. What should we do when the opinions of others strongly oppose what God wants us to do? (Acts 5:29b)

27. What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know before?

28. How can you make this a part of your everyday life?



Please memorize: John 14:15; Acts 5:29; II Corinthians 10:5

Title to Verses: OBEDIENCE



HOW TO OVERCOME SIN AND TEMPTATION

In the previous lesson, we learned that *God* wants us to be obedient to *Him*. Understanding the importance of obedience is a *must* in order that we might have victory over sin and temptation.

1. Sin and temptation confront the Christian from *three major sources*. What are they?

A. I John 2:15-17 _____

B. Galatians 5:16,17 _____

C. I Peter 5:8 _____

2. Is *God* ever the *source* of sin or temptation? (James 1:13)

☐ Yes ☐ No

3. What kinds of *sins* is our “flesh” capable of producing? (Galatians 5:19-21)

A. _____

J. _____

B. _____

K. _____

C. _____

L. _____

D. _____

M. _____

E. _____

N. _____

F. _____

O. _____

G. _____

P. _____

H. _____

Q. _____

I. _____

4. What is another term or expression for “the flesh”? (Ephesians 4:22)

5. Because of our new relationship to Jesus Christ and our being *born again* in Him, what counterpart of the “old man” do we now have? (Ephesians 4:24)

6. What are we to do to the “old man”? (Ephesians 4:22)

7. What are we to do with the “new man”? (Ephesians 4:24)

Note: *This is known as “walking in the Spirit” in Galatians 5:16.*

8. What other process of Christian growth is involved? (Ephesians 4:23)

9. Can we ever overcome sin and temptation in the strength of the flesh? (Galatians 3:3)

☐ Yes ☐ No

10. What will the Lord Jesus do for us if we call on Him when we are tempted? (Hebrews 2:18)

Note: *“Succor” means to come to one’s aid in time of need.*

11. What should we do when we are severely tempted? (Hebrews 4:14-16)

Temptation to sin is *not* sin! But when we yield to temptation and *do* what the temptation suggests, then it becomes *sin*. Read carefully James 1:14,15.

As a Christian you need to study carefully Romans chapters six, seven and eight to learn the basis of your victory over the flesh. It is not trying, but trusting the victory you already have *in*

Christ. It is not *wrestling* for victory, but *resting* in victory. These great truths will bless and enrich your life as you get to know them. Meanwhile, you will find that the harder you *try* to live the Christian life, the more discouraged you will become until you learn the secret of *trusting* and *resting*.

The Bible teaches that Satan (the Devil) was an angel created by God, and that his name originally was Lucifer (Isaiah 14:12). After Adam sinned, Adam forfeited his dominion over earth to Satan. He has become “the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.” (Ephesians 2:2)

12. Satan, the Devil, has many names. Three of them in particular reveal his relationship to Christians. What is he called?

A. I Peter 5:8 _____

B. Revelation 12:10 _____

C. I Thessalonians 3:5 _____

13. Name two things which describe Satan. (John 8:44)

A. _____

B. _____

14. Does Satan have power (authority) over Christians today?
(Acts 26:18; Colossians 1:13)

☐ Yes ☐ No

15. Is it possible, however, for Satan to do his work in our lives **if** we allow him? (Ephesians 4:27)

☐ Yes ☐ No

Remember: *Satan will do everything he possibly can to get you to return to your sin.*

16. Who is greater – Christ, or Satan? (I John 4:4; Colossians 2:15)

17. How does Satan often appear? (II Corinthians 11:14)

18. Name two things we are to “be” in light of Satan’s attacks against us. (I Peter 5:8)

A. _____

B. _____

19. What two things are we to “do” in order that Satan might flee from us? (James 4:7)

A. _____

B. _____

20. What else should we do, to enable us to stand against the wiles (strategies) of the devil? (Ephesians 6:11)

21. Name the pieces of the *Christian’s Armor*. (Ephesians 6:10-17)

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

E. _____

F. _____

22. What weapon did Jesus use against the Devil each time He was tempted? (Matthew 4:4,7,10)

23. Suppose we do give in to temptation and sin, what should we do then? (I John 1:9)

24. Can anyone attain to *sinless perfection* in this life? (I John 1:8,10)

☐ Yes ☐ No

25. What has God promised us regarding temptation?
(I Corinthians 10:13)

26. What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know before?

27. How can you make this a part of your everyday life?



Please memorize: I Corinthians 10:13; Ephesians 6:10,11

Title to Verses: OVERCOMING SIN & TEMPTATION



SEPARATION

When the Bible speaks of *separation*, God is talking about separation from sin, and the world of sin in which we live. When a person is saved, he is saved *from* hell (i.e. from all the sin and evil connected with it), *to* heaven (i.e. to eternal life and all the blessing which go with it).

