

NEW CHRISTIAN CLASS



THE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF GOD

HEAD OFFICE 012 667 1072/3/4/5

**Distributed by ISAAC, Evangelism arm of the FGC
DIRECTOR: Pastor M M Berrangé 083 456 0946**

Dr. John C Maxwell

What is the difference? Religion = _____ (have to earn your way)
Christianity = _____ (Jesus paid the price)

I. BEING CONFIDENT IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST

We can be confident in our relationship with Christ because we have been completely forgiven and accepted by God. Only Christ's death on the cross is sufficient to provide this proper relationship with God.

Read Ephesians 2:8-9: Three important words in these verses explain the basis of our acceptance before God -

A. GRACE = unmerited favour; an undeserved gift.
What role did grace play in establishing our relationship with God? _____

B. SAVED = rescued; delivered from disaster.
What do you think this verse means by saying we are "saved?"
From what are we rescued?

C. FAITH = belief; trust; commitment of mind, attitude, action.
What does faith have to do with receiving Christ? _____

Key Question: Suppose you were standing before God and He asked you, "Why should I let you into heaven?" What would you say?

II. UNDERSTANDING TRUTHS ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST

There are many exciting things that are true in our relationship with Christ. The following truths are what Christ did for us the moment we confessed Him as our Saviour and Lord (**None of them can be earned**):

A. Ephesians 1:7 - _____

B. John 1:12 - _____

C. Revelation 3:20 - _____
Will Christ ever leave you? (Hebrews 13:5-6; John 6:37)

D. II Corinthians 5:17 - _____

E. I John 5:11-13 - _____

Key Question: If you were to die tonight, are you sure that you would spend eternity with God?

III. DEALING WITH DOUBTS IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST

What are some reasons we might begin to doubt our salvation?

Doubts, questions and varying emotions are common traits in everyone’s life, but they are not a reliable way to measure anyone’s relationship with Christ. The Christian lives by faith in the trustworthiness of God and His Word. How does this work?

A. *Do not depend upon feelings.*

(No matter how you feel, God always remains committed to you)

- 1. FACT - God and His Word (absolute truth)
- 2. FAITH - Our trust in God and His Word, despite how we feel.
- 3. FEELINGS - Up and down (Good feelings may come and go, but the fact of God’s love for you and His forgiveness remains consistent.)

So, what if I don’t feel like a Christian tomorrow?

The more we learn of His Word, the more we will be able to answer doubts with solid facts. Our feelings will begin to respond to the truth of God’s Word and not to our circumstances.

B. *Don’t confuse the gift of salvation with the growing process.* (Read I Peter 1-2)

Example: Compare PHYSICAL BIRTH vs. SPIRITUAL BIRTH (John 3)

PHYSICAL BIRTH

SPIRITUAL BIRTH

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

When is your spiritual birthday? _____

If you have any doubts about whether or not you are a Christian, please feel free to talk to us.

LESSON 2

HOW CAN I READ AND UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE?

Theme: The Bible is one of the main ways that God has provided for us to know, love, and enjoy Him.

Memorise II Timothy 3:16-17

"All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."

I. PICTURE OF THE WORD

A. Overview

1. _____ books.
2. Central figure - _____

The world was made by Him and for Him (Colossians 1:16).
World history will culminate in Him (Revelation 11:15).
Old Testament looks forward to Him.
New Testament reveals Him.

3. The Bible gives us a sweeping picture of _____ dealings with _____. It records primarily what God has to say to man about:
 - a. _____
His character, thoughts, feelings, heart, actions.
 - b. _____
Our sin and its consequences.
 - c. How to live in a dependent relationship with God through Jesus.

B. Old Testament

1. _____ books.
2. God's dealings with man from _____ till 400 years before _____.
3. Breakdown:

- a. **The Books of the Law** –
Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy (the beginnings of all things and the beginnings of Israel, the nation through which salvation by grace would be made available to the entire world)
- b. **The Books of History** –
Joshua, Judges, Ruth, I Samuel, II Samuel, I Kings, II Kings, I Chronicles, II Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther (these books picture the rise and fall of Israel over a 1 000 year period)
- c. **The Books of Poetry** –
Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastics, Song of Solomon (written as poetry to share depth of human feelings, yet to trust in God alone)
- d. **The Books of Prophecy** –
Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi (These books are not in chronological order. The prophets, official spokesmen whom God raised up to speak for Him, especially in times of unbelief and rebellion, came into special prominence during the decline and fall of Israel and Judah.)

