



FOUNDATIONS

“ Making Disciples first and producing Christians second.”

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Introduction:

This course of study was designed for the new convert. Foundations is designed to be taught by a Disciple(a mature Christian) to a new convert. It is designed to help the new convert grow in the Lord. Jesus commissioned His church to raise up disciples. (Matthew 28:18-20) This is our purpose for this course of study. We believe that it is not enough to simply declare that one is born again. We believe that one must be taught and shown what the born again life style is.

It is very important ,as a new convert, that you learn the necessary truths to survive as a Disciple of Christ. If you do not the enemy, Satan, will attack you and bring you back into his world of darkness. It is up to you and the church to help you grow in the place of stability.

You will learn in this study the truth about salvation, how to build a relationship with the Father, how to listen to His voice, standing against the enemy, having the Fear of the Lord and much more.

This course of study cannot and never will replace the life-giving truth found in God's Holy Word. This study is just a guideline to go by. God's word is much more than that. We encourage the new convert to start reading the Bible. A good place to start is in the New Testament starting with the Book of Matthew.

It is our prayer that this study will help you grow as a new believer in our Lord Jesus Christ. What an exciting time it is to be living in this hour. It is wonderful for you to have given your heart to the Lord at this time. May the Lord use you greatly in the days ahead , and may you live a long glorious Christ filled life. May God bless you and keep you on your journey with Him.

Johnny Mengarelli

CHAPTER 1 UNDERSTANDING SALVATION

I. Understanding Salvation

1. You have to realize that you need Jesus as Lord.

- John 3:1-2

- Nicodemus represents an every day religious person. He was in a religion and was faithful to it. However, it was not fulfilling. Although, it gave him the ability to do whatever he wanted. He was still bound to the religious ceremonies which never brought true happiness.

- I John 1: 8

- **“If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”**

- Being religious or not being religious still equals up to sin. Anybody can declare himself or herself as holy. However, only God can make us holy and right before Him. If we think anything else, we fool ourselves.

- John 3:3

- **“Jesus answered and said unto him verily, verily, I say unto you, except a man (you and I) be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”**

- Only through receiving Jesus in our hearts and living for Him can we see God. Jesus declares in John 14:6 that He is the way, the truth, and the life, NO MAN can come unto the Father but by Him.

- Romans 3:23

- **“For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”**

- We are sinners by nature. We have all fallen from grace due to the choices we make that are opposite of God's. Our sins have built a wall between us and God. If the wall is not allowed to come down through repentance. Then eternal death is our end result. (Romans 6:23 **“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.”**)

- Sin's meaning

- Sin means the breaking of religious law or a moral principle, through a willful act, a state of habitual violation of such principles. Sin is any offence, misdemeanor or fault. (Webster's Dictionary definition #2) Sin is the offence against God's Spiritual nature and truth.

- God's nature is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. (Read Galatians 5:22-23)

- His truth would be His word. His word gives us the way to live. (Read Matthew 5)

- Sin was birthed into the human race by Adam and Eve back in the garden.

Through their disobedience and desire for self righteousness; sin has entered the lives of all people.

2. Sin is what you yield yourself to.

I. Romans 6:15-16

1. You are either a servant of sin and the master and creator of that sin; or you are a servant of righteousness.

2. Sin condemns the soul and causes you to be separated from the Lord.

- Categories of sin (Read I Corinthians 6:9-10)

1. Fornicators- These are people who are immoral; they may have many partners in sex or even just one partner. However, they have no desire to be married.

2. Idolaters- You don't have to be an idol worshiper to be a false worshiper. Anything you put before God is an idol.

3. Adulterers- People who are married but have extra affairs. Jesus says you are an adulterer even if you lust after someone else. See Matthew 5:27-28

4. Effeminate- These are men who have women like traits to an inappropriate degree; wanting in manly strength or aggressiveness; especially marked with weakness, softness, and love of ease, over-emotional, or overly delicate.

5. Abusers of themselves with mankind-These are sodomites, homosexuals, lesbians

6. Thieves-(robbers of anything)

7. Covetous- greedy people, lustful people

8. Drunkards- These are drinkers of intoxicants. Also people who use drugs or other addictive items.

9. Revilers- These are people who abuse others, rapers, child molesters, wife abusers, and so forth.

10. Extortioners- These obtain things by violence, or threats. People in mobs, gangs, black markets, dictators and so forth.

3. Sin or offence is real

- I John 1:8 **“ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”**

- People who make excuses for their actions that are sinful are deceived by their own lustful flesh.

- Proverbs 14:9 **“ Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favor.”**

4. Salvation Covenant

- Definition of Covenant

1. A binding and solemn agreement made by two or more people. It means a promise between God and man. It can also mean a formal, sealed agreement.

2. Life Example: When you buy a car or a house, you have to sign some sort of agreement. You agree to pay the enclosed amount each month for a certain amount of years. If you do not pay the amount, what happens to your property or car? It is taken back and there is nothing you can do about it. It is the same way when you make a covenant with God. You agree to serve Him for the rest of your life. You promise to live by His word and be a doer of that word. However, the moment you start to continually walk away from that promise. The moment you decide that you do not want God any longer. That covenant, along with its blessings, is broken. You do not receive eternal life nor do you receive the inheritance bestowed upon God's children.

3. God's role in the salvation Covenant

- He promises a way out for all who freely come.

1. Noah and the Ark (Genesis 6-9)

2. Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3)

3. Jesus, who is the way out for all of mankind (Isaiah 7:14-16, Zechariah 3:8-10, Luke 1:26-38)

- He provides for us

- . - Hebrews 11:39-40, Philippians 4:19
- He assures us that He is God, and He is real.
- II Samuel 7:12-17
- 4. Our Role towards God
 - Receive His salvation (Romans 3:23, 5:8, 6:23, 10:9-13)
 - Walk in His salvation (James 2:14-18, Matthew 5; 19:16-22, I Timothy 6: 12-14)
- 5. Our blessings from Our God
 - Eternal Life (Romans 6:23, Titus 1:2, I John 1:2)
 - Eternal life is hoped for (Titus 3:7)
 - Financial Blessings (Luke 5: 4-7)
 - Perfect Health (Deuteronomy 34)
- 6. The cursing for not serving God (I Samuel 14-15)

II. Scriptures on Hell

1. Hell is not a place of imagination. It is not a place for only murderers or thieves. It is for all who refuse Jesus as Savior. Jesus talked more about Hell than He did Heaven. He did not want any person to die and spend eternity there.

- Psalm 9:17, Isaiah 57:3-12, Matthew 11: 20-23, Matthew 23:33, Luke 16:19-25

III. Repentance from dead works

1. Repentance means to think differently or afterwards reconsider. It means to reverse a previous decision. When you and I repent, we change our previous thought of sin and come to the most Holy One. We realize that God is the one and pure God. We realize that our sin is as dirty rags to Him. Therefore, we must change our thinking or our way of living.

2. It can mean to also to exercise the mind, to comprehend, heed, consider, perceive, think, and understand. It simply means that we come to our senses. We walk away from what has separated us from our Creator, and we start walking toward the one who has made us.

3. It can also mean to make new or to appear youthful. It can mean to regenerate. The Lord wants to make us new in Him when we simply repent.

- II Corinthians 5:17 **“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come”** (NIV version)

- The word “repentance” is found over 110 times from Genesis to Revelation. I believe that the Lord is trying to tell us something.

- Jesus’ first message was one of repentance. Matthew 4:17 **“ From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, repent for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand.”**

- He sent the disciples out with the message of repentance (Mark 6:7-13)

4. Characteristics of Repentance

- *Repentance has not any respect of persons*

1. Luke 13:1-5

2. There was a time of great slaying of the Galileans, because of their rebel forces fighting against the Roman Empire. Therefore, the people thought during this time that a great slaying meant that the dying people had great sin in their lives. Repentance is for all no matter how great the sin or no matter what your social status is.

- *Repentance ushers in forgiveness* (Luke 17:3-4)

- *Repentance keeps the flow of forgiveness in our lives* (Matthew 6:14-15)

- *Repentance increases the flow of forgiveness and causes future repentance to come*

more quickly. (Matthew 18: 21-22)

- *Repentance ushers in reconciliation*

1. Luke 15:11-24 Prodigal Son

- Verses 14-16 The son develops misery and pain because of sin.

- Verses 17-19 Then he hears the call of the Holy Spirit bringing conviction strongly upon his heart.

- Verses 20-21 He asks for forgiveness; he repents.

- Verses 22-24 He is reconciled back into the family again.

- Remember the son had already spent his inheritance, but upon his repented return home all was forgiven.

-He received the best robe. The ring of the father was placed on his hand, which meant honor and position back within the family. Shoes were placed back on his feet. He was given a feast with the main course being veal. He was placed back into the house as a son not a servant. - *Repentance removes curses that sin brings* (i.e. sickness or poverty)

1. Exodus 15:26, Numbers 21: 8-9

- *Repentance ushers in the promise of the Holy Spirit*

1. Acts 2:36, Acts 11:23-47

- *Repentance causes Heaven to notice*

1. Luke 15:3-10

- *Repentance is brought on by Godly sorrow*

1. II Corinthians 7:8-11

4. Repentance from dead works

-Dead works are those things that pertain to the working of the flesh.

- Nothing that we do in the flesh can cause us to repent.

- The works of the flesh are mentioned in the following scripture passages.

1. Galatians 5:19-21, I Corinthians 6:9-11, Romans 1:21-32, Colossians 3:5-9

- It is these things that we allow to come into and out of that defile us.

1. Mark 7:14-23

QUESTIONS FOR CHAPTER 1

1. What is one of the first steps in understanding salvation?
2. Does being religious exclude you from being sinful? If yes or no, explain why
3. How was sin birthed into the human race?
4. What does sin mean?
5. Give a list of different types of sinful behavior found in scripture.
6. Explain God's role in the Salvation Covenant.
7. Explain our role in the Salvation Covenant.
8. What is the meaning of "repentance from dead works"?

CHAPTER 2 DOCTRINE OF BAPTISMS

I. Doctrine of Baptisms

1. Definition of Baptisms

- It means to dip, to overwhelm with suffering, to bury into regardless of the element.
- Three main types of Baptisms found in Scripture [Hebrews 6:2]

1. The baptism into the Body of Christ
2. The baptism of water as a symbol for the believer to other believers.
3. The baptism of the Holy Spirit or Holy Ghost

2. The Baptism in the Body of Christ

- At the moment of rebirth, we are grafted into the Body of Christ through the working power of the Holy Spirit.

1. Ephesians 4:4-6, Galatians 3:27

- Ephesians 4:4 declares that we are a part of "ONE BODY". It is referring to the baptism into the Body of Christ. It is not referring to baptism of water.

-Characteristics of being Baptized into the Body of Christ.

1. It is a baptism of suffering.
2. It is a baptism of death.
3. It is a baptism that requires the walking of the newness of life.
4. It is a baptism of Crucifixion.
5. It is a baptism that requires no more service to sin.
6. It is a baptism that frees us from the bondage of sin.

- Romans 6:3-7

7. It is a baptism of burial.

- Colossians 2:12

- It is the Holy Spirit whom brings us together into His Body. It is His job to fitly join us together in the Body.

1. I Corinthians 2:12

2. Romans 8:14-16

3. Water Baptism

-Proof of Just Being a Symbol

1. I Peter 3:20-21

-. It was not the water that saved Noah and his family. In the same sense it is not the water baptism that saves us, but what it represents is what saves us from the life of sin.

-. What Water Baptism Symbolizes.

1. It represents Jesus' death and resurrection and how we got saved, we became partakers of Christ's death and His resurrection.

-. Romans 6:3-5

1. I Corinthians 15:1-4

2. Colossians 1:20-22

-. Where did Water Baptism Come From?

1. Matthew 3:1-3

-. John the Baptist or the Baptizer preached the message of repentance and of the coming Savior. He used water baptism to demonstrate what the coming Messiah would do with His Blood for our sins.

-. Well if just a symbol, why do we need to be baptized, with water at salvation?

1. Jesus was a demonstrator of all the things we needed to do. If he was baptized, so should we.

2. Mark 1:1-11

- Jesus showed the importance of water baptism.

1. Matthew 3:1-3,13-17

- It is command for all believers to do.

1. Matthew 28:19

- It was the practice of the First Century Church.

1. Acts 8:12-13, I Corinthians 1:13-17

- Baptism is a symbol of the death, burial, and resurrection.

1. I Peter 3:21

-Note: When a Jewish person came to Christ, he was giving up everything. He was giving up Judaism and all other practices.

4. Baptism in the Spirit

- The Spirit baptism is for every disciple of Christ. Once the disciple is filled; they receive power for Christian service.

- The Spirit baptism was not something made up by the New Testament believers. It was a promise by God. It was prophesied about many years before.

1. Joel 2:28-29

2. Jesus fulfilled it when He became the example of complete baptism. (Matthew 3:11)

3. Jesus came to baptize with Holy Ghost and fire. Jesus desires for every Christian to have this type of baptism.

4. Jesus is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit. (John 7:37-39)

- Two ways to be baptized in the Holy Spirit.

1. Thirst

2. Come to Jesus and drink

- The result of the drink.

1. Out of the belly will flow rivers of living water.

2. True Holy Spirit baptism takes place from within and comes bursting forth.

- Conditions of being filled

1. Must have a thirsty soul

2. Must have an open heart

3. Must obedient to the word

4. Must flow in the river

- Reasons for being filled

1. A command from Jesus

2. A closer relationship with the Father

3. More power for service as a Christian soldier

4. Deeper revelation of the word of God

QUESTIONS FOR CHAPTER 2 DOCTRINE OF BAPTISMS

1. What is the definition of baptisms?
2. Name three main baptisms found in the Word?
3. Describe the meaning of the baptism of the Body.
4. Should baptism in water be an act that all believers participate in? If yes, state why?
5. Describe the purpose of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

CHAPTER 3 PRAYER AND RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST

I. Our Transformation Station

1. Matthew 6:5-6 (Get Alone With God)

- You and God need one on one time with each other.
- We are not to boast about it.
- We are to just get into our transformation station.

1. A Transformation Station is what I call my prayer room. My place of quiet with God is when I go to pray. I go to my room of Prayer, pull the imaginative lever to the transformation station, signifying that it is on. Then I go in and come out different, because I have been in the presence of God.

- There is a reward or a blessing that every prayer warrior gets from God.

2. Matthew 5:7-8 (How To Pray) Luke 9:28-29

- Don't repeat prayers over and over again.
- Asking of God in vain repetitions prayer places us with sinners.

3. Matthew 6:9-13 (A Model of Prayer)

- Verse 9

1. **It says "After This Manner.... Pray"**. In other words this is a model of prayer that you can go by for all praying.

- The Model

1. "Our Father" (Knowing Your Relationship With God)

- As a saved person you have become a child of God. You are His daughter or son therefore you are worthy to start praying with "Father or Daddy" or "Father God" and etc.

1. Scripture proof of you and the Father.

- Romans 8:15

1. **"For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear but you have received the spirit of adoption (Salvation) whereby we cry Abba Father"**.

- Abba means daddy. Through receiving Jesus you can come to God in prayer and call Him Daddy.

2. Galatians 4:6-7

- **And because ye are sons of God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts crying Abba Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ."**

1. You become God's son or daughter at the point of salvation you are an heir to the throne. What a powerful verse!

2. "Hallowed Be Thy Name"

- Hallowed means praise. Praise be thy name.
- When you come to the Father begin to worship Him.
- Truth about worship.

1. It is in worship where a more anointing will come for service. The service of healing, deliverance, and salvation.

Luke 6:38

Worship breaks down the enemy's work; it destroys hindrances in the ranks of God's army. Worship is a weapon of warfare that once mastered cannot be stopped.