Another word which is used in the Bible similar to “separation” is “sanctification” or “sanctify.” “Sanctify” or “sanctification” is used some 128 times in the Scriptures. The words “separate” and “separated” are used some 90 times by Jesus. So you see, this is a very important subject for us to consider.

In our first lesson, we talked of being saved for certain. This, in the Bible is called “justification” or being “justified”. Dr. William Evans, the first graduate of Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, gives us this marvelous comparison of *justification* and *sanctification*:

If regeneration has to do with our nature, justification with our standing, and adoption with our position, then sanctification has to do with our character and conduct. In justification we are declared righteous in order that, in sanctification, we may become righteous. Justification is what God does for us, while sanctification is what God does in us. Justification puts us into a right relationship with God, while sanctification exhibits the fruit of that relationship – a life separated from a sinful world and dedicated unto God.

1. Is there any difference between the way a saved person lives and the way a lost person lives? (II Corinthians 5:17)
2. What does it mean “If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature”? (II Corinthians 5:17)

3. Has there been any change in your life since you were saved?
☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, in what ways? _____

4. What does God say about His children making friends (entering into sin) with the world? (James 4:4)

Note: the term “world” means the lifestyle, value system and philosophy, contrary to God’s ways, that prevail among the unsaved.

5. How do God’s ways and man’s ways compare? (Isaiah 55:8,9)

6. Whose ways are best, God’s or man’s? (Psalm 18:30)

☐ God’s ways ☐ Man’s ways

7. What should be our relationship with the world? (I John 2:15,16)

(Use the above definition of the “world”).

8. What further description is given about our relationship with the “world”? (Romans 12:2)

9. God has promised a special blessing to those who do what? (Psalm 1:1)

10. Where should the delight of the Christian be placed? (Psalm 1:2)

11. What are the consequences of adopting the ways of the world in your life? (Isaiah 59:2)

12. *Who personally makes our bodies His dwelling place?*
(I Corinthians 6:19a)

13. What should be our attitude toward our physical bodies?
(I Corinthians 6:19b)

14. List several sins against the physical body. (*Things that tear it down or make it morally impure.*)

15. What should we do with our bodies? (Romans 12:1)

16. What should be our attitude toward drinking alcoholic beverages?
(Proverbs 23:29-35)

17. Should we ever curse? (Ephesians 4:29)

☐ Yes ☐ No

18. What about using slang? (Ephesians 4:29)

☐ Yes ☐ No

19. Look up the following commonly used words in a good dictionary: *dang, darn, gosh, and heck.*

Are these actually curse words?

☐ Yes ☐ No

20. Should men wear long hair? (I Corinthians 11:14)

☐ Yes ☐ No

21. Should women have short hair like men? (I Corinthians 11:15)

☐ Yes ☐ No

22. Is it proper for girls and women to wear immodest, suggestive clothing (tight fitting, revealing)? (I Timothy 2:9)

☐ Yes ☐ No

23. How about bare midriffs, short skirts, short shorts, or low-cut tops?

☐ Yes ☐ No

24. Should we wear that which identifies with or conforms to the current worldly trends such as earrings on men, multiple body-piercings, tattoos, unusual hairstyles, etc.? (Romans 12:2)

☐ Yes ☐ No

25. By what *Biblical principles* can a Christian determine what is *right and wrong in God's sight* regarding "questionable" things?

A. Romans 14:20 _____

B. Romans 14:21 _____

C. Romans 14:23 _____

26. How would you evaluate such things as smoking, rock music, drugs, dancing, movies, videos which are vulgar or suggestive, gambling, the lottery, pornography, etc. in the light of the above Biblical principles?