C. ***New Testament***

1. _____ books.
2. God's dealings with man during and after Christ.
3. Breakdown:
 - a. **Gospel** –
Matthew, Mark, Luke, John (These books record the earthly life and ministry of Jesus Christ.)
 - b. **Acts** –
This book records the first church and early growth of Christianity (through the apostles) after Jesus' resurrection and ascension.
 - c. **Epistles** –
Romans, I Corinthians, II Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, I Thessalonians, II Thessalonians, I Timothy, II Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, I Peter, II Peter, 1 John, II John, III John, Jude (These books contain the inspired correspondence of the apostles and those chosen by our Lord to communicate His truth to His children – followers of Jesus.)

d. **Prophecy** –

Revelation (This is the climactic book of the Bible giving us a glimpse into the future and the culmination of all history in the events surrounding the second coming of Jesus Christ.)

II. POWER OF THE WORD

A. What promise do we find in Isaiah 55:11?

B. What results from meditating on the Word (Psalm 1)?

III. PERSONAL APPLICATION OF THE WORD

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

Suggested versions:

1. The Living Bible (easiest to read)
2. New International Version (easy to read and accurate)
3. New American Standard (closest to original Greek manuscripts)

D. _____

1. See “How and Where to Start Reading the Bible”.
2. “A Closer Walk”
3. *Faith: a 31-Day Experiment* by Dick Purnell

IV. PRACTICAL TOOLS FOR THE WORD

A. *Halley’s Bible Handbook* – this gives a summary of every book and chapter in the Bible (who wrote it, when it was written, etc.)

B. *What The Bible Is All About* – by Henriëtta Mears

C. *How To Study The Bible For Yourself* – by Tim LaHaye

D. *Understanding Your Bible* – by Josh McDowell

E. *3 - Minute Panorama Of The Bible* – by Robert Flood

F. **HOW AND WHERE TO START READING THE BIBLE**

Sheryl Fleisher

This is to help begin the habit of listening and talking to God each day. The purpose of reading the Bible is to know who God is so that we might grow in our relationship with Him. So, before you read, pray and ask God to reveal Himself to you that you might fall more deeply in love with Him each day.

While reading the suggested passages below, try and do the following:

1. Look for a verse that stands out to you or speaks to you personally.
2. Take a pen or pencil and put a little "FV" at that verse in your Bible. (FV stands for Favourite Verse.)
3. Spend a few minutes meditating on how and why that is your favourite.
4. Using that verse, pray for yourself and others. For example, in James, Chapter 1, your favourite verse might be verse 5, which might cause you to pray something like this:

(For yourself) – *"Give me Your wisdom, God, that I might see life, myself, and people through Your eyes. Thank you that You will give Your wisdom generously."*

(For others) – *"Please begin to reveal Your truth and wisdom to _____."*

READ:

FAVOURITE VERSE:

James 1

James 2

James 3

James 4

James 5

After James, begin reading the following books:

1. John (this will take you on a journey through the life of Christ)
2. Philippians (positive attitude during difficult circumstances)
3. Mark (the life of Christ seen from a slightly different perspective)
4. Ephesians (all that we have been given in Christ and how to live)
5. Matthew (another walk through the life of Christ)
6. Romans (the big picture of life and salvation from God's perspective)
7. Read the rest of the New Testament books that you haven't previously read.

LESSON 3

PRAYER – COMMUNICATION WITH GOD

What is God's main vehicle of communication with us? _____

What is our main vehicle of communication with Him? _____

I. PRINCIPLES OF PRAYER – Romans 8:26-29

A. What does the Holy Spirit do for us? (Romans 8:26)

1. _____
John 14:26; I Corinthians 3:16

2. _____ (He feels and empathises with us)

B. God hears our _____ more than the words in prayer (v. 27).

What application does that have for our prayer life? _____

C. God will always answer (vs. 28-29)

1. _____, I've got something better. (Matthew 26:36-39) God is more interested in our character than our circumstances.

2. _____, Not right now; hold on. (John 11)

3. _____, Get right within.

Psalm 66:18 _____

James 4:3 _____

Matthew 6:14-15 _____

4. _____, Yes I thought you'd never ask. (John 16:24)

5. _____, Yes, and here's more! (Ephesians 3:20)

II. PRACTISING PRAYER (see handout)

A – ADORATION – Praise God for who He is (Psalm 100)

C – CONFESSION – Agree with God concerning any specific sin (I John 1:9)

T – THANKSGIVING – Thank Him for what He has done (I Thessalonians 5:18)

S – SUPPLICATION – Ask Him to supply what you need (Philippians 4:6-7)

(Write down a prayer to God which includes the above 4 ingredients)

A Love-letter From Jesus

How are you? I just had to send you this letter to remind you of how much I love you and care about you.