2. Worship's meaning.

- A reverence or devotion for a deity; religious homage.

- Extreme devotion or intense love or admiration of any kind.

- Worship is the devotion of my people to me. Worship is the surrendering of the human nature to touch the Spirit God. Worship is desired not dictated. Worship is complete reverence to me.

- Hebrew word for worship (shachah) (shaw-khaw) to depress i.e. (Prostrate) in homage to royalty or God/ bow down, crouch, fall down, humbly beseech, do reverence.

1. Joshua 5:13-15

3. The Purpose for Personal Worship

- In order to understand worship you must experience worship. You must see its purpose for being stated.

1. Matthew 6:9

"Hallowed be Thy name" Jesus tells us in the beginning of our prayers to worship Him. Hallowed means praise.

4. The Purpose

- Number 1 Worship brings humility to the worshipers.

1. 1 Samuel 16:1-5

- Notice all of the sons present sanctified themselves made them clean to sacrifice before the Lord. They were acknowledging the holy things and preparing their hearts for worship.

- 1 Samuel 16:6-7, 8-10

1. Eliab did not have a heart of worship even though he was told to prepare his heart. Eliab done the actions and the motions of worship, but God saw what was in the heart.

2. Neither did Abinadab or Shammah have a heart of worship. 7 Sons in total

3. A worshiper gets chosen

- 1 Samuel 16: 11-13

1. David's heart was softening because of worship. He was humbled by God. He was a shepherd and had a shepherd's heart.

- Psalm 116:1-2

- Psalm 51:7-19 David's worship song for God to humble him.

2. Number 2 Worship releases love to God, it pleases God.

- Hebrews 13:15-16

3. Number 3 Worship unties God's hands to release out His power or presence.

Worship ushers in God's presence, essence, and power.

- Presence means the fact or condition of being present. Existence, occurrence, or attendance at some place or in something. An influence or a supernatural or divine Spirit felt to be present.

- Essence means something that is, or exists, entity, the true substance.

1. When we worship God we want to have the main ingredient.
 - Examples:
 1. Acts 16:25-25, I Kings 8:9-11
4. Number 4 Worship brings revealed knowledge of God.
 - II Kings 3:10-14
5. Number 5 Worshipping God and staying in worship with God brings power on the anointed vessel of God.
 - Luke 9: 27-36,37-43
6. Number 6 Worship drives the devil crazy and binds the devil as well.
 - I Samuel 16:14-23
 - While David began to worship God the devils had to leave. When David was gone or not worshipping the devils came and took control over King Saul again.
5. How to personally worship
 - Get into a place where only you and God can go.
 1. Matthew 6:6 “But you, when you pray enter into a quiet place and when you have shut the door...”
 - Invite the Holy Spirit to come in
 1. John 4:24 “God is Spirit and His worshipers must worship Him in Spirit and in truth.”
 - Cast down all imaginations
 1. II Corinthians 10:5 “Casting down all imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.”
 - Rebuke the devil
 - Be persistent, persevere
 - Sing praises unto God or speaks out praise to Him.
 1. Psalm 8: 1, 3-9
 - Give God thanks
 1. Ephesians 5:20, Colossians 1:12-13, 3:17
 - Let His presence consume you
 1. Revelation 4:9
- 3. “Thy Kingdom come”**
 - “Lord I pray for your kingdom to come”
 - Do you know that you and I need to pray for the kingdom of God to come because every force of evil is trying to prevent it?
 1. Revelation 11:15, 19:11-14
 - Jesus tells us to watch and be ready for His coming kingdom to earth.
 1. Matthew 24:42
 - When that kingdom comes, Jesus will judge all sinners and all nations accordingly.
 - 1. Matthew 25: 31-46
- 4. “Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven”**
 - In heaven God wills life and not death, hope and not hopelessness, peace of mind and not craziness, wholeness and not sickness.
 - You and I are to pray for God’s will to be done on this earth.

1. It's very important. It's meat to us.
 - John 4:34
 2. What is God's will for us?
 - John 5:30 Seeking God first on a specific circumstance
 - Examples:
 1. On Salvation (I Timothy 2:4, II Peter 3:8-9)
 2. God's will for life (Romans 12:2, I Thessalonians 4:3-7, I Corinthians 3:16-17)
 3. On sickness (Isaiah 53:5, I Peter 2:24)
 3. Understanding God's will
 - Ephesians 5:17
 4. Walking in God's will
 - Ephesians 6:5-9
 5. God's will can be determined by your requests to Him.
 - John 15:7
 1. You and I can get what we want and need from God.
 - Psalm 23:1, Matthew 7:7-11
 2. But there are conditions
 - John 15:10, 18-19
 3. Also keep in mind God's timing for each situation
- 5. "Give us this day our daily bread"**
- When you get up each morning declare your day already blessed.
 - God give this day to us, we are the day.
 1. I Thessalonians 5:5-8
 - Speak God's word out for this day
 1. Psalm 110:1-3
 - God wants us to prosper during each day.
 1. Joshua 1:5-9, I Samuel 2:6-8, 3 John 2
 - You are to be blessed during your day and your days of life.
 1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14
- 6. "Forgive our debts as we forgive our debtors"**
- What are debts?
 1. Debts are things you're paying for or something you owe, you are bound to an agreement.
 - Luke 11:2-4 Give us "Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us."
 - When you or I commit sin, the Holy Spirit will convict us of it. The next thing we need to do after this is simply repent.
 - Sin always requires repentance because of it's death nature.
 - Repentance is needed for forgiveness.
 1. Mark 1:5
 - Confessing their sins (Romans 10:9-10,13, 6:12-14, 23, I John 1:9)
 - We must also forgive others.
 1. Matthew 6:14-15
 2. Parable of the unmerciful servant.
 - Matthew 18:25-35

1. 10,000 talents = \$ 290, 850,000 in gold
2. 100 pence= \$17.00
3. 1 talent of silver was 920,000 X 10,000= 19,200,000.00

7. “Lead us not into temptation”

- Temptation is not sin, but falling into it is.
- Don't let temptation overcome us into committing that temptation.
 1. Luke 8:13
- How to overcome temptation
 1. Prayer and the Word (Matthew 26:41, Matthew 4)
- The blessing when enduring over that temptation.
 1. James 1:12
- The truth about temptation.
 1. James 1:13-16
 - God, who is not evil, cannot solicit you and I with sin. We fall into temptation when we give heed to our own lusts.
- The Outcome of Lust
 1. Lust births sin - sin births death

8. “Deliver us from evil”

- The devil, along with false teachers, are the thieves that come to steal.
- I Peter 5:8
 1. Be sober, be awake (or alert), your opponent is the devil.
- The Holy Spirit has lifted up a standard or Dam against the enemy. (Isaiah 59:19)
 - Put on your armor of God and never take it off (Ephesians 6:11-18)

9. “Your is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever, so be”

- Always finished how you started

II. Listening to God

Comments: Some of the main misconceptions among Christians in prayer is the failure to listen to God. Some feel that God doesn't talk directly to us. I feel that He does . If he talked directly to the people in the Bible, He will talk directly to you and I.

1. In any successful relationship the man and the woman have to talk to each other, it is the same way with your relationship with God...
2. Jesus always talked with God, and God would answer back.
 - Luke 3:21-22
 1. Jesus prayed and God talked back.
3. If Jesus saw it needful to listen to God, so should you and I.
4. Ways of Hearing God
 - **AUDIBLE VOICE**
 1. Genesis 3:9-10
 - God literally called out to Adam.
 - Sin stops this kind of listening to God, but Jesus through His death brought it back.
 - Many people (most, dead beat Christians) say that God doesn't talk back.
 - Well if He talked to Adam, He'll talk to you. God is no respecter of persons.
 - **INNER AUDIBLE VOICE**

1. Inner audible is where God's voice is clearly understood in your spirit man. God's Spirit is literally talking in your spirit.

- I Samuel 30:7-8

1. David heard God.

2. David's spirit was such in line with God's Spirit, David knew that when He asked God something, God would answer.

-ANGELIC APPEARANCE

1. God uses His angels to speak to His people even still today.

- Matthew 1:18-25

2. Note: Don't always expect God to come to talk to you by an angel. You've got to develop the listening ear to the inner audible voice of God. This is how He will talk to you the most.

- HIS WORD/ THE BIBLE

1. It's amazing to know that something written thousands of years ago can still be used by God to speak to His people of today.

2. The Psalmist thought highly of God's Word.

- Psalm 119:11, 15-16, 33-36, 105-106

- PROPHETIC VOICE OF GOD

1. God sometimes will use one of His children to speak a word from God to another one of His children.

- Acts 9:10-19

1. Ananias brought a word from the Lord that changed the life of the new Christian Paul.

- VISIONS AND DREAMS

1. God can even choose to talk to you through visions and prophetic dreams. However, one must be careful when it comes to dreams. In part, most dreams are just simply dreams. On the other hand, God can sometimes use the dream stage of your sleeping process to bring a true word from Him to you or for the whole body.

- Joel 2:28-29

5. How can I listen to God effectively?

- Steps to listening to God effectively

#1 Spend time with God in prayer and in the Word.

#2 Live the Christian life continually at home and at church.

#3 Get in church and let God begin to use you.

#4 Obey God in every way.

#5 Keep sin out.

III. Steps to Take When Studying God's Word.

Step #1 Realize the importance of His Word.

- The Word gives you the knowledge of how to be cleansed.

1. Psalm 119:9

- The Word in your heart combats against the sin that used to be.

1. Psalm 119

- The Word corrects and sets light.

1. Psalm 119:65-68

- Realize that God's Word is right.

1. John 17: 14-17

- God's Word is powerful.

1. Hebrews 4:12

Step #2 Ask the Holy Spirit to give you the understanding of the Word of God.

- The Holy Spirit reveals things of God to you.

1. I Chronicles 28: 11-12

2. Acts 11:27-28

3. Acts 21:4

4. I Corinthians 2:9-16

Step # 3 Get Ready.

- Get a notebook and pen or pencil.

- Begin to write down the things He is giving you.

- Put the date and everything on the paper.

- Try a memory verse a week.

Step #4 Basics of Studying.

- Break each verse up and listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying in that verse.

- Use the concordance to see relating verses, the Holy Spirit will give you a verse as well.

- It's okay to see what other spiritual men and women say about that subject in the Bible, but don't let that become your teacher, just your helper.

CHAPTER 3 QUESTIONS

1. List and describe the nine steps to praying
2. What does Hallowed be thine name mean?
3. Should we forgive others before we ask of God's forgiveness while in prayer?
4. What is temptation? Can we conquer temptation?
5. What are the different ways of how we can hear God?
6. What is the most used way of hearing God today?
7. Does God speak to His people today? Is it possible that you and I can hear and understand God?

CHAPTER 4 STANDING AGAINST THE **ENEMY**

I. THE ENEMY

1. When understanding our enemy it's good to know where they come from. What they used to be and etc.

2. The commander-in-chief of darkness is Satan, but before he was Satan he was Lucifer.

- Isaiah 14:12-15

1. Lucifer means brightness or morning star.

2. Vs. 12 weaken the nations.

- Before there was Adam and Eve there was a pre-existing world of human beings which God put Lucifer over to rule and to keep them in the spirit of worship.

3. Lucifer made these nations fall and rebel against God.

- Vs. 13 Satan was unsatisfied with his given throne. He wanted God's.

- Vs. 14 Satan was on the Pre-Adamite earth so he wanted to ascend up where God was at.

- However, Satan's end results are to be brought down to hell to live in the pit "lake of fire".

- Ezekiel 28:11-17 Law of Double reference.

- Verse 12 tells us why Satan fell.

- Jesus talked about the result of His enemy because Jesus knew him in every way.

1. Matthew 25:41

- Satan's army

1. Revelation 12:7-12

- Satan and his army is out to destroy you and I. He's not worried about the deceived world. He's worried about the ones who were once deceived and can help the deceived.

II. THE ENEMY'S ATTACK

1. Satan attacks in many ways, but what is his purpose to stop.

- The enemy is trying to stop us from worship to God, because it causes his kingdom severe damage. Personal worship in God and definitely corporate worship can cause severe damage to the devil's kingdom.

2. It rips the fabric of darkness allowing more light to beam through his kingdom.

3. The more my people worship the worse casualties the enemy loses.
4. We are casualties of the enemy. He lost us in war. Jesus called us by His Holy Ghost M.A.S.H. Unit and got us healed, delivered, and set free.

III. THE ENEMY'S TACTICS TO STOP YOU FROM HAVING A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

1. He Brings sickness
 - Job 2:1-10
2. He tries to come against our finances.
 - Job 1:12-19
3. The greatest attack the enemy comes against us with is in the mind.
 - What you think so are you.
 1. Proverbs 23:7
 2. The devils words can bring death to the personal worshiper of God.
 3. The devil attacks our minds with thoughts, concentrating on weak areas of past failures.
 - Example
 1. The devil attacks my mind right before I go into worship with God.
 - 4. Satan wars for your mind. He appeals to your flesh.
 - II Corinthians 10:3-5
 - 5. He wants to stop your relationship with Jesus.
 - Matthew 12:29
 - Satan will use any crack to try and hinder your personal worship towards God.
 1. You're not getting anywhere, just quit.
 2. Boy I can't wait to go witnessing tomorrow.
 3. The devil uses my family and the congregation in my worship time.
 - For example, You need to go play with your kids.
 - Or I need to call such and such and see if they're alright.
 - 4. Satan will use legitimate excuses and in the name of stopping you from worshipping God.
 5. One of the most common mind battles as far as in worship is "Well I worshiped enough today, I got to God's throne room."
 6. Another one is making you feel guilty because you haven't gotten into God's presence yet.
 7. Or making you compare your worship time with someone else's.

IV. HOW DO WE PREVAIL?

1. Cast down those imaginations that exalt themselves.
 - II Corinthians 10:3-5
2. Realize that there are deceiving spirits and test everything you hear.
 - I John 4:1, I Timothy 4:1-2

- Example: I the Spirit of God sing this song, or a Spirit will try and deceive you in getting into a pattern of worship. No way devil!!!
- 3. Consume once again more of God's truth.
 - John 8:32
 - 1. How can you know something is a lie unless it's compared to the truth.
 - 4. Deny your flesh to act upon the thought, because it is your flesh that falls into the thought and consumes that thought and acts upon that thought.
 - Matthew 16:24
 - 5. Keep yourselves clean before God. Keep yourselves open to hear the Spirit say that you are going the wrong way.
 - I Corinthians 6:19-20, John 14:30
 - 6. Realize that Jesus gives you the power over the dumb devil.
 - Luke 10:19

V. HOW TO OVERCOME

1. Realize who the enemy is for the Christian.
 - Ephesians 6:12
 - 1. There is not one human being on the face of the earth, who is an enemy of a Christian. However, the true enemy of the Christian is the enemy of God. His name is Satan or the devil, and he does exist.
 - 2. The devil is said to be a thief who does or tries to do three things to Christians.
 - Kill
 - Steal
 - Destroy
 - John 10:10
 - 3. The Bible says that the devil is as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour.
 - I Peter 5:8
 - 1. This verse says our adversary.
 - 2. Satan is always against any newborn Christian or radically saved Christian.
2. Realize your power over the devil.
 - The Holy Spirit that lives inside of you is greater than the idiot (devil) who lives and temporarily controls this world.
 1. I John 4:4
 2. Jesus gave the disciples power over demons. Guess what? Jesus is no respecter of persons. He gave you and I power over the dumb demons.
 - Matthew 10:1
3. Maintain dominion over the devil.
 - James 4:7
 - 1. Vs. 7 When we submit to God or humble ourselves before God. We can resist the devil and he will run away.
 - 2. However, it all starts back to your relationship with God.
 - Vs. 8-10
 - Ways of staying close to Christ.
 - Draw nigh, or come to Him.
 - Be cleansed or stay washed in the Blood of the Lamb.
 - 3. Purify your heart or live a holy life through Christ.