27. What should be our position toward professing Christians who *practice* fornication (sexual sin), covetousness, idolatry, railing (cursing or bad language), drunkenness or extortion (thievery)? (I Corinthians 5:9-13)

28. Name two circumstances under which we should separate from other Christians:

A. II Thessalonians 3:6 _____

B. II Thessalonians 3:14 _____

29. What should be our attitude toward them? (II Thessalonians 3:15)

30. Should a Christian have a *tolerant attitude* toward a preacher, evangelist, Bible teacher or cult that *does not preach the truth*? (Galatians 1:6-9)

☐ Yes ☐ No

31. What is our responsibility to the whole teaching of the Bible (called “the faith”)? (Jude 3)

32. What are we commanded to do about deceivers who do not accept the Bible’s teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ, such as Jehovah’s Witnesses, Mormon, Christian Scientist, Unitarian, Roman Catholic, Church of Christ, Seventh Day Adventist, Buddhist, or Muslim? What about a Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian or Lutheran who does not accept what the Bible teaches about Jesus? (II John 7-11)

33. Is *separation* definitely *commanded* in God’s Word? (II Corinthians 6:17,18)

☐ Yes ☐ No

34. What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know before?

35. How can you make this a part of your everyday life?



Please memorize: I John 2:15; II Corinthians 6:17,18

Title to Verses: SEPARATION

LESSON
#10

MUSIC AND THE CHRISTIAN

Music has always held a wonderful place in the lives of God's people. Moses sang after crossing the Red Sea. King David wrote and sang many of the most wonderful songs of praise that have ever been written by man. Heaven itself rings with songs of praise to God.

Music also poses a very real dilemma for the modern day believer. We are faced with a broad spectrum of musical styles even within what is commonly considered to be "Christian music". Are all these musical styles ranging from "hard rock" to "classical" appropriate for me as a Christian? And what about the message and teachings communicated by these songs? We should carefully examine these and other questions in the light of God's Word.

Thoughtfully answer the following questions from the Scripture passages indicated.

1. What kind of worship does God require? (John 4:24)
A. _____
B. _____
2. Is worship that violates either of the above truths *acceptable* to God?
☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Describe how is God to be worshipped? (Psalm 29:2b)

4. Does *sensual* or irreverent music meet this qualification?
☐ Yes ☐ No Why -or- why not? _____

5. Scripture teaches that sacred music is not all about the music *itself*, but is a vehicle to communicate what? Give a one word answer. (Exodus 15:2; Psalm 118:14; Isaiah 12:2)

6. What are some scriptural purposes of music? (Colossians 3:16)

7. According to Ephesians 5:18-19, does music seem to play a role in the Spirit-filled life?

☐ Yes ☐ No Explain your answer: _____

Note: When the New Testament Scriptures were inspired in the first century A.D., many areas of Christian living and standards of holiness were addressed by general principles rather than by exhaustive lists of do's and don'ts. For example, questions of narcotics, dating standards and other areas were not all specifically spelled out, as is indicated by the fact that at the end of the description of the flesh in Galatians 5:21, Paul said, "And such like," leaving the believer to make discerning, Spirit-led decisions about other areas of life.

8. Look at the descriptions of the flesh-filled life in contrast to the Spirit-filled life in Galatians 5:19-23.

List any of the *works of the flesh* found in verses 19-21 which could be communicated through music:

9. From Galatians 5:22-23 list the aspects of the fruit of the Spirit that could be communicated in music.

10. Which one aspect of the fruit of the Spirit is often mentioned in connection with music? (Psalms 100:1; 98:4)

11. What happened to Elisha after he was ministered to by music? (II Kings 3:15) Note his frame of mind prior to that in II Kings 3:11-15.

12. What do you think the music was like in Elisha's case?

13. One of the terms from Galatians 5:21 is "reveling" (i.e. wild partying). The Scripture gives an account of revelry in worship at Sinai in Exodus 32:17-26 (compare to I Corinthians 10:7). What do you think their music sounded like, and what role do you think music could have played in creating the atmosphere of reveling? [Note, the term translated "naked" in v. 25 can be translated, "out of control."]

14. Read the account of David ministering with music to Saul in I Samuel 16:18-23. What descriptions of carnality (the "old man" or the flesh) may relate to Saul's character before David's ministry?

15. Which specific aspects of the fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23 did Saul exhibit after David's musical ministry?

16. Scripture defines the true nature of spiritual blessing in I Corinthians 14:15. True spiritual blessing occurs when what two faculties of man are engaged?

(1) _____

(2) _____

17. Many have justified their use of music fashioned after the contemporary world by saying that it would be used for evangelism. But what is the true power of God for salvation?