I saw you yesterday as you were walking with your friends. I waited all day, hoping you would walk and talk with Me, too. As evening drew near, I gave you a sunset to close your day, and a cool breeze to rest you. Then I waited, but you never came. Oh, yes it hurt Me, but I still love you because I am your friend.

You awakened this morning and rushed off for the day. My tears were in the rain. Today you looked so sad and alone, it made my heart ache because I understand. My friends let Me down and hurt Me many times, but I still love you. I try to tell you in the quiet green grass, I whisper it in the leaves and trees, and breathe it in the colour of the flowers. I shout it to you in the mountain streams, and give the birds to sing for joy. I clothe you in warm sunshine, and perfume the air. My love for you is deeper than the biggest want or greatest need you could ever have.

We will spend eternity together in Heaven. I know how hard it is on earth. I really do know because I was there, and I want to help you. My Father wants to help you, too. He's just that way, you know. All you have to do is call Me, ask Me, talk to Me. It's your decision. I have already chosen you, but because of my love for you, I will wait until you ask Me

Your friend

Jesus

A GUIDE TO PRAYER

(You do NOT have to rigidly follow this format every time you talk to God. This is just a guideline you may follow in your communication with God.)

A - ADORATION

Hebrews 13:15; Psalm 34:1-3; Psalm 100; Psalm 145-150 are good examples of praise and adoration to God.

Adoration is praising God for WHO He is. Why do we need to do this?

1. It changes our attitude when we focus on the positive characteristics of God.
2. It gets our eyes off of ourselves. When we focus on the greatness of God, our problems on earth do not seem so serious.
3. He is God and deserves our praise!

What are some characteristics of God we can praise and adore?

Examples:

“Father, I praise You for your LOVE, that You love me with an unconditional and eternal love.”

“Father, I praise You for your GOODNESS, that every good thing in my life comes from You.”

“Father, I praise You for your HOLINESS, that You are perfect and can do nothing wrong.”

“Father, I praise You for your TRUTH, that no matter what I believe or don’t believe, You remain the same and are always absolute truth.”

C - CONFESSION

I John 1:9; Psalm 66:18

Why do we need to confess sin?

1. It restores our fellowship with God. Sin does not break our relationship with God, but it hinders our intimacy with Him.
2. To be honest with Him and with ourselves.
3. To thank Him for His forgiveness and ask Him for wisdom and help in avoiding that sin in future.

How do we confess our sin?

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any sin in your life. Psalm 139:23-24
2. Confess each sin individually and specifically to the Lord. 1 John 1:9

T - THANKSGIVING

Philippians 4:6-7; I Thessalonians 5:18

Thanksgiving is thanking God for what He has done. This helps us keep an attitude of gratitude and dependency. Here are some areas where you might want to express some thankfulness to God:

1. Spiritual blessings (forgiveness; eternal life; healing, etc.)
2. People in your life
3. Material blessings (house, shoes, job, etc.)
4. Physical blessings (health, eyes to see, etc.)
5. Answered prayer

S - SUPPLICATION

John 15:7; John 16:24; Matthew 21:22; Luke 11:9-13; Hebrew 4:15-16

Supplication is asking God to provide in specific needs in regard to others and yourself.

LESSON 4

HOW TO EFFECTIVELY HANDLE TEMPTATION

*“The proof of God’s love for you is His faithfulness in temptation.
The proof of your love to God is your fleeing temptation.” – John Maxwell*

Memorize I Corinthians 10:13

“No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.”

I. Assurance of victory over sin comes as we recognize certain truths concerning temptation

A. According to I Corinthians 10:13, what is true about every temptation we face?

1. Who can give you victory when tempted? _____
 2. Does God remove temptation? _____
 3. What does God do for you? _____
 4. What is our part and what is God’s part in overcoming temptation? _____
- _____

B. Is there a difference between temptation and sin according to Hebrews 4:15?

_____ Matt 22:37

What is sin? _____ Ex.20

II. Assurance of victory over sin comes as we recognize that the sources of temptation no longer have any power over us (Romans 8:1-2; 1 John 5:4-5)

A. According to James 1:13-14 where does a major source of temptation come from?

B. What are the three primary areas of temptation, according to I John 2:15-16?

Give an example of a specific temptation for each area mentioned and write down the solution as found in the corresponding verses

EXAMPLE	SOLUTION
Flesh _____	II Timothy 2:22 _____
Eyes _____	Romans 12:2 _____
	Psalm 119:9, 11 _____
Pride _____	James 4:7 _____
	Psalm 139 (correct view of ourselves)

HELP WITH OUR HABITS:

What is a habit? A habit is a wonderful invention that God has placed within each of us. You might say it is like a built-in automatic pilot. A habit is a thought or action that we have repeated until it has become automatic, and we do it without thinking. There are good habits, and there are bad habits. **God created and saved you to be the master of good habits, instead of the slave to bad habits!**

Understand how habits are formed....