4. Be afflicted or mourn or never forget what God has done for you a true repented person a lot of times breaks down and weeps for his or hers sinners lifestyle. Then desire Jesus.

- Jesus is always there. You have got to realize, that you have power over that dumb devil. You are a winner and not a loser!!!!

Conclusion:

1. Prevail in personal worship is to prevail in every way.
2. If you know and understand the acts of the devil, he cannot destroy you.
3. Once in the total presence of God the enemy sometimes is desperate and will try to stop you, but his words bounce off.

QUESTIONS FOR CHAPTER 4

1. Who is our enemy?
2. What was Satan's name before he became the enemy of all mankind?
3. What are some ways that the enemy might attack us with?
4. What is the greatest way the enemy attacks?
5. What kind of things do you battle?
6. List the ways that you can overcome the enemy.
7. Has God given you the power to overcome all things that come against you?

CHAPTER 5 THE HOLY SPIRIT

Introductions:

1. Being filled with the Holy Spirit is a separate event from salvation.
2. Everybody needs the Holy Spirit to be saved, He is a part of God that convicts you of your sin, and let's you know that you need Jesus.
3. However, being filled with the Holy Spirit is being endowed with power.

I. Proof that Jesus was filled and baptized with the Holy Spirit.

1. John the Baptist said Jesus would baptize with fire and the Holy Spirit.
 - Luke 3:15-16
2. In order for Jesus to be baptized you and I with the Holy Spirit, He had to be filled and baptized first with the Holy Spirit.
 - Luke 3:21-22

II. Proof of being filled with the Holy Spirit and the need to be filled.

1. Acts 1:5, 8-9
 - Jesus is speaking in verse 5 about Himself baptizing us with the Holy Spirit.
 - In verse 8 Jesus told them that if they wait; they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.
- In verse 9 Jesus goes to the Father.
2. 120 wait for the Holy Spirit
 - Acts 1:15
3. The Holy Spirit falls on them, they begin to speak in an unknown tongue.
 - Acts 2:1-4
 1. In verse 4 it doesn't say tongue for the fun of it!
 2. The evidence that 120 people were filled was tongues.
 - Many people want to pass the incident off as one time event.
 1. Here's where they supposedly get this. I Corinthians 13:8
 - Many claim that tongues will cease and it ceases and it ceases.
 2. Well what about the last part of this verse? It says "there shall be knowledge, it shall vanish away."
 - Tongues, prophesy, and knowledge will one day need to be no more. We will be in the continual presence of God. We would not need them any longer. However, while we are on this planet, God has given them to us to use.
4. People got saved because of the power of the Holy Spirit.
 - Acts 2:5-13
 1. Many wondered and many doubted.
 2. Peter told that this day was prophesied about in the Old Testament.
 - Joel 2:28-29
 3. These men told Peter that they want what the disciples got.
 - Peter's answer
 1. Acts 2:37-41
 - Vs. 38 Repent and be baptized.

1. Get saved and then get baptized with water.
 2. Next comes being filled with the Holy Spirit.
- 3,000 were saved.

III. Arguments against being filled.

1. You get filled at Salvation.
 - Wrong statement.
 - Acts 19:1-7
 - In verse 2 Paul asks the people have they been filled since they believed.
2. Tongues is wrong and of the devil.
 - Wrong Statement
 - I Corinthians 14: 39-40
 - Verse 39 says "Forbid not to speak in tongues."
3. The Disciples only needed that for their time.
 - Wrong Statement
 - Acts 2:17
 - God wants to pour out His Spirit upon all flesh. Those who will receive.

IV. After you are filled, you must stay filled.

1. Continue to walk in the Spirit.
 - Galatians 5:16-18, Ephesians 3:16-20, Ephesians 5:18
2. Allow Jesus to fill you continually
 - John 7:37-39
3. Let Jesus fill you with the Holy Spirit and Fire
 - Matthew 3:11

Conclusion: It is vital , when living a victorious Christian life, that we walk in a Holy Spirit filled life. If the Holy Spirit was a gift to all who waited for Him on the day of Pentecost. If God desires to give all of His children the same promises through His word. Should we not believed God to fill us with His precious gift called the Holy Spirit.

QUESTIONS FOR CHAPTER 5

1. What is being filled with the Holy Spirit mean?
2. Who desires to baptize us?
3. What does Jesus' baptism consist of?
4. Can anyone be filled with the Holy Spirit?
5. Do you have to speak in tongues in order to be filled?
6. If you are not filled with the Holy Spirit, but you have received Jesus as Savior will you still stand before the Father one day?
7. Is being filled with the Holy Spirit a promise from the Father? If so, do you want to be filled with the precious Holy Spirit?

CHAPTER 6 GIVING

Introduction: I felt the Lord wanting me to talk a little bit about giving and what that means. We need to make sure we are giving to God what is his. There are several reasons and purposes to giving. The Lord has called us to a heart of giving.

Added on October 12, 2005

I want to make it clear that what you are about to read was only an OLD TESTAMENT practice. Tithing was not a practice of the New Testament Saints. Even those living in the Old Testament times gave of their fruits and harvest not of their money. It is also to equally to not that there was not a steady system of currency among the Hebrews. I feel that God gives us a choice as believers. If you feel like giving 10% of your finances to God is something you should do for today then so be it. However, understand that you are under the blood covenant of Christ now. You have a freedom to give to God anyway you desire. The main thing is that you give to God's work. Also understand that God is not just after your money ; He desires for you to give your whole self to Him. Give your time, your finances, your everything to Him!

Tithing Of the Old Testament

---Tithing is only found 14 times in scripture. It comes from an old English word meaning tenth or 10%. The tithe means a charge on a farm produce or a labor that is used to maintain and support religious activities. Tithing was a very ancient custom. It was obviously practiced before Abraham, but he used it for the glory of God.

Genesis 14:

---Abram Blessed by Melchizedek

17. After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley).

18. And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. {Heb [El Elyon]}

19. He blessed him and said,

"Blessed be Abram by God Most High, {Heb [El Elyon]}

maker of heaven and earth;

20. and blessed be God Most High, {Heb [El Elyon]}

who has delivered your enemies into your hand!"

And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.

21. Then the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself."

22. But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have sworn to the Lord, God Most High, {Heb [El Elyon]} maker of heaven and earth,

23. that I would not take a thread or a sandal-thong or anything that is yours, so that you might not say, "I have made Abram rich."

24. I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me--Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre. Let them take their share."

Abraham gave all of his tenth to the Lord God and to God's operating priest Melchizedek. Abraham was very careful to receive financial blessings as well. The King of Sodom was going to give Abraham all of the spoil from the battle of the five kings. Abraham did not receive it because he knew the king of Sodom would be prideful. Abraham also gave from his heart not from guilt or religious tradition.

---The purpose of tithing.

1. To keep the fear of the Lord within our hearts

a. *Deut. 14:22-23*

Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year. [23] And thou shalt eat before the Lord thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear the Lord thy God always.

b. When we give to God it keeps a holy fear flowing through us. If we love Him then we give to Him what is His.

2. It was designed by God and it is Holy unto Him.

a. **Leviticus 27:32**

And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the Lord.

3. For the Priests, what about the ministers of today?

a. Numbers 18: 21-24

b. ***Deuteronomy 12: 17. Nor may you eat within your towns the tithe of your grain, your wine, and your oil, the firstlings of your herds and your flocks, any of your votive gifts that you vow, your freewill offerings, or your donations;***

18. these you shall eat in the presence of the Lord your God at the place that the Lord your God will choose, you together with your son and your daughter, your male and female slaves, and the Levites resident in your towns, rejoicing in the presence of the Lord your God in all your undertakings.

c. Please understand that the giving to the ministers was something practiced in the Old Testament to help support the Priests and the Levites commission to Holy service before the Lord. It must be noted that the things given to the Levites were things they had to take care of. They had to take care of the sheep, the cattle, and so forth. They did not just sit back and not work for the offering given to them. They did not have to solicit the offerings as well. God took care of them.

I want to remind everyone again that this was an Old Testament practice to support the Priests and the Levites commissioned for Holy service. Also as you read further you find that the Priests were only given a tenth every three years. They had to make it last until then. I wonder how the big time Pastors and Ministers would like getting their pay checks every three years today. We need to make sure as ministers that we are not ripping off the people of God and using tithes and offerings unbiblical. If your church wants to pay you a pay check each week that is this prerogative but there is no biblical mandate saying that you they should. I challenge anyone to state three or more passages of scripture stating that the church is suppose to give a pay check to a pastor. You will only find the scriptures stating about giving offerings to the ministers and the elders of the church, but never about a pay check being given to one man or his staff.

4. To Honor God and for His continued provision.

a. Proverbs 3:9-10, Malachi 3:10-11

5. To be obedient to the Father

a. Hebrews 7:6-10

6. To see God's blessings pour out and for his continued protection over your whole family.

a. ***Malachi 3: 8. Will anyone rob God? Yet you are robbing me! But you say, "How are we robbing you?" In your tithes and offerings!***

9. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me--the whole nation of you!

10. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

11. I will rebuke the locust {Heb [devourer]} for you, so that it will not destroy the produce of your soil; and your vine in the field shall not be barren, says the Lord of hosts.

12. Then all nations will count you happy, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.

13. You have spoken harsh words against me, says the Lord. Yet you say, "How have we spoken against you?"

14. You have said, "It is vain to serve God. What do we profit by keeping his command or by going about as mourners before the Lord of hosts?"

15. Now we count the arrogant happy; evildoers not only prosper, but when they put God to the test they escape."

The Reward of the Faithful

16. Then those who revered the Lord spoke with one another. The Lord took note and listened, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who revered the Lord and thought on his name.

17. They shall be mine, says the Lord of hosts, my special possession on the day when I act, and I will spare them as parents spare their children who serve them.

18. Then once more you shall see the difference between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.

7. To help the poor, widows, and those in need.

a. **Deut. 26:12**

When thou hast made an end of tithing all the tithes of thine increase the third year, which is the year of tithing, and hast given it unto the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, and be filled;

----When was the tithe given.

1. Every year

a. Deuteronomy 14: 22. Set apart a tithe of all the yield of your seed that is brought in yearly from the field.

2. Every three years was for the Levites to have an inheritance.

a. Numbers 18:24

But the tithes of the children of Israel, which they offer as an heave offering unto the Lord, I have given to the Levites to inherit: therefore I have said unto them, Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance.

b. Deut. 14:28

At the end of three years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year, and shalt lay it up within thy gates:

3. Special tithing within the year.

a. Abraham's story on tithing gives no indication as to when he paid his tithes. It does not say once a year or every three years. It had to be a special tithing because he did right after he was blessed.

-----Note: There is nowhere in the bible that states that you and I have to give our tithe and offerings every week, bi-weekly, monthly, or every quarter. If you here the ministers telling you that they are not telling the truth, and they are distorting the word of God. They only reason they tell you that is because they like getting paid weekly , and there is a big mortgage on the church building that needs to be paid. You should pay your tithe to God, but if we are going by biblical account then you can pay your tithe once a year if you desire. You can give a special tithe anytime you want to as well. We must make sure we are following biblical fact not humanistic desire!!!

-----How to pay the tithe

1. The people of Israel gave of their first fruits, so we should give to God from our gross income.

A. example:

**Tithing broken
down:**

Gross Yearly Income:
\$43,654.23

Gross Monthly Income:
\$3637.85

**The Tithe off of the
G.I.**

Tithe of G.Y.I.
\$4365.42

Tithe of G.M. I.
\$363.78

2. If someone missed their tithe. He or she added one fifth to the missing of the tithe. Therefore it was the tithe plus .05% of that tithe that had to be repaid.

a. ***Leviticus 27:30. All tithes from the land, whether the seed from the ground or the fruit from the tree, are the Lord's; they are holy to the Lord.***

31. If persons wish to redeem any of their tithes, they must add one-fifth to them.

32. All tithes of herd and flock, every tenth one that passes under the shepherd's staff, shall be holy to the Lord.

33. Let no one inquire whether it is good or bad, or make substitution for it; if one makes substitution for it, then both it and the substitute shall be holy and cannot be redeemed.

34. These are the commandments that the Lord gave to Moses for the people of Israel on Mount Sinai.

a. Example:

The Tithe off of the G.I. plus the .05 when missed

Tithe of G.Y.I.

\$4365.42 + 218.27= \$4583.69

Tithe of G.M. I.

\$363.78 + 18.18= \$381.96

Tithe of G.W.I.

\$90.94 + 4.54= \$95.48

-----Note: So far I have only been able to show you Old Testament account of Tithing. Although I personally give my tithe to God ; I must be honest that there is not really any New Testament account of tithing. People gave offerings in the New Testament church and even gave portions of what they wanted to give to God. (Read what Peter told Annaias and Sapphria in Acts 5) Jesus did talk allot about finances, but they were usually against the false practices of the Pharisees and about spiritual insights about Christian living. I really feel that as believers that we should give to God out of our financial blessings. Scripture is clear about that much; however, scripture also tells us to give from our heart and give what we desire to give to God. I have presented a clear Old Testament way on how and why you should give your tithes, but your choice as a New Testament believer to give is up to you and God. I will encourage you to seek the scriptures yourself. I would also encourage you to give to God and for His kingdom work. If you are going to give to your local church and you don't feel that it should go towards someone's paycheck, then state on your offering card where you want it to go. You have a choice in the matter and don't you forget that. Also please remember that one thing is clear in the scriptures you and I should give to the Father's Kingdom. I want to give another thought as well. The Old Testament practice of tithing did not start when Moses gave the Law to the people of God. Tithing had been practice all the way back during the times of Abraham. Abraham gave of his tithes. There is only on instances of it, but He still did it. There is only one instance in the bible about Jesus dying on the cross. Although the Gospel writers give slightly different points of view, they still tell the same story. We have no problem believing that Christ did die for us. It is the same way with the instance with Abraham. We can not declare that he tithed all the time nor can we declare that he did not tithe but once.

Jesus' take on Giving: added October 12, 2005

What did Jesus say about tithing and giving to the ministry? He often made comments and below we will disgust them.

Matthew 23:23 (KJV)

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

Luke 11:42 (KJV)

But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

Luke 18:11-12 (KJV)

The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. [12] I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

Jesus gave warning to the scribes and Pharisees for not fulfilling the fullness of God. They would corrupt the word of the Lord and make it of no affect to the people. They would hold the people of God to man made standards that they themselves would not stick too. Tithing was one such action that the Pharisees did not fully understand. The Pharisees gave their ten percent of their plants but did not walk in the judgment, mercy and faith of the Lord. They walked in ritualistic thinking but failed to walk in the Spirit of God. Jesus was not lifting up tithing or stating it as a required practice in this verse. His agenda was to get the religious minded to see their wrong actions towards the word of God. From this verse we can gather that Christ understood the true purpose of tithing and walking in the truth. We can also gather that walking in the truth was more important than the giving of tithes in a ritualistic manner.

Jesus had finances given to his ministry during his time on the earth. People would give to him and he would use those finances to fund the ministry. However, notice that Jesus did not use the finances to build a big multi-million dollar facility. He did not use it to buy himself a better boat to get back and forth from each city. He did not use the money to buy himself a Mercedes-Camel so He could ride in style to his evangelistic meetings. In fact, Jesus took the finances up and quickly pushed them back out to the people. His ministry team didn't even have enough money to buy food for the multitude. They only had about 130.00 dollars. That was not enough to feed thousands. They had to rely on a miracle.