Romans 1:16 _____

I Corinthians 1:18-21 _____

18. Concerning this goal of reaching the lost, does the *end* justify the *means* – even if the intent is very good? (Romans 3:8)

☐ Yes ☐ No

"It is never right to do wrong, even in order to get a chance to do right." - Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

19. Haggai 2:11-14 records the mixing of good and bad elements in worship. Think about it – when worship is mixed with good and bad, does the good tend to sanctify the bad, or does the bad tend to defile the good?

☐ The good tends to sanctify the bad.

☐ The bad tends to defile the good.

20. Read the following quote from the CCM (Contemporary Christian Music) perspective. "We take the music of the street and apply Christian lyrics to it." (Billy Ray Hearn, owner of Sparrow Records)

Does the attitude revealed in this quote fulfill the admonition of Romans 12:2 to not be conformed to this world?

☐ Yes ☐ No

21. When our lives are supernaturally changed through salvation in Christ, should our music also *change*? (II Corinthians 5:17; Psalm 96:1)
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
22. To whom should we be certain that our music choices, as well as all areas of the Christian life, are acceptable? (Ephesians 5:10)
-
23. Does putting a “Christian” label on something automatically mean that it is acceptable to God?
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
24. What should our attitude be toward anything that is clearly identified with a sinful, pagan culture? (I John 2:15-17)
-

Read the following quotes from reputable sources concerning Christian Music:

*It is difficult to comprehend how Christian musicians can talk about new creation, new life in Christ, resurrection values, righteousness, and purity, and proceed to wrap these lofty and spiritual concepts and values into a new-pagan, primitive, rhythmic, atheistic musical style copied directly from those who have declared war on these very values ... Christian rock groups have brought into the church a music reflecting man's warfare against God. - Cynthia Maus in **Christ and the Fine Arts***

This particular sound and style in music did not originate with dedicated Christians who loved the Lord and felt impressed by the Holy Spirit to write it . . . To take the music that is inspired by the god of this world (Satan) and use it to worship our heavenly Father is totally contrary to what we are taught in the Word of God. - Gordon Sears

*The excuse that ‘sometimes people are saved’ is no excuse at all. People have been saved in concentration camps because God can bring good from evil, but this does not justify the evil. - Dr. Francis Schaeffer, **Addicted to Mediocrity***

The big question is whether pop music communicates the gospel in this way. We maintain that it does not, for the crucial reason that the

medium has a distorting influence on the message.- John Blanchard, **Pop Goes the Gospel**, pg. 79

The worship of God is not a branch of the entertainment industry.

- and -

Worship is the entertainment of God, not the entertainment of man.

- Dr. David Innes

*If the singing of sacred music is for teaching and admonishing the child of God—if it is to influence the Christian's spiritual life—the music must reflect and reinforce Biblical truths. - Dr. Frank Garlock, **Music in the Balance**, pg. 54*

*The new child of God sheds many things as he begins the Christian life. Many of the habits, actions, thoughts, activities, and desires which reflect the world are left behind as the Holy Spirit takes rule . . . the world's music ought to be one of those things left behind. - Dr. Frank Garlock, **Music In The Balance**, pg. 22*

*If any style of music . . . creates feelings, ideas, emotions, values, or moods that are of, by, or for the unchanged way of life, such music is out of place in the changed life experience. - Robert Berglund, **A Philosophy of Church Music***

*Far too much discussion of rock has focused on rock's effects upon man rather than its offensiveness to God. The result is that many are more interested in what God might permit than in how He might be pleased. - Richard Peck, **Rock: Making Musical Choices***

*But let us who hold to the authority of Scripture keep to that music which expresses praise to God in a way that is neither sensational nor sensual – not attempting to gain the applause of the world but desiring the approval of God. - Tim Fisher, **The Battle for Christian Music***

*Rock, rhythm and blues, jazz, pop tunes, Bossa Nova, etc. are all products of the world. These [Contemporary Christian] musicians are taking the fleshly and are saying, in effect, 'We are going to appeal to the spiritual.' It cannot be done . . . It is interesting to note that most of these styles have had their origin as dance music. - Lowell Hart, former dance band musician, **Satan's Music Exposed**, pg. 123*

25. What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know before?

26. How can you make this a part of your everyday life?



Please memorize: Psalm 96;1,2; John 4:24

Title to Verses: MUSIC AND THE CHRISTIAN

For more information on the issue concerning music and the Christian we recommend the following books:

- ✿ *Harmony in the Home* by Tim Fisher, Sacred Music Services, Greenville, South Carolina.
- ✿ *The Battle for Christian Music* by Tim Fisher, Sacred Music Services, Greenville, South Carolina.
- ✿ *Music in the Balance* by Frank Garlock and Kurt Woetzel, Majesty Music, Greenville, South Carolina.
- ✿ *Why I Left the Contemporary Christian Music Movement* by Dan Lucarini, Evangelical Press, Webster, New York.