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

How to become free from the habit that binds you ...

1. _____
Does it hurt me? Does it hinder me?
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

*Sow an act and you reap a habit.
Sow a habit and you reap a character.
Sow a character and you reap a destiny.*

LESSON 5

HOW TO EXPERIENCE FORGIVENESS

I. RECEIVING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

A. At Salvation ...

1. Read Ephesians 1:7; 2:1-9; Colossians 1:13-14; 2:13-14

Wrong View... We _____ something to _____ forgiveness.

Right View... Forgiveness is a _____ from God we receive through Christ! _____ our sins are forgiven by Him. (Although we may still be living and dealing with the consequences.)

2. Read the parable in Matthew 20:1-16 comparing it to the above truths and the following example:

The same _____ was _____ for our _____: The blood of Christ.

3. If God completely forgives us through Christ, what motivates us to continue to follow Him?

Suggested prayer of thanks to God: *"Father, thank you for forgiving me through Christ. I let go of all past sin and will no longer condemn myself. In Christ, I am now free to live a new life with You. Fill me with your gratitude and love. Teach me how to continue to receive and experience your forgiveness and grace."*

4. Once we have received God's forgiveness through Christ, according to II Corinthians 5:17-21, how does God view us?

-
5. According to Romans 8:1, what is no longer possible for those who are in Christ Jesus?

Difference between: CONVICTION and GUILT

Attacks the problem

Specific (self pity)

Holy Spirit

Concern about destructiveness to myself and others

Attacks the person

Vague (there you go again

Always feeling sorry for yourself

I am unworthy)

Satan (accuser) 1 Peter 5:8

Fear of punishment – Now I am going to get it

B. After Salvation ...

According to 1 John 1:6-10, what can inhibit our fellowship with Him? _____

This means that our relationship with God is secure because, through Christ, we are forgiven and accepted by God. However, our sense of intimacy, fellowship, and communication with Him can be hindered by sin.

1. What does it mean to “confess” sin? How should we confess?

- a. _____ with God that you have sinned. (It helps to name the sin specifically.)
- b. _____ God that He has already forgiven you. (Tell Him, “I receive Your forgiveness.”)
- c. _____ God if there is someone you need to talk to for help, advice, etc.? Is there someone you need to ask forgiveness? (Repentance Proverbs 28:13)

2. What are some ways by which we deceive ourselves concerning sin?

II. FORGIVING OTHERS – Read Matthew 18:21-35

Forgiving means that we actively CHOOSE to give up our grudge in spite of the severity of the injustice done to us. (Ephesians 4:32)

Healing process in forgiving others:

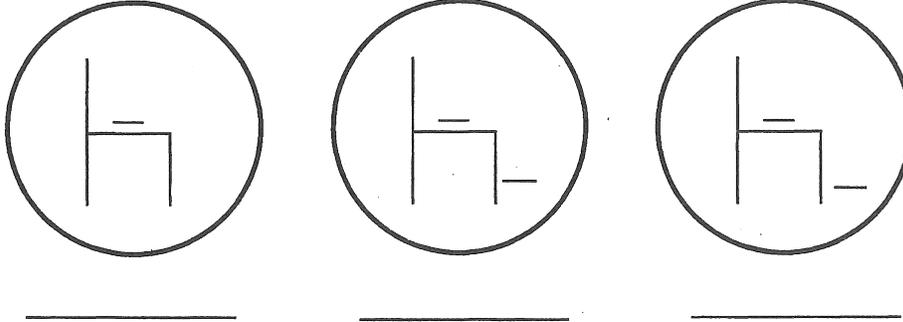
- 1. _____ hurt, anger, and any other emotion to God.
- 2. _____ for God’s perspective on yourself, the other person(s), and the situation (Psalm 139:23-24)
- 3. _____ to God any sin of resentment, bitterness, self-pity, etc.
- 4. _____ the person. “Because of God’s forgiveness, I forgive you, _____ (name the person).”
- 5. _____ for God to heal you emotionally.
- 6. _____ for the person regularly (Matthew 5:43-44).
- 7. _____ God if you need to go and share with the person involved.

Forgiveness is _____ - trust is _____

LESSON 6

HOW DOES CHRIST LIVE THROUGH ME ON A DAILY BASIS?