John 6:5-14 (KJV)

When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? [6] And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do. [7] Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little. [8] One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, [9] There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many? [10] And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. [11] And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. [12] When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. [13] Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten. [14] Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.

After the miracle, Jesus' ministry was able to carry on with enough food for them all. Jesus used the finances but he did not hoard them. There is not any where in the Gospels where Jesus took up tithes either. Jesus did not make finances a big issue. He did take them when necessarily but He did not steal or corrupt the people in order to get what he wanted. The question still remains, why did Jesus having money taken up for His ministry? It was simple. It costs money to travel by ship. It cost money for every disciple to support their family while they were away with Jesus. On the other hand, this money in reference could have been saved up by Jesus when he was a carpenter. He probably had enough saved up to enter into His first year of ministry. Whatever the case, it shows that Jesus' ministry used money to function. The same is for any ministry today. Every ministry needs money to function. Unfortunately, the purpose for that money has changed dramatically. We will discuss further the purpose of giving in the New Testament further down .

--Offerings and Giving

Offerings were just as important when it came to giving. Offerings happened through out the year even on a weekly basis.

1. It was as important as tithing

a. Malachi 3:

8. Will anyone rob God? Yet you are robbing me! But you say, "How are we robbing you?" In your tithes and offerings!

9. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me--the whole nation of you!

10. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

11. I will rebuke the locust {Heb [devourer]} for you, so that it will not destroy the produce of your soil; and your vine in the field shall not be barren, says the Lord of hosts.

12. Then all nations will count you happy, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.

13. You have spoken harsh words against me, says the Lord. Yet you say, "How have we spoken against you?"

14. You have said, "It is vain to serve God. What do we profit by keeping his command or by going about as mourners before the Lord of hosts?"

15. Now we count the arrogant happy; evildoers not only prosper, but when they put God to the test they escape."

2. Offerings and giving had to be done from a pure heart.

a. Mark 12:33

And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

b. Matthew 23:23, Luke 11:42

3. It was an act of surrendering all to the Lord.

a. Exodus 35: Offerings for the Tabernacle

20. Then all the congregation of the Israelites withdrew from the presence of Moses.

21. And they came, everyone whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, and brought the Lord's offering to be used for the tent of meeting, and for all its service, and for the sacred vestments.

22. So they came, both men and women; all who were of a willing heart brought brooches and earrings and signet rings and pendants, all sorts of gold objects, everyone bringing an offering of gold to the Lord.

23. And everyone who possessed blue or purple or crimson yarn or fine linen or goats' hair or tanned rams' skins or fine leather, {Meaning of Heb uncertain} brought them.

24. Everyone who could make an offering of silver or bronze brought it as the Lord's offering; and everyone who possessed acacia wood of any use in the work, brought it.

25. All the skillful women spun with their hands, and brought what they had spun in blue and purple and crimson yarns and fine linen;

26. all the women whose hearts moved them to use their skill spun the goats' hair.

27. And the leaders brought onyx stones and gems to be set in the ephod and the breastpiece,

28. and spices and oil for the light, and for the anointing oil, and for the fragrant incense.

29. All the Israelite men and women whose hearts made them willing to bring anything for the work that the Lord had commanded by Moses to be done, brought it as a freewill offering to the Lord.

4. It was suppose to be done generously

a. 2 Corinthians 8

Encouragement to Be Generous

1. We want you to know, brothers and sisters, {Gk [brothers]} about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia;

2. for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.

3. For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means,

4. begging us earnestly for the privilege {Gk [grace]} of sharing in this ministry to the saints--

5. and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us,

6. so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking {Gk [this grace]} among you.

7. Now as you excel in everything--in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you {Other ancient authorities read [your love for us]}--so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking. {Gk [this grace]}

8. I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others.

9. For you know the generous act {Gk [the grace]} of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

10. And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something--

11. now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means.

12. For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has--not according to what one does not have.

13. I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between

14. your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance.

15. As it is written,

"The one who had much did not have too much,

and the one who had little did not have too little."

The Collection for Christians at Jerusalem

1. Now it is not necessary for me to write you about the ministry to the saints,

2. for I know your eagerness, which is the subject of my boasting about you to the people of Macedonia, saying that Achaia has been ready since last year; and your zeal has stirred up most of them.

3. But I am sending the brothers in order that our boasting about you may not prove to have been empty in this case, so that you may be ready, as I said you would be;

4. otherwise, if some Macedonians come with me and find that you are not ready, we would be humiliated--to say nothing of you--in this undertaking. {Other ancient authorities add [of boasting]}

5. So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you, and arrange in advance for this bountiful gift that you have promised, so that it may be ready as a voluntary gift and not as an extortion.

6. The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

7. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

8. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

9. As it is written,

"He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;

his righteousness {Or [benevolence]} endures forever."

10. He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. {Or [benevolence]}

11. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us;

12. for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.

13. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others,

14. while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you.

15. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

5. Giving was done with responsibility. (Look at the above verses)

- a. We need not to be greedy.
- b. We need to give from the abundance God has given us.
- c. We give to help out others.
- d. We give to support the ministry which is being poured out upon us.
- e. We give to honor God.
- f. We give to maintain needed supplies for the gospel to be carried on.
- g. We do not over give and cause our family to go hungry.

1. The controversial passage about the Widow's mite.

a. Jesus was talking about the religious sect taking advantage of the widows in Luke 20: 45. In the hearing of all the people he said to the {other ancient authorities read [his]} disciples,

46. "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets.

47. They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

b. Then Jesus sees a widow place her paycheck in the offering plate.

1. Luke 21

1. He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury;

2. He also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.

3. He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them;

4. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."

2. Jesus was not teaching a law of giving your paycheck away in order to gain more. He was simply teaching about giving by humility and by sacrifice. It was of a greater sacrifice to her for it was her paycheck. The rich people gave just a little from their abundance and kept the rest.

The Lord has called us to a life of giving. He has designed for His people the act of dispensing funds into His kingdom work. It is an honor that we should feel privilege to give of our finances to the Father.

HOW SHOULD WE GIVE TODAY? added on October 12,2005

It is clear through this study that God wants us to give of our finances for His ministry. It is equally clear that the course of giving is up to the believer. Read Acts 5: 1-8, The Christian couple could give whatever they wanted from the selling of their land. They did not have to lie and say they were giving the whole amount. They could have given any portion of the financial gain to the Lord. The main thing was that they gave with a true heart and did not give sparingly. That was all that was required. No where in the book of Acts do we find believers giving a tenth of everything they had. In fact they gave more than a tenth, they gave from their abundance. I can not tell you the reader what you should do about your ability to give to God; however, one thing is clear. IT IS YOUR CHOICE!!! If you want to keep giving you tithes and offerings that is fine. The main thing is that you have a freedom in God to do so. God puts the power of giving back on us.

We must also understand that the tithe is NOT GOD'S PART. Everything we have belongs to God. For too many centuries Christians have been getting away with just paying their tithes to God. God expects our everything offered to Him. Let's look in His word to see if this true.

1 Cor. 10:26 (KJV)

For the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof.

Everything belongs to our Lord. We must get out of the mentality of just giving God our tithe. We must get into the thinking that all belongs to Him. Every purchase we make should be made with a God-like conscious.

Acts 4:31-37 (KJV)

And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. [32] And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. [33] And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. [34] Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, [35] And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need. [36] And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus, [37] Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Look at the power of the believers giving out of their abundance. Some of these believers who were more blessed than others were able to sell their extra lands and give the money to the church. The apostles made sure the finances were distributed out to everyone who had an immediate need. They were led of the Spirit when distributing out the finances. Everyone in the church of Jerusalem did not have lack of anything. Could you imagine how this spoke volumes to the world of the lost during that time? Some believers were extra blessed in order to have a ministry of giving. Barnabas seemed to be one of these people. He had a prophetic gift of giving. WOW!!!!!!!

It is the church's job to feed the hungry. It is the church's job to care for the widows and orphans. It is the church's job to help the poor by providing for them in their time of need and by getting those jobs. This is not the government's job. The church will help the needy through the fear of the Lord. The Government does it through the power of control and manipulation.

The purpose for giving according to the New Testament

1. To help the widows in our church community (Acts 6:)
2. To support the Elders and senior leaders of your local assembly (I Timothy 5:17) When the needs were being met and finances were be distributed out. The Elders were to get double wages. Especially those Elders who taught and preached the word of God.
3. To help the orphans of our church community (James 1:27)
4. To carry on the work of the ministry (Read II Corinthians 8-9)
5. To make sure no one in the church went without. Each immediate need was met.
6. To further the ministry of the Lord not the ministry of individuals.

When were the finances brought before the Church?

The finances were brought before the church on a daily basis. Every believer who was blessed gave a portion of that blessing to the church. This was a daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly experience. It was none stop.

Acts 6:1 (KJV)

And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.

There was a daily ministration among the believers. The needs were met as the finances were brought in. It was that simple.

I am convinced that Jesus did not teach on tithes and offerings with the same mindset as those who gave in the Old Testament. I am equally convinced that the practice of giving to God is a practice that all believers should be maintaining and doing. Jesus wanted to bring the issue of giving to a higher form. It was not just the tithe or the offering. It was to become much more than that. I was to become the giving from our abundance. We can not just see tithing as our only form of giving. In some cases it is easy to give to God our ten percent then carry on our lives as if we did God and the church a favor. The New Testament is clear. Giving took on a new form; one that was better and more complete than the Old Testament acts of giving. When Jesus died on the cross, He took away much of the Old Testament rituals. The Old Testament then became our school master to help teach us for New Testament practices. Giving to God is a type of worship. It is a type of sacrifice to the Lord and to His work. We must be wise when we give and be honest as well. I would challenge you the reader to change your thinking on this matter. If you have the desire to give your tithe to God then do so. However, don't let it stop there give more and more from your abundance. Now let's explain what giving out from your abundance means.

Giving from your abundance

1. It means giving from your extra.

a. Your extra would mean anything left over after your immediate bills. (Immediate bills are light bill, grocery, car bill, house bill, Child expenses and so forth. Anything that is a must in life.)

b. Immediate bills are not the boat payment, the four-wheeler payment, or anything extra in your life that is not a necessity. Now there is nothing wrong with having these items if you are still able to give God out of your abundance.

2. It means selling anything you have that you know you really don't need. That is what the New Testament church did. They sold extra land or anything they knew was not a necessity. How many of us have extra junk that we know we don't need? How many of us have credit card debt due to the fact we love to have things? How much more rewarding would it be if you could have given that to God.

3. It means giving more than your ten percent or tithe to God.

4. It does not mean just your finances. (People in the New Testament brought extra food and supplies to the church in order to see it distributed out to the needy. In today standards it could be similar. Let's say that someone in the church needs a stove or washing machine. Let's say that another individual has an extra washing machine to give. They can give that to the needy. It is still giving from your abundance. I have given away extra computers before. It was a blessing to do so.) What did John the Baptist say about this truth?

Luke 3:7-14 (KJV)

Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? [8] Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. [9] And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. [10] And the people asked him, saying, What shall we do then? [11] He answereth and saith unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise. [12] Then came also publicans to be baptized, and said unto him, Master, what shall we do? [13] And he said unto them, Exact no more than that which is appointed you. [14] And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages.

John the Baptist preached a message of true Christianity. We were to give from our abundance and give it with passion and love for each other. I want to see the people of God blessed so much that I am willing to give.

5. It means being responsible with what God has given you. (Let's face it! The bottom line is being responsible with what God has given you. It means not letting the enemy or your personal desires get in the way of God)

1 Cor. 4:1-2 (KJV)

Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. [2] Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

6. It does not mean taking your rent payment and giving it to God. (We believers are told to take their bill

payments and give to God. The corrupt ministers saying this untruth is doing the church a great injustice. Our abundance does not come from our bill payments that must get paid. If you are giving God your bill money then you are blessing the Light Company not your house hold.) Even Jesus was very careful when it came to paying His bills or even His taxes.

Matthew 17:24-27 (KJV)

And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute? [25] He saith, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers? [26] Peter saith unto him, Of strangers. Jesus saith unto him, Then are the children free. [27] Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee.

Conclusion:

I believe that we have made a strong case for giving. If you learn anything from this study. I pray that you learn to give more to God as a sacrifice to Him. God is looking for pure hearts. We can not deny the truth of giving among the body of believers. I would also challenge the reader to go back to your local churches and see if they are distributing the finances rightly. Look and see how much is going to the fancy church building verses the needs of the people in the church. Maybe your church supports the local community and gives out food, but that is not what scripture says. We need to help the brethren first not the lost. Look at what Jesus said.

Matthew 25:31-40 (KJV)

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: [32] And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: [33] And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. [34] Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: [35] For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: [36] Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. [37] Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? [38] When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? [39] Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? [40] And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye

have done it unto one of the least of these **my brethren**, ye have done it unto me.

The church went without need first, and then you could help the lost. We have it all backwards. If you are a minister reading this how many people in your congregations are going without? I bet you don't know. I will even equally bet you that there are many in your congregations going without. Shame on you for not listening to the Holy Spirit. Shame on you for building your big fancy buildings and for supporting your soup kitchens while your congregation is bound.

We must get back to the truth about giving to God. If the Body of Christ did so, we would not have multimillion dollar ministries today. We have blessed these ministries so much today that they have become the Hollywood Christians. Because of their wealth, the majority of the Christian world shapes their

CHAPTER 7

YOUR PURPOSE IN THE

KINGDOM

I. The Call

1. Every born again Christian has a calling. A calling or the call of God means that God has ordained and anointed a certain Christian for ministry. However, it goes deeper than that. Your first call from God to you was at salvation.

- Matthew 20:1-16

-As in reference to this story everybody in this world is called out to salvation, but only the few received and lived for Christ.

- Vs. 16 “So the last shall be first, and the first last, for many are called, but few are chosen”.

2. When one steps into the call of salvation or the covenant of salvation. He or she has just allowed God’s call to spread to specific ministry that God has placed you in.

3. Your first priority as a Christian called out by God is getting people saved.

- Matthew 28: 19-20

- I Corinthians 5:12

4. Before we go further I want to prove to you that you are a chosen vessel by God or called out for a specific ministry

2... You are Chosen

1. Jesus says that He has chosen you and I to go and bring forth fruit and desiring for that fruit to remain.

- John 15:15-16, 19

- Vs. 16 “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that you should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain; that whatsoever ye ask of the Father in my name, He may give it you.” KJV

- Jesus has chosen all Christians not to be bond slaves, but to make us full partners and representatives of the gospel on this earth.

- If Jesus says that He chooses us for ministry who are we to argue?

- Vs. 19 “If ye were of the world, the world would love its own; but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.”

-Jesus has called you out from the world. We might live in this world but the world no longer lives in us. Jesus has chosen us out as Christians to minister to this dying world.

- Saul of the New Testament was a perfect example of being chosen by Jesus to do a ministry.

- Acts 9:1

1. Paul is on his way to Damascus to arrest some Christians, but finds himself being arrested by Christ. He is blinded and left with a changed heart. Within in the city is a devoted Christian named Ananias. God speaks this profound word to Ananias in a vision.

- Vs. 15 “But the Lord said unto him, go thy way, for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles and the kings and the children of Israel.”

- Ananias was to go tell Paul that he is a chosen vessel of God to minister the word of truth to such a diverse group of people.

1. God always speaks in a positive manner. God said that....”He (Saul) is a chosen

vessel.” Keep in mind Saul just got saved, but God puts Saul in a ministry.