We also recommend the following websites where you can find good Christian music for both Church ministry and personal use:

- ✿ Soundforth Music (Bob Jones University) www.soundforth.com
- ✿ Majesty Music www.majestymusic.com
- ✿ The Wilds Christian Association www.wilds.org



SOUL-WINNING OR WITNESSING

The Bible teaches us that we should be soul-winners for Jesus, and also that we should witness. We should tell others who have not yet accepted the *Lord Jesus Christ* as their personal Savior that they need to be saved, that they can be saved, and then we should give them an opportunity to hear the gospel and be saved.

In the following study, we will look into some of the experience of others as they *witnessed* for the *Lord*, and also complete instructions on just how to go about leading someone to *Jesus*.

1. After Andrew had found *Christ*, what did he do? (John 1:40-42a)

2. What did Philip do when he found *Christ* and started following *Him*? (John 1:45)

3. When Nathanael doubted, what was Philip's answer? (John 1:46b)

4. What did the woman of Samaria do when she realized she had actually met the *Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son*? (John 4:28,29)

5. After the blind man had met *Christ*, what did he tell his friends? (John 9:11)

6. Could the blind man answer all the questions they asked him? (John 9:25a)

☐ Yes ☐ No

7. What did he tell them? (John 9:25b)
-

From what we have learned so far, it is evident that those who really knew the *Lord Jesus* were anxious to tell others what *He* had done for them.

(REMEMBER: Witnessing effectively without a life to back it up is like trying to live without breathing. It is impossible!)

8. What is one way in which a person's life will back up his testimony? (John 13:34,35)
-

9. Who is supposed to tell others about the *Lord Jesus*? (John 20:21b)
-

10. Did the *Lord Jesus* ordain (appoint) all Christians to a task? (John 15:16a)

☐ Yes ☐ No

11. What two things are we ordained (appointed) to do? (John 15:16a)
-

12. How many of your family, friends, and personal contacts does *God* want to save from the judgment of their sins? (II Peter 3:9)
-

13. What kind of people is God interested in saving? (Matthew 9:12,13)
-

14. What does our *Lord Jesus* say about the one who is ashamed of *Him*? (Luke 9:26)
-

15. Why must we tell people that *Jesus* is the *Way*, the *Truth*, and the *Life*?

John 14:6b _____

Acts 4:12 _____

Mark 16:16b _____

16. What caused the Apostle Paul to witness? (II Corinthians 5:14,15)

17. If we have been *obedient* in reading, studying, meditating upon, and memorizing *God's Word*, how will the *Holy Spirit* help us when we try to tell others about *Jesus*? (John 14:26)

18. Does *God* expect us to witness *in our own strength*? (Acts 1:8)

☐ Yes ☐ No

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom He hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy. Psalm 107:2

19. What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know before?

20. How can you make this a part of your everyday life?



Please memorize: Proverbs 11:30; Matthew 28:19,20

Title to Verses: SOUL-WINNING

Write out your own testimony as though you were telling someone what the *Lord Jesus* has done for you. Your testimony is simply:

- A. those things that you know have happened already in your life due to the fact you have invited the *Lord Jesus Christ* into your life and
- B. the circumstances surrounding this event. A salvation testimony should be divided into three parts:
 - (1) your life before you met *Christ*;
 - (2) what led to your acceptance of *Christ*;
 - (3) how your life has been different since you met *Christ*.

[illegible]



BIBLE STUDY

Bible reading and study are a vital part of our communication with God! In *prayer*, we speak directly to *God*. Through the *Bible*, *God* speaks directly to *us*.

1. What assurance do I have that the *Bible* is the *Word of God*? (II Timothy 3:16)

2. How much of the *Bible* is *inspired*? (II Timothy 3:16)

Note: The Greek word translated into our English word “inspired” literally means “God-breathed.” To say that the Bible is inspired means that it is given directly by God through the men who wrote it. It is God’s words *breathed* through human instruments.