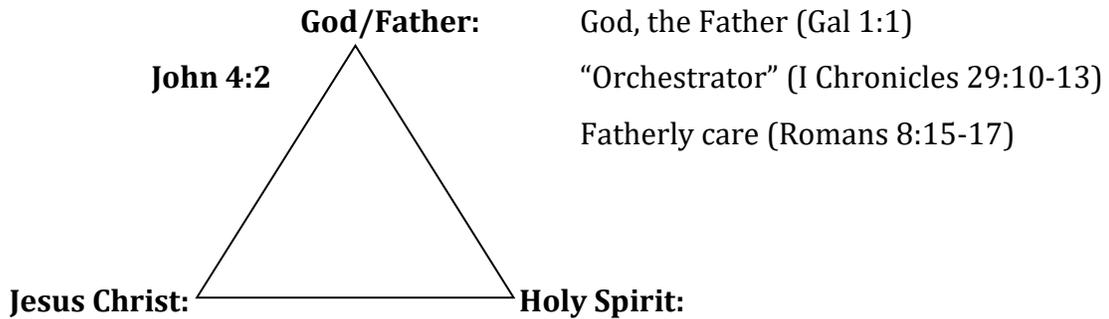
The Bible tells us that there are three kinds of people: I Corinthians 2:14 – 3:3



Living a spiritual life is
 Not difficult ... it's _____!
 Not natural ... it's _____!
 So how do we live as spiritual men and women?

I. Jesus Christ promised that the _____ would be our source of power for living the Christian life.

A. Who is the Holy Spirit? (Acts 5:3-4; I Corinthians 2:11-12) _____
 The Bible teaches that there is one God who has revealed Himself in 3 persons (or personalities) Deuteronomy 6:4; I Timothy 2:5.



God, the Son (John 5:18)
 "Reconciler" (Colossians 1:19-20)
 "Brotherly sympathy" (Hebrews 4:15-16)

God, the Spirit
 "Empowerer" (Acts 1:8)
 "Motherlike comfort" (John 14)

B. According to John 14:16-17, Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would be _____

C. According to John 16:5-14, the Holy Spirit would:

1. _____ the world;
2. _____ you into all truth;
3. _____ Christ.

**II. Though all Christians are _____ by the Holy Spirit,
not all Christians are _____ with the Holy Spirit.
(Ephesians 5:18)**

A. Filling is basically a matter of _____.

B. How can I be consistently filled with the Holy Spirit?

1. _____ - Matthew 5:6
2. _____ - I John 1:9
3. _____ - Romans 12:1; Galatians 2:20;
Proverbs 3:5-6
This is a _____ to _____ process!
4. _____ - Hebrews 4:12

C. What is the evidence of someone who is being controlled by the Spirit?

1. Galatians 5:22-23 _____

2. Acts 1:8 _____

PRAYER is a good way of expressing your desire and faith: *“Father, I know that I have been directing my own life and, as a result, I have sinned against You. I thank You that You have forgiven my sins through Christ’s death on the cross. I now invite Christ to take His place on the throne of my life. I want Him to be in control. Show me quickly, Holy Spirit, whenever I am being disobedient to You. I want You to shine through me. I love You!”*

LESSON 7

HOW TO RELATE TO OTHERS

What is God's definition of LOVE? (I Corinthians 13)

God's love is always _____ in the best interest of the other person.
Love is more action than feeling. Love is something we DO! (Study the life of Jesus to see His love in action.)

What are the two characteristics that Jesus demonstrated and wants to develop in us as followers of Him? (Mark 8)

1. _____ -Mark 8:2; Matthew 22:39; Ephesians 4:32
2. _____ -Mark 8:33; Romans 12:2; II Timothy 4:3-4

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES TO BUILD LOVING RELATIONSHIPS:

A. Treat others as we want to be treated. (Luke 6:31)

1. _____ - Matthew 25:40
2. _____ - James 1:19
"People do not care how much you know, until they know how much you care!"
3. _____ - I Thessalonians 1:2-3
4. _____ - Ephesians 4:29
5. _____ - Romans 12:15

B. Five steps to set us free so that we can relate well to others.

1. _____ - Romans 12:2
2. _____ - Psalm 139; Romans 8
His Image: My Image by Josh McDowell
3. _____ - II Corinthians 12:9-10
Healing Grace by David Seamands
4. _____ - Proverbs 28:13
5. _____ - James 5:13-16;
Galatians 6:2

C. Four principles for lasting relationships –

1. _____ - Romans 14:19
2. _____ - Ephesians 4:26-32

Dealing with anger:

- a. Admit it to yourself (don't suppress). (Ephesians 4:26)
- b. Don't take any immediate action (don't explode). Proverbs 29:11
- c. Talk to God about it – PRAY – ask for His perspective.
- d. Ask God to help you identify the cause or root of your anger. (You might need a wise friend, counsellor, or pastor to help you in this area.)
- e. Ask God if you need to go back and share your feelings with the person involved. Only do this after God has calmed you down and you have received His perspective.