3. Your Chosen by Grace

1. Before we go any further, let us note that only by grace are we chosen. There is not one thing we can do to make God choose us for ministry. It is by grace we are saved and it is by grace we are called.

-Genesis 6:8-9

- Noah found grace in God’s eyes.

- Yes, Noah lived a godly life, but he only lived it by God’s grace and strength. We must be very careful when being called not to step on God’s glory for He is the only one that deserves it all.

- I Corinthians 1:27-29

1. “But God has chosen the foolish things (You and I) of the world to confound the wise, and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised hath God chosen, yea and things which are not, to bring to naught things that are. That no flesh should glory in His presence.”

2. Not one thing can ever come near to God’s glory or receive God’s glory. All glory must go to God.

D. Finding out what your calling is.

1. Well, you’ve been proven that you are called to a specific ministry, but what you are called to be.

2. Let’s look at what we call a five fold ministry in Ephesians 4:11.

- “And He (Christ) gave some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors, and some teachers.”

1. Not everybody is called to be a prophet. Think about it if everyone was called to be a prophet. Ministry would cease.

3. Five-Fold Ministry defined.

1. Apostles- a delegate, one sent with full power of attorney to act in the place of another, the sender remaining behind to back up the one sent.

- Acts 15:33

- Apostles are people who literally go forth and do things God would do if He was there in person or in the flesh.

2. Prophets- are those who speak for God or God speaks through them. They sometimes told things of the future, but were mainly used to exalt the church and to minister to the point on righteousness.

- Acts 15:32, I Corinthians 14:3

- Acts 11:27-30

3. Evangelists- means a bringer of glad tidings.

1. Acts 21:8-9

- Philip was one of the elders of the church at Jerusalem that was chosen to help solve the problems of the people. (Acts 6:5), but God also used him in the ministry as an evangelist.

- Paul told Timothy, who was a very young pastor, to do the work of an evangelist.

- II Timothy 4:5

4. Pastors and Teachers

1. Pastors and teachers are in my belief one in the same. A Sunday school teacher in a

sense is the pastor of that class.

- In the word the Bible refers to the pastor as the shepherd.

- Matthew 9:36

4. How Can I Determine?

I. The first step of finding out what your calling is would be what we talk about in the beginning of this chapter.

1. Realize that you are called by God. I refer to the beginning of this chapter.

2. Begin to ask God what your calling is.

- John 15:7

- "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, you shall ask what you will and it shall be done unto you."

3. So ask!!!

- 4... Listen to God's reply.

- I Samuel 3:1

- Little Samuel was given to God, by his mother, for service. Verse one states that the word of the Lord was so precious in those days or contact with God and Israel was so scarce that when the Lord spoke it became valuable. However, God had a plan; Samuel was about to have an encounter with God. God was about to call little Samuel out for service.

- I Samuel 3:1-10

1. God calls Samuel three times before Eli, who had supposedly been with God for years, finally perceives that God is calling Samuel. On the advice of Eli, Samuel goes back and answers God. Samuel receives his first instruction by God.

2. It is very important to listen to what God is saying (refer to Chapter 4 "How to Listen to God Effectively").

5. After you have determined.

1. When you realize what God has called you to do. Rejoice in that and speak it out loud. For instance, if God has called you to be a Sunday school teacher. Begin to claim that ever before it manifests.

2. Confessing what God says that you are; is a very strong biblical teaching. When God says you're saved then you're saved! When He says you are healed, then you are healed! And so forth. Open out loud confessions rebuked any doubt you might have when it comes to your God given call.

1. I Timothy 1:9-11

- Paul spoke out what God has called him to be, Pastor, Apostle, and Teacher.

2. Tell your pastor

- Your pastor is your comfort towards your calling. He is there to encourage you and sustain you. Always come to your pastor, he is there to serve you.

1. John 13:5-17

- As Jesus washed the feet of the disciples to get them prepared for ministry.

- Jesus was concerned for His disciples. He wanted them to be in their calling.

- This should be your Pastor's response when you tell him or her God has called you to do.

3. Get the necessary training for your calling.

- I'm not talking about Christian Colleges! Many of the people who come out of Christian College don't understand any more about their call than the day they went in.

- I'm talking about getting with your pastor and letting him impart things in you and in you. Building a relationship with each other.

1. Biblical Example

- I Kings 19:19-21

1. There was a school of Prophets during that time. But God chose Elisha for Elijah to teach and impart. Elisha was getting hands on experience.

2. Look what the last part of the verse says..."Then he arose and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him."

3. Elisha ministered unto Elijah. Elisha was a good follower so God would make him a great leader.

4. Elisha hungered so much for what Elijah had that he got it plus more.

- II Kings 2:11-12, 13-14

- If you study the life and ministry of Elisha. You'll find that he does more than his teacher. That's because he had a great teacher.

4. Let God put you in your calling on His time table.

1. The importance of letting God place you in your call on timing is very vital.

-Biblical Example.

- Exodus 2:11-15

1. Moses at this point was self sent. I'm sure his mother told him how much God was going to use him. I'm also sure Moses knew it too. It is alright to know your calling, but it's wrong when the knowing pushes you into the doing before your time. Moses was 40 years old before He could go back and save his people from the tyranny of the Pharaoh of Egypt.

E. When you're in your calling.

1. When God begins to move you into your calling great things begin to happen within the body of Christ.

- Unity begins to appear.

1. I Corinthians 12:13-26

- Our individual callings bonded into one purpose moves the body of Christ. If we do not walk in our God given calling and the whole church is not doing that we have a dysfunctional body.

- I feel that the body of Christ has become somewhat paralyzed because the whole body doesn't agree with being filled with the Holy Spirit, or being healed, or delivered, or revival. Some of the body doesn't walk in their calling and most don't even know what their calling is.

- Paul addresses some of the callings within the church.

2. Biblical Example.

1. Let me give you a biblical example of when Christians come together in their calling.

- Acts: 4-8

- Philip was an evangelist according to Acts 21:8. In Acts 8 he is depicted of having some amazing physical fruit. Demons were cast out. Many who couldn't walk began to walk. And great joy came upon the city. Philip knew his God-given capabilities. After he evangelized the city. And word got back to the Apostles at Jerusalem. They sent Peter (Acts 21:14) and John and when they came; they prayed for the people to be filled with the Holy Spirit and they were.

- We must operate in our own individual callings so God can get total glorification.
- 2. God's church is added to.
 - Acts 2:37-42
 - If you read all through out the book of Acts. When men and women walked in their calling there was the increase of God's calling.
 - Everybody's needs were met. Number 3
 - Acts 4:32-37
 - God was totally glorified. Number 4
 - Acts 13:46-49
 - Paul and Barnabas were tag team missionaries that saw results. The results that caused the hearers to glorify God. Amen!!

F. Possible reasons why God has not put you into your calling yet.

1. You're a young Christian.

- I stress young Christian not young person. Your age as a natural being has nothing to do with God calling you.
 - I Corinthians 3:18. "Let no man deceive himself. "If any man among you seems to be wise in this world; let him become a fool, that he may be wise."
 - There is no wisdom, just earthly wisdom.
 - You would not be in your calling because you're a young Christian and God doesn't want you to get prideful.
 - I Timothy 3:6 "Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil."

1. Novice means new convert. The Bible doesn't necessarily put a year on how long this should be. However, it would be stupid to put a new convert into leadership when he or she has not learned the lesson of grace and humility. We have enough prideful, haughty preachers why add more to the bunch.

2. You're in sin.

- If you're walking in sin don't think God is going to put you in your calling.
 - 1. Romans 6:15-18, Romans 7:8
 - Vs. 16 "Know not, that to whom you yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants you are to whom you obey. Whether sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness.
 - How can someone bound to a certain type of sin help free someone who is bound to sin. You must let God free you, so you can begin to walk in your calling.
 - 2. You've stepped out of God's Will.
 - Stepping out of God's will for you is a very dangerous thing, however, it doesn't always mean it will stop you from being a Christian.

B. People don't realize the importance of God's will.

1. God's will is the divine purposing, directing, and moving of God's Spirit for each individual's life.

C. Biblical Example.

1. Let's look at the life of Abraham.

- Genesis 12:1-3

1. Vs. 1 **"Now the Lord said unto Abram get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house unto a land that I will show thee."**

2. This was the calling out of Abraham. Abraham was to be used by God to start a nation that was after God's own heart. It took a lot of Abraham to follow God. But he did.

3. The results of stepping out of God's will.

- Genesis 12:10-13

1. Abraham feared for his life so he lied and steps out of God's will. God had just told him in Genesis 12:7 that he would be a great nation.

2. Note: Genesis 13:2 **“And Abram was a very rich man in cattle, in silver, and in gold. Abraham did step out of God's perfect will and even faced the consequences, but because of God's mercy.**

Abraham was still blessed and Abraham even called upon the Lord because of this. Genesis 13:4 **“Unto the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first; and there Abram called on the name of the Lord.” Abraham slipped up in his faith but God always forgive.**

B. Example #2

1. God told Abraham that his seed would have God's blessings. Well Sarah was old and barren. How could this be? So Sarah and Abraham decided to help God with His plan.

Note: GOD DOES NOT NEED US TO SPEED UP HIS PURPOSES FOR US, SO STAND CLEAR AND LET GOD!

-. Genesis 16:1-6

1. Abraham goes and sleeps with Sarah's maid named Hagar, with Sarah's permission. Hagar gets pregnant. In Genesis 16:15-16, She bore a son named Ishmael. Abraham badly steps out of God's will. It is the descendants of Ishmael that are coming against the Israelites today in our time. Abraham caused a deep problem when he stepped out of God's will. Abraham finally has a son through Sarah in Genesis 21:1-2 but Abraham slowed the process of God's moving when he stepped out of His will. Remember this: STEPPING OUT OF GOD'S WILL CAN CAUSE SEVERAL THINGS TO HAPPEN.

1. It slows down God's working process in your life.

2. It reposes the glory of God.

3. It can even cause you to lose your relationship with God and possibly salvation.

4. Your hunger stops for God.

- Psalm 37:4 **“Delight yourself in the Lord and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”**

1. God must be your first and only desire. If your spiritual hunger stops for God, your calling will be delayed. You must stay hungry for God. God is eternal, so it must take us an eternity to know Him and learn more about Him!

2. Biblical Example.

-. Matthew 10:1-4 (Read)

1. Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed Jesus, performed through the Holy Spirit everything it speaks of in verse 1. Judas once hungered for the things of God. When that hungers toward something of the world, greed, it caused his calling to come

haughting to an end. You must stay hungry for God. It is this hunger along with God's grace that will pivot you into your calling.

5. It is simply not God's timing.

1. God works on a different time table than you and I. For instance: you might tell

someone “I’ll see you next week.” Gods already there. Maybe you plan a trip for next year. Well once again God is already there. God does not exist on time. Time exists by God and it’s for man. There for when your answer to prayer comes two months later from the date you prayed for it. If you look at it from God’s view.

- Ecclesiastes 3:1, 11

- “To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.”

- Vs. 11 “He hath made everything beautiful in His time; also he has set the world in their, so that no man can find out the work that God makes for the beginning to the end.”

- It would seem logical that the God who needs no time is the master of our time. So just trust that God knows what He is doing when it comes to the timing of your life.

Closing Comments:

This is not all you need to know about your calling. This is just a basic look for the new Christian. I suggest you get with your Pastor or elders and talk to them about what God is calling you to do. Maybe you don’t know what that calling is. Get with your Pastor or elders anyway. They should be able to encourage you.

Questions for Chapter 7

1. Who has chosen you for His purpose?
2. Who are we chosen by?
3. Do you have to be called into a Five-Fold Ministry to be used by God? If no, please explain
4. How can you determine your calling by God?
5. Should you be trained for your calling?
6. Should we all be in our place or calling in the Body of Christ? If so, what happens when we are?
7. Name some reasons why a person would not be in his or hers calling yet.

CHAPTER 8 EVANGELISM

INTRODUCTION: Many people within the Body think that all they have to do is get saved and sit down in a building. However, the actual life of the Christian is one of activity. Christians have a message beating inside of them that the world is waiting to hear. It is time that we rise up in the spirit of evangelism to reach this end-time world.

I. Lesson Number 1 Evangelism Define

1. Evangelism: The word evangel means good news/ evangelism is the preaching of the good news or zealous effort to spread the good news. Whenever you see the spreading of the gospel of Jesus, you have evangelism.

2. Evangelism's Makeup.

1. Commission- Matthew 28:16-20

- All authority has been given to Jesus for heaven and earth.

- Jesus has passed this same power to us.

- Matthew 16:17-20

1. In the commission to go and evangelize you and I must realize the authority that Jesus has given us to do such a thing.

2. Go

- Evangelism is the zealous outburst of the true gospel. It is the message that must be told.

1. Matthew 10:7-8

- When Jesus walked the earth. He knew that in order to spread His message over more ground. He was going to have to send out the disciples. The disciples had to go out into the world and preach the same things that Jesus spoke Himself. They also were commanded to do the things that Jesus did.

- The Balance of Evangelism

1. Preaching the word.

2. Performing the word.

3. Teach

-. It is important that we sit converts down and teach them the ways of the Lord.

1. I Corinthians 4:17 Paul the apostle speaks on how he teaches everywhere God sends him.

2. Acts 5:42 "AND DAILY IN THE TEMPLE, AND IN EVERY HOUSE, THEY CEASED NOT TO TEACH AND PREACH JESUS CHRIST."

3. Mark 6:34 Jesus had compassion on the people for their lack of the things of God. Jesus began to fill that lack by teaching them many things of God.

4. Preach

- Mark 16:15 "AND HE SAID UNTO THEM, GO YOU INTO ALL THE

WORLD, AND PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE.”

1. The word preach means to proclaim or declare. When preaching one declares the things of God in a bold and powerful way.

2. Jesus had His moments of preaching while here on the earth.

- Matthew 4:17

5. Baptize

- I believe that the word baptize found in Matthew 20:19 is triune.

- Hebrews 6:1-3

1. The Father’s baptism

- The Father’s baptism consists of the giving up of His Son for all to receive. This was symbolic by the dunking under by water.

-Matthew 3:16-17

- The Father declared His baptism which was of repentance for all mankind and the promise of salvation for all who do repent.

2. The Son’s baptism

- This Jesus gave to us as a gift. The gift of the Holy Spirit.

- Matthew 3:11-12

- Jesus came to baptize us with Fire and the Holy Spirit. Jesus is the baptizer of this manner.

- Acts 19:1-7

1. Paul asked these men what baptism they got to. Then he prayed for them to fill or baptized with the Holy Spirit.

2. The Holy Spirit’s baptism is the one that in fills us but also the one that brings us into the Body of Christ.

- Ephesians 4:4-6

C. Closing Remarks

1. Not only are we sent out to reach the world with the Gospel. We are also called to bring in the once saved individual who has backslide from the Lord.

- James 5:19-20 “Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one converts him; Let him know, that he which converts the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.”

1. Two things shall happen when we are used to lead someone back to Christ.

-We save their soul from death, proving that once saved always saved is wrong.

-We allow the sins of that individual to be forgiven and washed away.

2. God is calling us to help bring the lost sons and daughters of Him back into the fold.

II. LESSON NUMBER 2 SPIRIT OF EVANGELISM

1. The Need of Evangelism

- Evangelism takes what is in the church out to the un-churched.

- Acts 5:12-16

2. Evangelism brings true doctrine to a world that is embracing false doctrine.

- II Timothy 4:1-5

- Paul told Timothy to keep preaching the true doctrine no matter what. Even when some will fall to the false. He told Timothy to do the work of the evangelist in order to get the truth out.