3. How did the Bible *not* come to us? (II Peter 1:21a)

4. *Who* directed men in their writing of the *Scriptures*? (II Peter 1:21b)

5. What title is the *Bible* given in:

Hebrews 4:12 _____

II Timothy 2:15 _____

6. How *important* is the reading and study of *God’s Word*?

Job 23:12 _____

Matthew 4:4 _____

7. How powerful is *God's Word*?

Romans 1:16 _____

Hebrews 4:12 _____

8. *Who* will *help* us to understand *God's Word*? (John 16:13)

9. What will *He* do to *help* us? (John 16:13)

10. What danger does a Christian face who does not know *God's Word*? (Ephesians 4:14)

11. What is one of the reasons for reading and studying the *Bible*? (I Peter 3:15)

12. What should be the *natural response* of the Christian to the *Word of God*? (I Peter 2:2a)

13. What should be the natural result of reading and studying the *Word of God*? (I Peter 2:2b)

14. What are we *commanded* to do as Christians in regard to *Bible study*? (II Peter 3:18)

15. *How often* should we read and study the *Bible*? (Acts 17:11)

16. From the following verses of Scripture, name, A) what we are to *do* (action) with the Word of God, and B) the *blessings* that will result.

Joshua 1:8

action: _____

blessing: _____

Psalms 1:1-3

action: _____

blessing: _____

Psalms 119:11

action: _____

blessing: _____

Jeremiah 15:16

action: _____

blessing: _____

John 5:39

action: _____

blessing: _____

Romans 10:17

action: _____

blessing: _____

II Timothy 2:15

action: _____

blessing: _____

17. What direct *benefit* and *profit* do we gain from a knowledge of the *Holy Scriptures*? (II Timothy 3:16,17)

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

E. _____

F. _____

18. Name two word pictures that describe the *guidance* that the *Bible* will give to the Christian. (Psalm 119:105)

A. _____

B. _____

19. What relationship should the knowledge of *God's Word* have to *obedience*? (James 1:22)

In your reading and study of the *Bible*, you should look for:

- A. Promises to claim
- B. Commands to obey
- C. Sins to forsake
- D. Examples to follow
- E. Warnings to heed

SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

There is much confusion in the "Christian World" over the many Bible translations and paraphrases available today. This course of study is based upon the *King James Version* of the Bible. Christians need to be warned that most of the new translations and paraphrases of the Bible *are not true* to the *original texts* of Scripture and that they *should not be used*!

The *only* English translations other than the King James Version, that our church recommends are the *New Kings James Version* and the *New American Standard Bible*.



Please memorize: Psalm 119:11; Joshua 1:8; II Timothy 2:15

Title to Verses: BIBLE STUDY



STAYING IN THE CITY

In the year 1996, 46% of the world's population resided in cities. By 2030, it is estimated that 61% of all people will be city-dwellers.

Since New Testament days, the city church has been the only hope for millions of people who had no hope in these crowded cities. Godly men and women, who have committed themselves to stay in the city and minister through the city church, have been used by the Lord to reach countless millions for the Lord.

1. Cities are made up of great crowds of people. What did Jesus see when He look at the great crowds? (Matthew 9:36)

2. Where did Jesus go first to teach and preach? (Matthew 11:1)

3. What was Jesus' attitude toward crowded cities?

A. Matthew 14:14 _____

B. Luke 19:41 _____

4. What was Jesus' heart's desire for the great city of Jerusalem? (Matthew 23:37)

5. Where did Jesus send the seventy to minister? (Luke 10:1)

6. To what city did Jesus send the apostles of the early church to begin the spread of the gospel? (Acts 1:4,8)

7. The early church started in the cities and later spread to the country side. Today there are many country churches and very few city churches.