3. _____ - Ephesians 4:15
4. _____ - Matthew 18:21-22;
Matthew 6:14-15; Luke 6:36-38; Colossians 3:12-13

APPLICATION:

1. Ask God to change you (quit blaming others).
2. Ask God to help you see yourself through His eyes.
3. Ask God to show you any person(s) to whom you need to go to and confess or ask forgiveness. Then do it!
4. Pick one weak area under "treating others" section and begin to practice doing it.

OTHER RECOMMENDED CHRISTIAN BOOKS:

The Friendship Factor by Alan Loy McGinnes
Personality Plus by Florence Littauer
Your attitude: Key to Success by John Maxwell
Be All That You Can Be by John Maxwell
The Search For Significance by Robert McGee
Healing For Damaged Emotions by David Seamands

MARRIAGE: *Communication: Key To Your Marriage* by Norman Wright
Building Your Mate's Self-esteem by Dennis & Barbara Rainey
If Only He Knew & For Better Or For Best by Gary Smalley

LESSON 8

HOW DO I KEEP GROWING?

Growing in Christ means to keep increasing in:

_____ -
(Philippians 3:8)

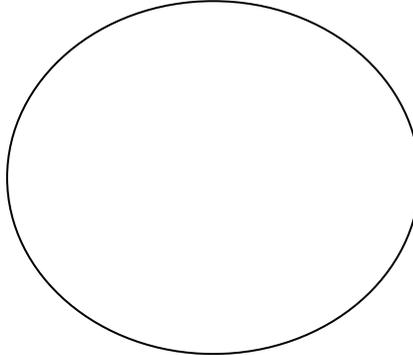
_____ -
(Matthew 22:37-38)

_____ -
(John 14:21)

How?

1 Thess 5:18

Acts 1:8



FELLOWSHIP:

1. According to Hebrews 10:24-25, why is it important to spend time with other Christians?

2. How should we spend our time together (Acts 2:41-47)?

a. Devoted to _____

b. Devoted to _____

c. Devoted to _____

d. Devoted to _____

3. According to Acts 2:41, what was one of the first things the new Christians did?

- a. What is baptism (Matthew 3:13-17; Matthew 28:19-20)?

Baptism is a public testimony of your submission to the authority of Jesus Christ, your decision to follow Him. (“Baptizo” means “to immerse”.)

When should you be baptized? _____

Discuss the following excuses:

"I don't know enough yet."

"I'm not good enough yet."

"I'm too scared to be baptized in front of other people."

b. What is Communion? (I Corinthians 11:24-28):

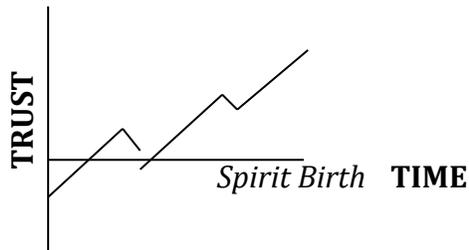
A time for believers in Jesus to _____ His death on the cross for us. To remember the price Jesus paid to save us from sin and death.

The bread is symbolic of _____

The grape juice is symbolic of _____

Final thoughts on growing in Christ:

Maturity takes time - there are no shortcuts. It is a lifelong process!



APPLICATION:

1. Decide on the next Bible Study, Home Church, Sunday School class you will attend.
2. Sign up to receive a letter informing you about the next baptism.
3. Look into one-to-one discipleship for deeper and more personal study of the Bible.

To “Let Go” Takes Love

To “let go” does not mean to stop caring, it means that I can’t do it for someone else.

To “let go” is not to cut myself off, it is the realization that I can’t control another.

To “let go” is not to enable, but to allow learning from natural consequences.

To “let go” is not to admit powerlessness, which means the outcome is not in my hands.

To “let go” is not to try to change or blame another, it is to make the most of myself.

To “let go” is not to care for, but to care about.

To “let go” is not to fix, but to be supportive.

To “let go” is not to judge, but to allow another to be a human being.

To “let go” is not to be the instrument arranging all the outcomes but to allow others to effect their own destinies.

To “let go” is not to be protective, it is to permit another to face reality.

To “let go” is not to deny, but to accept.

To “let go” is not to nag, scold, or argue, but instead to search out my own shortcomings and to correct them.

To “let go” is not to adjust everything to my desires but to take each day as it comes, and to cherish myself in it.

To “let go” is not to criticize and regulate anybody but to try to become what I dream I can be.

To “let go” is not to regret the past, but to grow and to live for the future.