3. Evangelism attacks Satan's realm.
 - When Paul and Silas were going to church. The demonic showed up in order to try and put a stop to the powerful that would be spoken. The awesome thing that happened was that the devil lost one of his own. He suffered a major casualty by the Word of truth.
 - Acts 16:16-24
4. Evangelism brings God in a lifted position to the eyes of the world.
 - John 1:25-39
 - John preached of good tidings to come and gave to the Lord. He was lifting up the name of the Messiah.
5. Evangelism changes a city's countenance and ushers in Revival.
 - Acts 8:5-13
2. The qualities of Evangelism portrayed in the child of God.
 1. When you are engulfed with the Spirit of Evangelism. You will tell others what Christ has done for you.
 - John 1:40-42
 2. You have zeal with wisdom.
 - You will always know when God wants you to minister.
 - Proverbs 11:2,30
 3. You let the Spirit of God lead you.
 4. You let God build in you a strategy to reach the lost.
 5. You listen to God when it is your time to be finished.
 - Acts 8:26-40
 6. You allow the love of God to flow through you.
 7. You are quick to obey God. (Philip ran)
 8. You meet people where they are.
 9. You allow the Spirit of Revelation to flow from your mouth.

III. LESSON NUMBER 3 WAYS EVANGELIZING

1. Drama

1. Drama is a very unique and visible way to evangelize a community or a nation. It helps people to get a visual look of what the Bible is saying to them. It also gives the evangelizer the opportunity to lure an individual and give them the gospel.

- Personal Story

- In the year of 1993, I was led to start a ministry called D.O.T.S. (Drama on the streets).

I was a youth minister at a local church and I had the burden to reach the un-reached teenagers in the city of Laurens. Therefore, I hit the streets with some drama. I would wait until 10:00 p.m. every Friday night and go walking the streets where the teens were. My first drama was simply dressing up like Jesus carrying a cross. I took an old t-shirt that looked like flesh and I covered it with fake blood. Then I made a crown of thorns out of a reef and then I would put some of the fake blood on my face. Finally I got a real rugged cross and dragged it down the streets. I would walk approximately 4 miles a night with a 50 to 70 lb. cross on my back. My first night doing this attracted several different groups of people. The first group, to meet me was the Laurens County police force. Five police cars cornered me into a parking lot and began to give me the average questions. After my interrogation and much negative words against what I was doing they finally let me continue to walk. Those police officers went on to become my guardians for the next

three months that I did D.O.T.S.. The next group of people that I came to me after doing this for three weeks were the camera guys. People would pull into the parking lots and just film my historical walk. Many of them would just weep as they saw me pass by. I had taken drama in High school so I knew how to make my make-up look real. That is why many of them wept at the sight of my face and body. One lady stopped me at the local convenient store in order to take my picture. The third group of people that followed me around was Satanists. They would drive by and yell out vulgar words and try to put a curse on me. They would drive by and get as close as they could to the sidewalk that I was walking on. You name it they tried it. The ministry drew a lot of people that allowed us to share the Gospel with them. Kelly and I would go on to dress up like clowns, I would dress like a sinner bound to chains during Halloween, and during Christmas we dressed up like Joseph and Mary with the baby Jesus, and march proudly by the beer joint, Tumbleweeds. People are drawn by the visual it can be used to lure them in. Then you can give them the Word. Many teenagers came to church because of this effort.

2. Drama in the Word.

1. Do you think God used drama to get His Word across?

-I Kings 20:35-43

-The unknown prophet used acting to get across to King Ahab the prophetic word God was giving.

2. DOOR TO DOOR

1. Door to Door evangelism is simply going from one house or apartment to another. This type of evangelism has been around for a long time.

- Matthew 10:1-15

- Jesus went to the city and to house to house to retrieve the lost of Israel. God is calling us forth to receive the lost of the world. If we don't go out how will they hear.

3. ONE ON ONE

1. One on one evangelism is simply ministry to one individual who God leads you to. One on One to me is the best way to evangelize, because you can really spend time getting to know that person who God leads you too.

- Acts 8:26-39

- Philip was just used by God to preach to a large group of people, but he was always attentive to the Spirit to witness to just one individual.

4. SERVANT EVANGELISM

1. Servant Evangelism is where we simply just do something for people without necessarily pounding the Gospel. The love that we show while doing this can lead an individual to Christ.

- Matthew 25:31-46

- Just one kind act without any strings attached could turn someone to Christ.

- Proverbs 10:12 "Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all sin."

- I Peter 4:8 "And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves; for charity shall cover the multitude of sins."

5. EVANGELISTIC CRUSADES

1. Crusaders are a great way to reach the many in your community. If the crusade is well planned and if the anointing is present one can have a great success with an evangelistic crusade.

2. Jesus would hold evangelistic crusades to reach the masses.

- Mark 3:7-12

- Mark 6:32-44

3. The Apostles/ evangelist held crusades.

- Acts 8:4-8

6. YOUR LIFE STYLE

1. One of the greatest ways to share the Gospel is by the way you conduct yourself in public arenas. Anybody can talk like a Christian, but the true test is living by what you're preaching. Once people find out that you are a Christian, your life becomes an open book for the public to see.

- II Corinthians 3:2-5

- Paul tells the Church of Corinth of how they are the work of God through Paul and his apostolic team. He told them that they are representatives of the fact that God is doing something in Corinth.

- Our lives should be one filled with holiness and righteous living before God. When Jesus walked the earth He spoke out against those that would talk a big talk, but not walk the faith walk.

- Woe unto us that just show the outward show.

- Matthew 23:23-24

- Matthew 23:29-33

- Jesus came down hard upon those who caused damage to the kingdom.

-Matthew 18:10

- "Take heed that you despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you. That in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven."

IV LESSON NUMBER 4 DIRECTING EVANGELISTIC OUTREACHES

1. One thing that is good for everyone in leadership should know is how to direct an evangelistic outreach. Whether it is an one on one outreach or a full pledge crusade one must understand how to do the behind the scenes work.

2. Directing door to door

1. If you are doing door to door here are some steps to take.

- Be prayed up.

- Always make sure that you are connected to the Realm of the Spirit.

- Two different ways of being ready in prayer.

- Collective

- Joint Prayer

- Joint Worship

- Personal

- Personal Prayer

- Personal Worship

- Have the Word in your heart.
 - It is important to have a strong word base inside of you. Memorize verses and apply them to your life. This will help you to begin to reply back to an individual the Word of truth for his or hers life.
 - Have a strategic plan.
 - Know in advance what streets you are going to walk down.
 - Saturate the area that you are going to with intercessory prayer at least a week to two weeks before going into it.
 - Have the right equipment.
 - Bible
 - Brochures, pamphlets, or tracts to pass out.
 - Disciple Reports
 - Wear the same type of t-shirts if possible.
 - Bring across the message with a clear tone.
 - Don't ask them to come to church right off hand.
 - Talk about Jesus first and share personal testimony.
 - Access where they are at by casual conversation.
 - In the beginning let them know you're and where you are from.
 - Name/ Church name/ What you are doing here?
 - Listen to the Holy Spirit to when you should release yourself from the conversation.
 - Always close in prayer if allowed.
 - Always ask if you can come back.
 - Follow Up
 - Look at the Disciple Report.
 - Look at the comments you might have jotted down.
 - Look at the date that you wrote down on the day you witnessed to this individual.
 - You should try speaking to them in three forms within the month of your first encounter.
 - Three forms of Communicating
 - Telephone
 - Letter
 - Visitation
2. If there is no response then put individual on a three month waiting list from the date you last encountered him or her.
 3. After three months you will try to communicate again. If no response put them on a waiting list for another three months from the last date of your encounter. Repeat until a year has past, you should do this four times before you put them on a year waiting list.
- ### 3. Directing Crusades
1. Write out a clear vision for the crusade.
 - Purpose
 - Main Topic
 - Goals to achieve
 2. Start intercessory prayer chains for crusade.
 3. Gather a group of churches
 - Reasons for.
 - To promote unity within the community.

- To have stable churches to be able to plant the harvest into.
 - To cause a deeper and stronger move of God to come upon the lost.
4. Write an outline for the crusade.
 - Example below.
 - Write down date or dates of crusade.
 - Time of crusade.
 - Obtain a guest speaker.
 - Designate a place
 - Size, cost, and accessibility
 5. Designate who you are trying to reach.
 6. Prepare a worship band.
 - set practice dates.
 7. Designate a prayer group and the times of praying.
 8. Obtain ushers.
 - Train
 - assign to designated area
 9. Obtain altar workers
 - Train
 - designate to assigned areas.
 10. Set a budget for crusade.
 11. Prepare a list of needs for the crusade.
 12. Obtain a follow up team from each participating church.

CHAPTER 8 QUESTIONS

1. Define what the word evangelism means?
2. What is evangelism's make up?
3. What is the balance of evangelism?

4. Are we out to reach the backslide son and daughter of God as well as the lost individual?

True or False

5. Evangelism should be kept inside the church's setting.
6. Evangelism brings true doctrine to the world.
7. Evangelism really doesn't do anything to Satan's kingdom.
8. Evangelism puts the focus back on the church.
9. Evangelism can be used to start a revival.
10. It is alright to have a lot of zeal as a Christian.
11. You can minister anytime you want to.
12. We don't need a strategy in order to win the lost.
13. When witnessing we need to meet people where they are.
14. It is good to let the Holy Spirit speak through you.
15. List the way of evangelizing.

16. Explain how one should go door to door evangelizing.

17. Is Servant Evangelism necessarily in evangelism?

18. Did Jesus ever hold evangelistic crusades? If so give an example of one.

19. Can you witness to people without saying a word? If so give an example.

20. Name the two ways of being ready in prayer when conducting a door to door evangelism.

21. When evangelizing is it important to have a strong Word base inside of you?

22. Do you need to have a strategic plan before you conduct an evangelistic outreach?

23. Is it important to have a clear vision when directing a crusade?

24. Write an outline on how to direct an evangelistic crusade.

CHAPTER 9 HAVING FAITH IN GOD

1. FAITH TOWARDS GOD

1. Definition of Faith.
 - Greek word *pis tis* (*pis-tis*)
 - Meaning persuasion, conviction of religious truth or truthfulness to God. Reliance upon Christ for salvation, assurance, belief, believes, faith, fidelity.
2. It came from *paitho* (*pi-tho*) meaning to continue to reply (by inward certainty) agree, assure, believe have confidence, be content, make friend, obey, persuade, trust, yield.
3. Biblical reference to the meaning of faith.
 - Hebrews 11:1
 - Faith is
 - The substance of things hopes for.
 - Greek *hypostasis* meaning to support; ground work, confidence, subsistence, reality, essence (or touchable)
 - Faith is the ground work or the support beam of our belief system. It empowers our belief system so much that when any critic tries to knock our doctrine. Our faith in the doctrine always allows us to come out shining.
 - Things hoped for.
 - The word hope in Webster dictionary means to cherish, a desire, to desire with expectation or with the belief in the prospect of obtaining to cherish hope in spite of every discouragement.
 - Faith is made up of things hoped for or things desired. Faith can not exist unless hope is breathing organism in your life.

II MUSTARD SEED FAITH

1. Matthew 17: 14-21
 - The disciples were discovered by Jesus concerning their lack of faith. Faith grows in degrees. The disciples cast out demons and healed several people while on their crusade that Jesus sent them on. However, when it came to this little boy; they couldn't believe for his deliverance.
2. The young man was a lunatic and sore vexed by a demon.
3. Verse 17-18 Jesus addressed the issue with their lack of faith.
4. Jesus then casts out one little devil out of the young man.
5. Verse 19-20 The cure to doubt and the increase of Mustard seed faith.
 - One way to get out unbelief.
 - Number one. Have faith as a grain of mustard seed. The mustard or black mustard grew wild in Palestine on the shores of Galilee. This herb reached six to eight feet in height and was covered with yellow flowers. The seeds were used to flavor meat and vegetables and were a favorite food for birds.
2. Number two Prayer and Fasting
 - Just like water nurtures and makes seeds grow, so does prayer and fasting make ones faith grow.
 - Smith Wiggles worth, a turn of the century revivalist, was known to pray for nine hours

a day.

He would read the Bible for 30 minutes and then pray for 30 minutes until lunch time. He would come out for lunch and then go back in and start the process all over again until 6:00 p.m. that evening. God wrought mighty things through his hands, hundreds were healed.

Deep rooted faith must never be plagued by doubt. When doubt seems to arise go into your prayer room and get that sucker out!

III. THE MATURE FAITH

1. Matured faith comes by trials and tribulations.

- Hebrews 11:4-38
- Matured faith has these attributes in it.
 - Sacrificial
 - Spiritual awareness
 - Active
 - Obedience
 - Perseverance
 - Spiritually knowledgeable
 - Bold (prophetically)
 - Authoritative
 - Doubtless
 - Produce great exploits

IV. LACK OF FAITH

1. Hebrews 11:6

- 'BUT WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE HIM FOR HE THAT COMES TO GOD MUST BELIEVE THAT HE IS AND THAT HE IS A REWARDER OF THEM THAT DILIGENTLY SEEK HIM.'

- Without faith there is no survival for the Christian. Without faith there is no open reward given to the saint. Doubt stops the move of God and the answer to a needed prayer.

- Doubt is the enemy of faith.
- James 1:2-4
- We are all going to go through trials and tribulations, but our faith will see us through.
- James 1:5-8
- Today, Christians try to mix doubt with faith it doesn't work.

The Israelites had a law against mixing seed. It represented the purity of how the Israelites needed to live. They wouldn't even plant trees next to the tabernacle or temple because God didn't want them to be tempted to get into tree worship. (found in Leviticus 19:19) "Which says, 'YE SHALL KEEP MY STATUES THOU SHALT NOT LET THY CATTLE GENDER WITH A DIVERSE KIND. THOU SHALT NOT SOW THY FIELD WITH MINGLED SEED; NEITHER SHALL A GARMENT MINGLED OF LINEN AND

WOOLED COME UPON THEE.'" - When you mix worldly things with your belief system or when your doubt is mixed with faith, you simply don't have faith matured.

QUESTIONS FOR CHAPTER 9

1. Define faith?
2. Why did Jesus tell the disciples that some things only come about by prayer and fasting?
3. Why is it so important to have times of prayer and fasting?
4. What did the mustard seed represent?
5. What is the cure to doubt?
6. What does it mean by “matured faith”?
7. Fill in the missing words. Without _____ it is _____ to _____ God.
8. As a Christian does doubt and faith mix? Explain why.

9. What are some of the attributes that matured faith brings?

10. What will see us through our trials and tribulations?

CHAPTER 10 THE FEAR OF THE LORD

1. Having reverence towards God.

1. The problem with this world today is that they do not fear God. They don't fear the God who can, by just thinking about it, destroy this world. He could literally just wipe out our existence away. Therefore, as a new Christian in the Lord and even as an old Christian it is imperative that we fear God.

1. Proverbs 1:7, 28-29, 3:7

- Fearing God simply means giving reference to God or acknowledging Him as the Supreme Being.

- Fearing God is the beginning of God's wisdom.

- Vs. 28-29 of Proverbs 1 talks about the people who don't fear God, because He let not God correct them. They became fools because they didn't seek the truth.

2. Psalm 36:1-4

3. Proverbs 8:13-14

2. Truth about fearing God.

1. As a pastor I must fear God in order to speak the things of God effectively.

- II Samuel 23:1-

2. You must fear God in order for His truth to begin to become knowledge to you.

- Psalm 111:10

3. When you fear God you hate the things that you use to be involved in.

- Proverbs 8:13-14

- Hate evil

- Pride

- Arrogance

- The evil way

- The froward mouth

- Cussing, gossiping, slandering, back biting, all and any sins that can be committed by the tongue.