A. Why do you think more people are not called to the cities?

B. Why don't more Christians who already live in the cities feel called to spread the gospel in the cities?

8. In what condition did Paul find the city of Athens? (Acts 17:16)

9. What was his response? (Acts 17:16)

10. What kind of dangers and difficulties faced the Christians in the early church? (Acts 20:22,23)

11. How did they respond to these dangers and difficulties? (Acts 20:24)

12. What was their life's goal? (Acts 20:24)

13. What kinds of problems did Paul have to overcome to follow God's will for his life? (II Corinthians 11:26)

14. Did the cities pose serious dangers for Christians like Paul?
(II Corinthians 11:26)

☐ Yes ☐ No

15. Can God secure our safety in the city? (Acts 18:9,10)

☐ Yes ☐ No

16. Should you and I respond to the needs of the city just as the Lord Jesus, the apostles and the early Christians did?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Consider what often happens to people who are saved in the city:

- A. They are converted, they are saved.
- B. They begin to grow and learn to live a life pleasing to the Lord.
- C. They experience spiritual healing and begin to leave behind the sins which had devastated their lives.
- D. They begin to advance in every area of their lives: employment, education, relationships, marriage, and the rearing of children.
- E. Then something dramatic begins to take place: They begin to question why they are living in such an ungodly place. They notice how expensive it is to live in the city. They find better employment opportunities elsewhere. Suddenly, the city has lost its attractiveness, and they begin to think that perhaps God is leading them to the better life in the suburbs or the country side.

17. Has God really called us to find and live *the better life*?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Remember: *There are a number of wrong reasons to leave the city.*

“The city church is not a conveyor belt from the lost streets to a comfortable life somewhere a long way away.”

Dr. Christopher Cagan,
Fundamentalist Baptist Tabernacle
Los Angeles, California

18. Why did Demas give up serving with Paul in mission work?
(II Timothy 4:10)

19. Was this a legitimate reason? (I John 2:15)

☐ Yes ☐ No

20. Why can too much concern about comfort, pleasure or the pursuit of wealth be dangerous? (Luke 8:7,14)

21. In the *last days* what will people love more than they love God?
(II Timothy 3:4)

22. Where should we seek for pleasures that truly satisfy? (Psalm 16:11)

23. Should Christians expect a life of service for the Lord in this world to be an easy life of luxury, pleasure or wealth? (John 15:18-20; John 16:33)

☐ Yes ☐ No Why or why not? _____

24. What types of excuses do people often have for not following the Lord? (Luke 14:16-19; 14:33)

25. Should we be willing to make the necessary sacrifice to make the ministry of the city church possible? (Luke 9:23,24)

☐ Yes ☐ No

26. Can we really be a follower of Christ if we are not willing to sacrifice to serve Him? (Luke 9:24)

☐ Yes ☐ No

27. What does God want us to present to Him? (Romans 12:1,2)

28. Have you ever made such a commitment to Him?

☐ Yes ☐ No

29. Have you ever recognized your own personal indebtedness to those who, at great cost and sacrifice, kept the city church alive and active so that you could hear the gospel, be saved, grow in the Lord and find the spiritual nurturing and encouragement you so desperately needed?

☐ Yes ☐ No

30. Have you seriously considered dedicating the rest of your life to the ministry of the gospel in this city? (Isaiah 6:8) Others have. Are you willing to do so?

☐ Yes ☐ No

31. Why did many leave Christ and not really follow Him?
(John 6:26,27)

What did they really want? _____

We should be grateful, not only to God, but to those believers that He used to deliver and to help us. Though we owe our lives and our destinies to the Lord Jesus, we also owe a great debt to the church which God used to lead us to Christ and to help change our lives. Leaving the city church for *greener pastures* is not consistent with God's ways.

32. In contrast to doing what we most desire to do, what does Jesus require us to do? (Luke 9:23,24)

33. Which should come first: our careers or the ministry of the gospel in the local church? (Matthew 6:33a)

34. What will be the result if our priorities are right?
(Matthew 6:33b)

It does not hurt you to put Jesus first.

Dr. Robert Hymers
Fundamentalist Baptist Tabernacle
Los Angeles, California

35. What kind of price have others paid that you might have the blessing of this local church?

36. Will you make a commitment to stay here in the city unless the Lord *definitely* moves you elsewhere?

☐ Yes ☐ No



Please memorize: Acts 1:8; Isaiah 6:8; Luke 9:23

Title to Verses: STAYING IN THE CITY



HAPPINESS FOREVER

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength. Isaiah 26:3

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. Psalm 1:1-3

The word “blessed” means “happy” and refers to a deep abiding joy and fulfillment. Please substitute the word “happy” for “blessed” and then read the above verses again.

After you finish this lesson, you will want to continue to live a happy Christian life. In order to do so, there are several things you must remember to do for your Lord.

We are instructed in the Bible to spend a certain portion of each day alone with the *Lord*. You ought to set out now to find time each day for a quiet time in which you talk to *God*, and *God* talks to you.