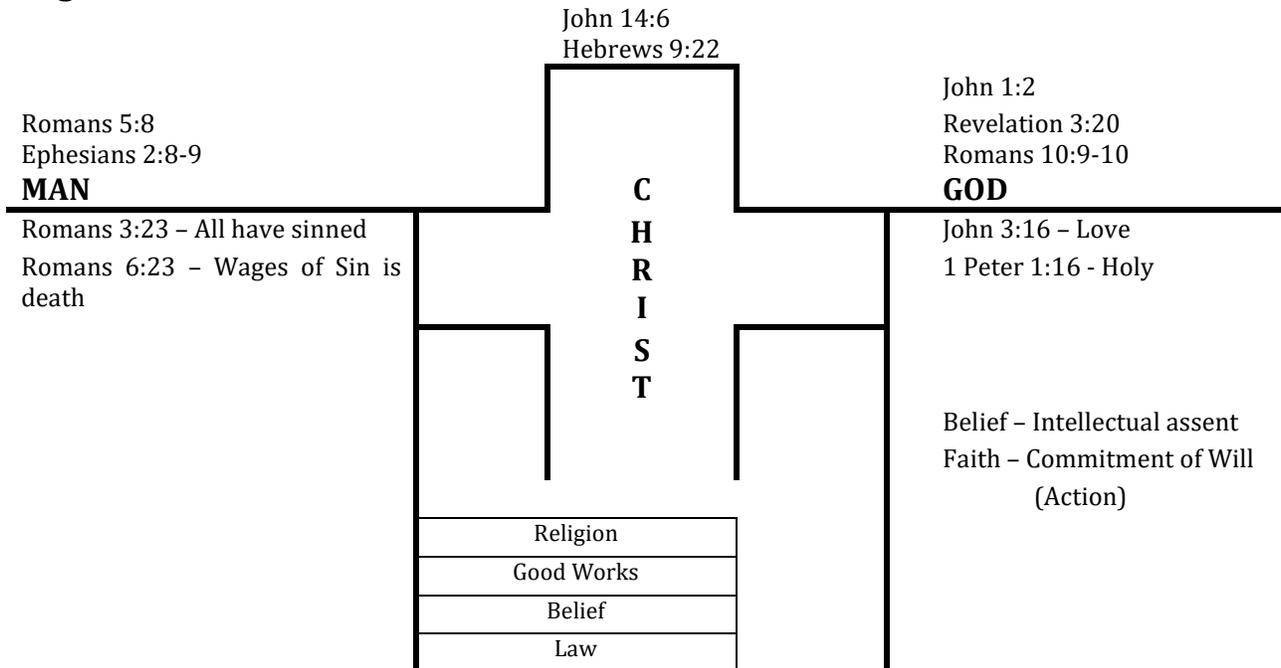
To “let go” is to fear less and to live more.

NEW CHRISTIAN CLASS

ANSWER KEY

LESSON 1

Page 2



Romans 19:9 says we must confess Jesus as Lord and Saviour. Christianity is a relationship, not a religion.

Page 3

Religion = Do

Christianity = Done

- I.
 - A. We did not deserve it or earn it.
 - C. I'm trusting in Christ to save me; putting my trust in God and His Word.

- II.
 - A. All sins forgiven.
 - B. Became a child of God.
 - C. Christ came into my life.
 - D. He gave me a new life.
 - E. Eternal Life.

Page 4

III. Reasons we might begin to doubt our salvation: feelings, still sinning, suffering.

- | | |
|---|---|
| B. PHYSICAL BIRTH
Born into physical world
Baby (need parents, feeding)
Crawl, Walk, Run
Growth Spurts | SPIRITUAL BIRTH
Born into spiritual world
Spiritual baby (needs to be spiritually fed) |
|---|---|

LESSON 2

Page 5

- I. A.
 - 1. 66
 - 2. Jesus Christ
 - 3. God's, man
 - 3.a. Who He is
 - 3.b. Who we are
- B.
 - 1. 39
 - 2. creation, Christ

Page 6

- C.
 - 1. 27

Page 7

- II. A. Never return void
- B. solid, secure, wisdom, success
- III. A. Choose a time – best and consistent
- B. Choose a place – quite, alone
- C. Choose a version
- D. Have a plan (don't skip around)

LESSON 3

Page 9

God's main vehicle of communication is: The Bible.
Our main vehicle of communication with Him is: Prayer.