4. The fear of the Lord is your life source. You know if you step away from God you will die spiritually and possibly physically.

- Proverbs 14:26-27

5. Only when you fully fear the Lord sin will cease to have dominion on you.

- Proverbs 16:6

3. The rewards of fearing the Lord.

1. God prolongs your days or you live longer with the fear of God in your heart.

- Proverbs 10:27

2. Proverbs 19:23 The fear of the Lord.

- helps in obtaining eternal life.

- Makes you satisfied in life.

- Helps you from sin danger and the victory of the enemy over your life.

3. The fear of the Lord brings riches honor and life.

- Proverbs 22:4

Closing Comments:

When great fear of who God was came upon people. Prostitutes stopped prostituting, beer joints turned into churches, politicians became honest and the dead churches got saved starting with preachers. We need to allow God to give us a deep revelation of how He is and how small we are. Fear God, reject evil.

QUESTIONS FOR CHAPTER 10

1. What does it mean to fear God?
2. What are some of the things that God hates?
3. What are the rewards of fearing the Lord?
4. Why would you say that the fear of the Lord is your life source?
5. Fearing God is the beginning of what?

CHAPTER 11 DOCTRINES AND BELIEFS

LESSON NUMBER 1 REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

1. Repentance from Dead Works

1. Definition

- Repentance in the Greek is Metanoia (met-an-oy-ah) meaning to compunction, (for guilt, reformation) reversal of another's decision.
- This word comes from the main Greek word Metanoeo (met-an-o-eh-o), meaning to think differently or afterwards reconsider.

Note: All Greek words came out of the Strong's Concordance of the Bible.

- You can then follow this word and break it up and take nueo which came from noieo (noy-eh-o) meaning to exercise the mind, to comprehend, heed, consider, perceive, think, and understand.
- Then you can take noieo and trace it back to the Greek word neotes (neh-ol-ace) which means newness, i.e., youthfulness.
- Finally you can take neotes and trace it back to the Greek word neos (neh-os) which means new, i.e. of persons, youthfulness, flesh can be used as regenerate.
- Regenerate is an awesome word to use in the relation to repentance in the animal kingdom segment worms have built in regeneration process. When part of its body is cut off, it will grow back what was lost. Christ has come to do the same with us. He wants to take off the bad and grow back a new.
- Jesus had a lot to say about repentance and its need for the born again process.
 1. I think that it is amazing to note that when Jesus preached His first message. He preached on repentance. Matthew 4:17 "FROM THAT TIME JESUS BEGAN TO PREACH AND TO SAY, REPENT FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND."
 - "REPENT FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND."
 - Dake's Annotated Bible says that repentance is found 110 times from Genesis to Revelation.
 - Jesus sent the disciples out with the message of repentance.
 - Mark 6:7-13

II. CHARACTERISTICS OF REPENTANCE

1. Repentance has no respect of persons.

- Luke 13:1-5
 - There was a time of great slaying of the Galileans, because of their rebel forces fought against the Roman Empire. Therefore, the people thought during this time that a great slaying meant that the dying people had great sins in their lives.
 - We all need forgiveness and the blood to cover or wash away our sins.

2. Repentance ushers in forgiveness.

- Luke 17:3-4
- 1. Repentance keeps the flow of forgiveness coming upon our lives.
 - Matthew 6:14-15
- 2. The more you forgive the more there is a flowing heart of repentance.
 - Matthew 18:21-22
- 3. Repentance ushers in Reconciliation
 - Luke 15:11-24 Prodigal Son
 - verses 14-16 The son develops misery and pain because of sin that was without repentance.
 - Verses 17-19 Then he hears the call of the Holy Spirit bringing conviction strongly upon his heart.
 - verses 20-21 He asks for forgiveness, he repents.
 - Verses 22-24 He is reconciled back into the family again.
 - 1. Remember the son had already spent his inheritance, but look what he got back upon his return.
 - The best robe.
 - The ring on his hand (marks of a free man, giving him honor and position in the family again).
 - Shoes or sandals on feet.
 - Eat the fattest calf (veal) He ate veal. Veal is a delicacy even today. It is known as a rich man's food.
 - Lifted up in a sonly position once again.
- 4. Repentance removes curses that sin brings. I.e. sickness and plagues.
 1. Exodus 15:26
 2. Numbers 21:8-9
 - Repentance ushers in the promise of the Holy Spirit.
 - Acts 2:38 and Acts 11:23-47
 - Repentance causes Heaven to notice.
 - Luke 15:3-10
 - Godly sorrow ushers in true repentance.
 - II Corinthians 7:5-11

III. REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS.

1. Dead works is those things that pertain to the working of the flesh.
 - Nothing that we can do in the flesh can cause us to repent.
2. Works of the Flesh.
 - Galatians 5:19-21, I Corinthians 6:9-11, Romans 1:21-32, Colossians 3:5-8
 - It is the things that we let come into us and then out of us that defile us.
 - Mark 7:14-23

IV. STEPS TO REPENTANCE

1. Take heed to the conviction of the Holy Spirit.
2. Always act upon Holy conviction quickly to repent.
3. Let there be a deep affect of repentance within your heart.
4. Accept the forgiveness from the Lord.
5. Walk in your repentance.

6. Practice repentance with others never be too ashamed to say “ I’m sorry”.

LESSON NUMBER 2 DOCTRINE OF BAPTISMS

INTRODUCTION:

1. Definition of Baptism

- Greek word is baptidzo meaning to dip, to overwhelm with suffering, to bury into regardless of the element.

2. There are 3 main baptisms for the Christians.

- The baptism into the body of Christ.
- The baptism of water as a symbol for the believer to other believers.
- The baptism of the Holy Spirit.

II . THE BAPTISM INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST

1. At the moment of spiritual rebirth; we are grafted into the Body by the Holy Spirit.

- Ephesians 4:4-6, Galatians 3:27
- Many people confuses this scripture and uses it to prove that the baptism of the Holy Spirit isn’t real.
- Verse 4 Tells us what the scripture is talking about, “ONE BODY” it is referring to the baptism into one body, the Body of Christ.

2. Characteristics of being Baptized in the body of Christ.

- It is a baptism of suffering.
- It is a baptism of death.
- It is a baptism that requires the walking of the newness of life.
- It is a baptism of crucifixion.
- It is a baptism that requires no more service to sin.
- It is a baptism that frees us from the bondage of sin.
- Romans 6:3-7
- It is a baptism of burial.
- Colossians 2:12
- 3. It is the Holy Spirit who brings us together into His Body. It is His job to fitly join us together in the Body.
- I Corinthians 12:13
- He gives us the assurance that we are apart of this body.
- Romans 8:14-16

III THE BAPTISM OF WATER

1. Water baptism is a physical even that symbolizes a spiritual event. Water baptism does not and can not save the soul from sin.

- Water baptism was so important that Jesus saw the need for it.
- Matthew 3:1-3, 13-17

2. Water baptism is a command for all Christians to do.

- Matthew 28:19

3. The First Century Church continued this practice.

- Acts 8:12-13, I Corinthians 1:13-17

4. Baptism is a symbol of the death, burial, and resurrection.

- I Peter 3:21
- To the Jews when He came to Jesus, be baptized in water meant giving up Judaism and all other practices.

IV. BAPTISM IN THE SPIRIT

1. The Spirit baptism is for every Christian to receive. Once the Christian is in filled; they receive power for Christian service.
 - The coming of the Spirit in filling was prophesied about back in the Old Testament.
 - Joel 2:28-29
2. Then fulfilled by Jesus, Himself.
 - Matthew 3:11
 - It says that Jesus came to baptize in the HOLY GHOST AND FIRE. The doctrine of baptisms stops here. God wants EVERY CHRISTIAN to be filled with the precious Holy Spirit.
 - Jesus is the one who baptizes us with the Holy Spirit. He gave up His life for us to receive the Holy Spirit into our lives.
 - John 7:37-39
 - Two ways to receive the Holy Spirit.
 - Thirst
 - Come to Jesus and drink.
 - The result of this drink.
 - Out from the belly will flow rivers of living waters.
 - True Holy Spirit baptism takes place from within and comes pouring out.
3. Reasons for being filled with the Holy Spirit.
 - A command from Jesus.
 - A closer relationship with the Father.
 - More power for service as a Christian soldier.
 - Deeper revelation of the Word of God.
 - Easier walk in the Spirit.
 - Easier way to control the flesh.

LESSON NUMBER 3 LAYING ON HANDS

Introduction: The doctrine of laying on hands deals with ministry to other individuals beside yourself. The question is how do you lay hands on someone as in ministering to them? Should you do it all the time? Who should you lay hands on? So many new converts especially want to go and lay hands on everybody and every time at every moment. Because of their zeal. They would lay hands on a dead cockroach and command it to live!

It is really important as new Christians and old Christians that we understand the doctrine of laying on hands. There are four usages' of the laying on hands. We will study these first. Blessing, Ordaining, Imparting, and Healing.

I. THE USAGES' OF THE LAYING ON HANDS

1. Blessing

- This was done through out the Old Testament.
- Genesis 28:1-4
- Notice the blessings have conditions.
- You must do this.
- Then notice the blessing he would receive.
- The blessing of the Lord.
 - Make thee fruitful
 - Multiply thee
 - Give thee the blessing of Abraham
 - And to your seed
 - Inheritance of a strange land.
- Then Jacob years later has the chance to do same thing.
- Genesis 48:9
- Verse 12 Joseph brought them out from between his knees proving that they were little children.
 - Jacob blessed the younger brother over the oldest. Even Joseph was given the first born's inheritance even though Joseph was Jacob's eleventh child.
 - Look at the blessing.
 1. Both children were blessed.
 2. He blessed them as the carriers of Jacob's new name Israel.
 3. Blessings of growing into a nation.
 4. Epharim the younger was blessed as a multitude that would become a mighty nation.

A multitude of nations.

1. Jesus was sought after by parents to bless their children.
 - Matthew 19:13-15
 - The outward example of blessing was powerful to the people of Israel.
 1. Maybe they wanted to have a prophet's reward.
 - Matthew 10:41

2. ORDAINING

1. Greek word for ordain.
 - 4160 poleo (poyeh-o) to make or do, appoint, have purged, rasing up
 - 5087 tithem (tith ay-mae) to place.
 - It has many applications but the general meaning is that of choosing, appointing, and calling to a specific work.
 - Mark 3:13-15
 - Paul says to Timothy in I Timothy 2:7 "WHEREUNTO I AM ORDAINED A PREACHER AND AN APOSTLE (I SPEAK THE TRUTH IN CHRIST, AND LIE NOT), A TEACHER OF THE GENTILES IN FAITH AND VERIFY."

2. The church as a whole can divinely ordain the ministers in service.
- Numbers 8:10-11

3. IMPARTING

1. It was Moses while laying his hands on Joshua imparting everything that was in him over to Joshua. Note: I.E. God gave it, He can pass it on to others.

- Deuteronomy 34:9

2. There is the imparting of gifts.

- I Timothy 4:14 “NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE, WHICH WAS GIVEN THEE BY PROPHECY WITH THE LAYING ON OF MY HANDS OF THE PRESBYTERY.”

- II Timothy 1:6 “WHEREFORE I PUT THEE IN REMEMBRANCE THAT THOU STIR UP THE GIFT OF GOD, WHICH IS IN THEE BY THE PUTTING ON OF MY HANDS.”

3. There is the imparting of the Holy Spirit.

- Acts 8:14-17, 9:17

4. LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR HEALING AND MIRACLES

1. Laying on of hands for miracles and healing.

- Mark 6:2, Acts 19: 11-12

II. THE HOW TO OF LAYING ON OF HANDS.

1. Have your heart open to God.

1. If there is no ministry in you, no ministry will come out.

2. Be prayed up.

3. Walk in discernment.

4. Do not lay hands suddenly on any one.

- I Timothy 5:22

LESSON NUMBER 5 RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

Introduction: One of the most sought after information from the Bible deals with Bible prophecy. Within that prophecy is the time of the resurrection of the saints or what most Christians call the rapture.

1. Rapture means the state of being carried away with joy, love, etc., ecstasy, an expressions of great joy, pleasure. Being carried away or being carried away in body and in spirit.

I. PROOF OF THE RESURRECTION.

1. You and I are getting ready to be taken out of here with great joy.

- I Corinthian 15:1-8, 12-19

- If Jesus didn't rise again there would be no hope for you and I.

1. Romans 14:9 says “FOR TO THIS END CHRIST BOTH DIED, AND ROSE, AND REVIVED, THAT HE MIGHT BE LORD BOTH OF THE DEAD AND THE LIVING.”

- Jesus was literally seen by 500 people going up into the sky.

- Acts 7:10-11

2. Knowing the certainty of arising again.

- I Corinthian 15:20-23

3. Why do dead bodies come out of the grave?

1. First the physical body dies. The soul and the spirit are immortal, they can go two different places Heaven or Hell.

2. When the body dies it goes back to dust.

- Genesis 3:19 "IN THE SWEAT OF THY FACE SHALT THOU EAT BREAD, TILL THOU RETURN UNTO THE GROUND, FOR OUT OF IT WERE THOU TAKEN FOR DUST THOU ART, AND UNTO DUST SHALT THOU RETURN."

- James 2:26 says "FOR AS THE BODY WITHOUT THE SPIRIT IS DEAD, SO FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD."

3. Four reasons for the resurrection of a dead body.

- It must be changed to a spiritual body.

1. I Corinthian 15:39-44

- Our bodies at this point, because of sin are made out of mortal substance. God wishes to make them into immortal substance.

- Philippians 3:21

- It is only when our body joins with our soul and spirit will we inherit the things of God.

- I Corinthian 15:45-50

- Romans 8:17 "AND IF CHILDREN, THEN HEIRS, HEIRS OF GOD, AND JOINT-HEIRS WITH CHRIST, IF SO BE THAT WE SUFFER WITH HIM, THAT WE MAY BE ALSO GLORIFIED TOGETHER."

- It is prophetic.

1. Scripture after scripture points to the resurrection.

- It was God's original plan.

- God never intended for Adam's body or events to fail to corruption. It was the act of sin that turned their bodies into an incorruptible.

II. THE RESURRECTION

1. I Corinthians 15:51-53

- The order of

- a moment shall come.

1. How fast is a twinkle of an eye.

- A sound of trumpets

- The last trumpet

- Dead will rise first

- Then the living shall be changed.

2. I Thessalonians 4:13-18, II Thessalonians 2:7

1. The Bible says that Jesus will descend with a shout!

- Just when Jesus told Lazarus to get up from the dead. This shout show is heard all over the earth to the saints.

III. A WORK TO DO

1. I Corinthians 15:58

- God's looking for the Paul Revere's of the RESURRECTION.

- JESUS IS COMING! JESUS IS COMING!

2. Three things to do.

1. Steadfast be settled.
 - I Corinthian 7:37
 - Just like a father keeping his daughter clean for her future husband so must we.
 - Unmoveable
 - Let nothing take away your belief in God.
 - Abounding in the work of the Lord.

LESSON NUMBER 6 ETERNAL JUDGEMENT

Introduction: Eternal Judgment is a strong statement. In other words, it does not stop. The word judgment in the Greek is Krima (Kree-mah) meaning a decision (the function or the effect, for or against (crime), avenge, condemned, damnation, go to law, judgment.