Set aside *one hour, or thirty minutes, or at least fifteen minutes* when your mind is the clearest, and get away from all noise, commotion, telephone, TV, radio, your children, wife, husband, etc., *just the Lord and you*.

1. How often should we take up the cross of Jesus? (Luke 9:23)
-

2. What time of the day is a good time to be alone with the *Lord*?

Psalm 5:3 _____

Psalm 55:17 _____

THE MORNING WATCH

The early morn with Jesus; His happy, welcome guest!
The first glad thought for Jesus, The brightest and the best!
Alone, alone, with Jesus, No other may intrude,
The secrets of Jehovah, Are told in solitude.
This is the time to worship, This is the time for prayer;
The sweetest time for laying The heart's petitions bare.
The time for holy wrestling, The time to intercede;
The time to win from Jesus, The help and strength we need.

— Author Unknown

THE SECRET

I met God in the morning
When the day was at its best,
And His Presence came like sunrise,
Like a glory in my breast.
All day long the Presence lingered,
All day long He stayed with me,
And we sailed in perfect calmness
O'er a very troubled sea.
Other ships were blown and battered,
Other ships were sore distressed,
But the winds that seemed to drive them
Brought to us a peace and rest.
When I thought of other mornings,
With a keen remorse of mind,
When I too had loosed the moorings
With the Presence left behind.
So I think I know the secret,
Learned from many a troubled way;
You must seek Him in the morning
If you want Him through the day.

— Ralph S. Cushman

3. List several things which you can do when you get alone with the *Lord*.

Revelation 1:3

A. _____

B. _____

II Timothy 2:15

A. _____

B. _____

Psalms 119:9,11; Proverbs 7:3

A. _____

B. _____

Romans 10:1; James 5:16

A. _____

B. _____

4. When you pray, there are several things which should be included in prayer. Name them:

A. I John 1:9 _____

B. I Thessalonians 5:18 _____

C. Ephesians 1:15-20 _____

D. Psalm 107:8,9 _____

E. Matthew 7:7 _____

5. Where can you go to be alone with Jesus? (Matthew 6:5,6)

6. What does the LORD especially love? (II Corinthians 9:7)

7. What is the best way to ensure a life of abundant fruit for the Lord? (II Corinthians 9:6)

8. Jesus has promised a crown of righteousness for those who do what? (II Timothy 4:8)

9. What has Jesus given us? (II Peter 1:3,4)

10. Where is Jesus today? (John 14:1-3)

11. What is Jesus doing in Heaven? (John 14:1-3)

True happiness in the Christian's life results when Christians are faithful to the LORD in all things such as:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. praying | F. joining a church |
| B. tithing | G. reading & studying the Bible |
| C. being baptized | H. having victory over the Devil |
| D. soul-winning | I. separating from the world |
| E. preaching the Word | J. obeying His commands |

12. What did the Lord tell us to do so that we may prosper? (Joshua 1:7)

13. What did the Lord tell us to do in order to have good success? (Joshua 1:8)

14. How does God deal with a disobedient Christian? (Hebrews 12:5-9)

Please note that the word “chasten” means to *discipline*. It is important that you understand that discipline can be administered for two *totally different reasons*:

- A) to *correct wrong conduct*;
- B) to develop and strengthen *Christian character and moral virtues*.

God's discipline comes to us *many times for the second reason*.

Adversity strengthens our character, and whether we enjoy it or not, *we need it.*

When God disciplines us we should *examine* our lives to see if there is *disobedience or wrong conduct* in our lives. If there is, we should immediately *confess* and *correct* it! If we know of none, we should joyfully submit to *God's dealings* with us in faith believing, *No chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.* (Hebrews 12:11)

15. What drastic measure will God sometimes take with a Christian who lives in *gross sin or persistent rebellion*? (I John 5:16)

16. Do you desire to always live a godly life for the *Lord Jesus Christ*?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Please go back and review each of the assigned memory verses. Work at them diligently until you can say them “word perfect,” and then seek to tell the world what you have learned.



Please memorize: I Corinthians 15:58; Philippians 1:6;
I Thessalonians 5:24

Title to Verses: HAPPINESS FOREVER

DATE LESSONS COMPLETED: _____

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them. II Timothy 2:14

Congratulations on finishing this lesson series.

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU RICHLY AS YOU
CONTINUE TO LIVE WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED!**