- I. A.
 - 1. Helps us know how to pray.
 - 2. Intercedes for us (He feels and empathises with us)
- B. Hearts, No meaningless repetition (Matt. 6:7))
- C.
 - 1. No
 - 2. Slow
 - 3. Grow - Sin
Motives
Forgiving Others
 - 4. Go 5. Go

LESSON 4

Page 12

- I. A. Not more than we can handle, (if you feel you're being overwhelmed, the positive view is that God sees you can handle it) common to everyone.
- A.
 - 1. God
 - 2. No
 - 3. Provide a way of escape.
 - 4. Our part – take the escape, God's part – provide the means

- B. Yes, temptation is not sin (what is sin? Matt 22:37) Sin is a word, thought or act against the law of God. Exodus 20
- II. A. Our own lust (flesh).
- B. Flesh, Eyes (covet), Pride of life (ego).

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EXAMPLE

Flesh – Sex, eating habits

Eyes – Materialism

Pride – Superiority/Inferiority

Independence

SOLUTION

II Timothy 2:22 – Flee

Romans 12:2–Don’t conform, Renew mind

Psalm 119:9, 11 – God’s Word

HELP WITH OUR HABITS

EVERY HABIT WE HAVE IS LEARNED!

1. Some are learned through reward/pain (i.e. reward good behaviour)
2. Some are formed by repetition.
3. Some are formed by imitation (people do what we do, not what we say).

How to become free from the habit that binds you ...

1. Admit your own bad habit or habits (be honest with yourself and God).
2. Become a quitter (make up your mind) – ask God’s help. Phil 4:13
3. Don’t waste energy condemning yourself – John 8:11, Romans 8:1
4. Set a time and get started – Do it NOW! Mark your calendar.
5. Visualise yourself winning (picture yourself thin).
6. Expect some temporary pain (deny the lesser to gain the greater).
7. Never give up until you have won the victory.
8. Replace one bad habit with a good one (examples of good habits: smiling, attending church, being cheerful).

LESSON 5

Page 14

- I. A.
 1. Do, earn, gift, all
 2. price paid sin, the Blood of Jesus.
 3. Love and gratitude
 4. New life, new identity – Child of God, new purpose – ambassador
 5. Condemnation
- Difference between... Conviction and Guilt

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- B.
 - 1.a. Agree
 - b. Thank
 - c. Ask
 2. Rationalise, compare with others, ignore (denial)

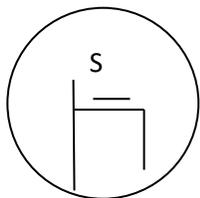
- II.
 - 1. Admit
 - 2. Ask
 - 3. Confess
 - 4. Forgive
 - 5. Ask
 - 6. Pray
 - 7. Ask

Forgiveness is: given – trust is: earned.

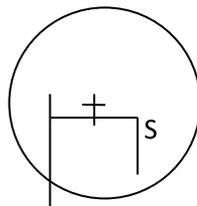
LESSON 6

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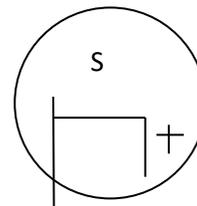
3 kinds of people



Natural



Spiritual



Carnal (flesh)

Living a spiritual life is impossible.
 Living a spiritual life is supernatural.

- I.
 - A. Holy Spirit
 - B. God in you

Page 17

- C.
 - 1. Convict
 - 2. Guide
 - 3. Glorify

- II
 - A. Indwell, filled
 - A. Control
 - B.
 - 1. Desire
 - 2. Confess sin
 - 3. Surrender control day to day
 - 4. Obedience to His Word
 - C.
 - 1. Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness (These are character, not feelings)
 - 2. Power to witness

LESSON 7

Page 18

God's love is always: acting

- 1. Tender heart (soft side)
- 2. Tough mind (hard side)

- A.
 1. Person of worth
 2. Listened to
 3. Appreciated
 4. Built-up, affirmed
 5. With empathy (have understanding)

- B.
 1. Be willing to change
 2. See yourself through God's eyes
 3. Accept yourself unconditionally – laugh at yourself
 4. When you're wrong, admit it
 5. Open up to others (honest/authentic)

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- C.
 1. Be a "builder" of others
 2. Work our anger quickly (conflict is a fact of life – it's how we handle it)
 3. Speak truth in love
 4. Forgive and forget

LESSON 8

Page 20

Growing in Christ means to keep increasing in: Knowing, Loving, Obeying Him.



1. Encouragement, stimulate (no such thing as a Lone Ranger Christian)
2.
 - a. Teaching the Word today
 - b. Fellowship (become a participant, not a spectator, initiate with people)
 - c. Worship (public prayer and breaking of bread)
 - d. Outreach (behind the scenes i.e. nursing homes, Living Free)
3. Become baptized

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- a. Immediately following salvation
- b. Remember
 - His broken body
 - His shed blood