1. The Doctrine of Eternal Judgment is two parts.
 - Our eternal judgment as Christians.
 - Sinners judgment of rejecting Christ.
1. Hebrews 9:27 says “AND AS IT IS APPOINTED UNTO MEN ONCE TO DIE, BUT AFTER THIS THE JUDGEMENT.”
2. Everyone in this room has an appointment with God. Everybody has to do.
3. The Greek word for Judgment in this case comes Kris’s (Kree-sis) meaning decisions (sub, or obi, for against) justice, accusation, condemnation, damnation, judgment.
4. Everybody will meet swift and quick justice for their action.
5. The truth about Eternal-Judgment is that we will face it very soon.
 - Matthew 25:46
 - “AND THESE SHALL GO AWAY INTO EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT, BUT THE RIGHTEOUS INTO LIFE ETERNAL.”
 - Isaiah 66:20-24
 - Revelation 14:17-20
 - This is at the Battle of Armageddon. Blood will flow up high to a horses’ bridle and flow 184 miles. A sad end for those who walk in evil.
- I. The Christians Eternal Judgment**
 1. If you are walking uprightly with God, your judgment with God will not be one of death in Hell, but of your works in God.
 - I Believe as God starts naming off the things you’ve done for Him, the luminance of His glory will brighten in Heaven.
 1. I Corinthians 3:11-15
 2. We will be judged according to your fruits in Him.
 - Matthew 7:21-23
- 2 The Judgment of the saints.
 1. What we sow is what we will reap before our God.
 - Galatians 6:8
 - Ephesians 6:8
 - Colossians 3:22-25
 3. You will be judged in Heaven after the rapture.

- Luke 14:12-15
- Matthew 16:26-27
- Revelations 22:12-13

4. We will be judged for.

II. Sinner Eternal judgment

1. The Judgment of Sinners

- Revelation 20:11-15

1. This will take place after the 1,000 year reign of Christ

- Death and Hell will be thrown into an actual lake of fire.
- The Greek word for Hell is the word Hades (hay-dace) means a place of

departed souls.

2. Reasons for Judgment

- The sinners will be judged equally on how much they heard God and rejected God

1. Romans 2:12-16

- Every word will be judged.

1. Matthew 12:33-37

- They will be judged on their non expectance of Christ

1. John 3:18-21

- They will be judged by changing the word of God to fit their life sytles.

1. Revelation 22:18-19

- Those that are not found in the book of Life.

1. Revelation 3:5, 17:8

2. Scriptures on Hell

- Deuteronomy 32:22-24

1. Sheol means Strong's Ref. # 7585

Romanized Sh'owl

Pronounced sheh_ole'

or Sh'ol {sheh_ole'}; from HSN7592; Hades or the world of the dead (as if a subterranean retreat), Sheol, including its accessories and inmates:

KJVgrave, hell, pit.

- Job 11:8 (same as above, Hell has been known among the people of the world since Adam and Eve's fall.)

- Psalm 9: **16. The Lord is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Higgsion. Selah.**

17. The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.

1. Sheol is the word again. It means a literal place.

- Psalm 55: **14. We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company.**

15. Let death seize upon them, and let them go down quick into hell: for wickedness is in their dwellings, and among them.

16. As for me, I will call upon God; and the Lord shall save me.

- Only God can deliver us through His salvation (Psalm 86:13)

- Proverbs 15:11 (Hell and Destruction are before God. He is a just God.)

- Jesus talked about Hell

1. Matthew 5:22, 10:28, 16:18, 23:33, Luke 16:19-31

-
Strong's Ref. # 1067

Romanized geena

Pronounced gheh'_en_nah

of Hebrew origin [HSN1516 and HSN2011]; valley of (the son of) Hinnom; ge_henna (or Ge_Hinnom), a valley of Jerusalem, used (figuratively) as a name for the place (or state) of everlasting punishment:

KJV__hell.

- II Peter 2:4-22

1. Strong's Ref. # 5020

Romanized tartaroo

Pronounced tar_tar_o'_o

from Tartaros (the deepest abyss of Hades); to incarcerate in eternal torment:

KJV__cast down to hell.

DOCTRINE OF GOD

I. Belief in God

1. As Creator

- Genesis 1:1-31, Isaiah 40:28, I Peter 4:19

2. As Elohim

- Genesis 1:1-31

3. As Jehovah

1. Jehovah-Rapha (The Lord that heals)

- Exodus 15:26

2. Jehovah-Nissi (The Lord our Banner)

- Exodus 17:8-16

3. Jehovah-Shalom (The Lord our Peace)

- Judges 6:23

4. Jehovah-Ra'ah (The Lord my Shepherd)

- Psalm 23:1

5. Jehovah-tsidkenu (The Lord our Righteousness)

- Jeremiah 23:6

6. Jehovah-Jireh (The Lord who provides)

- Genesis 22:14
- 7. Jehovah-Shammah (The Lord is There)
 - Ezekiel 48:35
- 4. As El, El-Elyon, El-Shaddai, and El-Olam
 1. El-Elyon (The most High God) Genesis 14:18-20
 2. El-Shaddai (The God who is sufficient) Exodus 6:3
 3. El-Olam (The Everlasting God) Genesis 21:33
- 5. As Adonai
 1. Means (Lord) or (Master) Exodus 23:17, Isaiah 10:16,33
- 6. As Father
 1. Only the ones that come to Jesus can call God, Father.
 - Acts 17:28 (we are God's offspring)
 - John 1:12-13 (born of God receiving Him)
- II. God's Inner Nature
 1. God is Spirit (John 4:24)
 1. He can think, feel, and can have direct communion with man.
 2. God has a form. (John5:37, Philippians 2:6)
 2. God is infinite.
 1. To space (I Kings 8:27)
 2. To time
 - Exodus 15:18, Deuteronomy 23:27, Psalm 90:2, Jeremiah 10:10, Revelation 4:8-10
 3. God is One
 1. Exodus 20:3, II Samuel 7:22, Isaiah 44:6-8, I Timothy 1:17
- III. God's relation to the Universe.
 1. God is Omnipotent; Satan does not have this attribute.
 1. Genesis 1:1, I Chronicles 16:25-26, Jeremiah 32:17
 2. God's omnipotence shows His power to do anything incapable to any animal, human being, spirit being, or angelic being.
 2. God is omnipresent.
 1. God is not limited to space. Therefore He is always there when we need Him.
 2. Deuteronomy 4:39, Joshua 2:11, Psalm 139:7-10, Proverbs 15:3, Acts 7:48-49
 3. God is omniscient.
 1. God knows everything. (Isaiah 40:14)
 4. God is wise.
 1. Psalm 104:24, Proverbs 3:19-20, Romans 11:33-36
 5. God is sovereign.
 1. God does what He pleases to do.
 - Daniel 4:35, Romans 9:21-29
- IV. God's Moral Character.
 1. God is holy.
 - Exodus 15:11-13, Leviticus 11:44-45, Leviticus 20:26, Luke 1:49, James 1:13, I Peter 1:14-15, Revelation 4:8
 2. God is righteous.
 1. Psalm 51:14, I John 1:9, Hebrews 6:10, Isaiah 46:13
 3. God is faithful.

1. Exodus 34:6, I Samuel 15:29, Luke 18:7-8
4. God is merciful.
 1. Titus 3:5, Lamentations 3:22, Psalm 32:5
5. God is love.
 1. Deuteronomy 7:8, Ephesians 2:4, John 3:16, I John 4:9
6. God is good.
 1. Nahum 1:7, Psalm 145:9, Romans 2:4, Acts 14:17
- V. Belief in the Trinity.
 1. The word Trinity does not appear at all in scripture. But through out the Word we can see the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost working in unity.
 1. They were there in the beginning.
 - Genesis 1:1
 2. The Father testified of the Son.
 - Matthew 3:17
 3. The Son testified of the Father.
 - John 5:19
 4. The Son testified of the Spirit.
 - John 14:26
 5. The Spirit testified of the Son.
 - John 15:26

DOCTRINES OF THE SON (THE LORD JESUS CHRIST)

- I. The Nature of Jesus.
 1. He is the son of God.
 1. Mark 1:11, Matthew 17:1-5
 2. Jesus even declared His divinity.
 1. John 16:28, John 20:21, Matthew 11:27
 2. He is the Word.
 1. John 1:1, John 1:14, Hebrews 1:3
 3. He is Lord (Sovereignty)
 1. Philippians 2:9, Acts 2:36, Acts 10:36, Romans 14:9
 4. He is the Son of Man.
 1. Matthew 18:12, Luke 20:36, John 17:12, I Corinthians 15:47
 5. He is the Christ (official title and His mission)
 1. Genesis 3:15, Psalm 22:1-31, Psalm 72:1-20, Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:18-25, Mark 1:11
 6. Son of David
 1. It was important, according to scriptures; Jesus had to come by David's descendants, because that was the qualification of the Messiah.
 2. I Samuel 7:16, Jeremiah 30:9, Ezekiel 34:23-24, Isaiah 11:1,10
- II. The Offices of Jesus Christ.
 1. Christ the Prophet.
 1. Romans 15:8, John 4:19, John 6:14, John 9:17

2. Christ the Priest.
 1. Hebrews 8,9,10
 3. Christ the King.
 1. Genesis 14:18,19, Hebrews 7:1-3, John 18:36, Matthew 25:31
- III. The Work Christ Performed.
1. He died.
 1. Jesus had to die for our sins.
 - I Corinthians 15:3, Hebrews 5:9
 2. Jesus had to bring creation back in touch with the Creator. I Corinthians 15:45-50
 2. He Arose.
 1. Jesus' resurrection gave eternal hope to our souls. Luke 24:1-45, Romans 8:34-39, Hebrews 7:25
 - If Jesus would have not risen, there would be no advocate for us to the Father.
 3. He Ascended
 1. Acts 1:9, Ephesians 5
 2. Jesus is working on the kingdom.

DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- I. The Nature of the Holy Spirit
 1. Different names of the Holy Spirit
 1. The Spirit of God.
 - (Finger of God) Luke 11:20
 - He has all of the qualities of God and Jesus. Hebrews 9:14, Luke 1:35, I Corinthians 2:10-11, Genesis 1:2, Job 33:4, John 3:5,8 Romans 8:27, I Corinthians 12:11, Ephesians 4:30, II Peter 1:21, John 14:26, Galatians 4:6,
 2. The Spirit of Christ
 - Romans 8:9
 3. The Comforter
 - John 14:16-17
 4. Spirit of Promise
 - Ezekiel 36:27
 5. The Spirit of Grace
 - Hebrews 10:29
 6. The Spirit of Life
 - Romans 8:2
 7. The Spirit of Adoption
 - Romans 8:15
 2. Symbols of the Holy Spirit
 1. Fire
 - Matthew 3:11
 2. Wind

- John 3:8, Acts 2:2
- 3. Water
 - Exodus 17:6, John 4:14
- 4. Seal
 - Ephesians 1:13
- 5. Oil
 - Psalm 23:5
- 6. Dove
 - John 1:32
- II. The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament
 1. The Creative Spirit
 1. Genesis 1:2, Psalm 33:6
 2. The Dynamic Spirit
 1. Workers for God through the Spirit.
 - Genesis 41:38-40, Judges 3:9, I Samuel 10:1
 - Speakers of God
 1. He inspired people
 - Ezekiel 13:2
- III. The Spirit in Christ
 1. Birth Matthew 1:20, Luke 1:35
 2. Baptism Matthew 3:15-17
 3. Ministry Matthew 4:1
 4. Crucifixion Hebrews 9:14
 5. Resurrection Romans 1:4
 6. Ascension John 1:33
- IV. The Holy Spirit in Human Experience
 1. Conviction
 - John 16:7-11
 2. Regeneration
 - Acts 17:27
 3. Indwelling
 - John 14:17
 4. Sanctification
 - I Peter 1:23, I Peter 2:2
 5. Endowment with Power
 - Acts 1:8
 6. Glorification
 - John 4:13-14
 7. Sins against the Spirit
 - Ephesians 4:30
- V. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit
 1. I Corinthians 12:1-10, Ephesians 4:7-13
 1. Gifts are:
 - Word of wisdom, Word of knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discerning of Spirits,
 - Tongues ,and interpretation of tongues.

- Colossians 2:3, II Corinthians 10:5, I Corinthians 12:9-10
- 2. Receiving the Gifts
 - 1. I Corinthians 12:31, I Corinthians 14:1, I Thessalonians 5:19

DOCTRINES OF THE SCRIPTURES

I. Scriptures

- 1. Eternal
 - Matthew 24:35
- 2. Inspired
 - II Timothy 3:16
 - II Peter 1:21
- 3. Verified Inspiration
 - Exodus 24:4, Joshua 3:9, Psalm 78:1, and Proverbs 6:23, I Corinthians 2:13

DOCTRINES OF ANGELS

I. Angels

- 1. Their Nature
 - 1. Creatures, Spirits, Immortals, Numerous, Sexless
 - 2. Scriptures to prove: Genesis 19:1-3, Matthew 26:53
- 2. Different Kinds
 - 1. The Angel of the Lord, The Archangel, Angels of the Nations, The Cherubim, The Seraphim,
 - Exodus 23:20-23, Jude 9, Daniel 9:1,2, Exodus 25:22, Isaiah 6
- 3. Their Character
 - 1. Obedient, Reverent, Wise, Meek, Mighty, Holy
 - 2. Scriptures: I Peter 3:22, Hebrews 1:6, II Samuel 14:17, Psalm 103:20, Revelation 14:10
- 4. Their Work
 - 1. Agents, Messengers, and Servants
 - Numbers 22:22-27, Luke 1:11-20, Matthew 4-11
- II. Satan was an Angel
 - 1. Isaiah 14:12-15, Ezekiel 28:12-19

2. Titles given to him
 1. Devil, destroyer, serpent, tempter, and the prince and god of this world.
 2. Scriptures: Luke 22:31, Revelation 9:11, Matthew 4:3
 3. By looking at His different names you see how he tries to oppose God in every way.
- III. Wicked Angels (devils)
 1. Jude 6, Matthew 12:26-27
 1. Since demons are fallen angels they have their own bodies, so one is to assume that when the Bible mentions evil spirit's that's what exactly what they are.
 - Matthew 8:16

DOCTRINE OF MAN

I. The Origin of Man

1. Flesh

- Genesis 2:7, 21-22

2. Spiritual (new man)

- Ephesians 2:15

II. The Nature of Man

1. Man composed of body, soul and spirit can sometimes be interchangeable.

- Ecclesiastes 12:7, Revelation 6:9

2. The Human Spirit

- Numbers 16:22, 27:16

- The Spirit separates us from all animals.

- Proverbs 20:27

- It can know the things of God and become a center of worship when united with God's

Spirit.

- I Corinthians 2:11, 14:2, John 4:24

- Man alters his Spirit in such a way as these.

- Haughty Spirit Proverbs 16:18

- Perverse Spirit Isaiah 19:14

- Provoked Spirit Psalm 106:33

- Hasty Spirit Proverbs 14:29

- Troubled Spirit Genesis 41:8

- Contrite and Humble Spirit Isaiah 57:15

- Spirit of Bondage Romans 8:15

- Spirit of Jealousy Numbers 5:14

We must rule our Spirit and ask God to change it and renew it.

- Proverbs 16:32, Ezekiel 18:31, Ezekiel 11:19, John 3:8
- The Human Soul (life)
 - The soul holds the life of the body.
 - The soul sins by using the body.
 - John 5:28-29, II Corinthians 5:10
 - The soul and the heart.
 - Same as one
 - Psalm 105:5
 - The heart is the center of emotions, and morals.
 - Isaiah 65:14 Acts 2:46, Psalm 73:26, etc.
- 4. The Soul and the Blood
 1. Leviticus 17:11, Hebrews 12:24
 - The Human Body
 - House or Tabernacle, sheath, temple
 - II Corinthians 5:1, Daniel 7:15, I Corinthians 6:19
- III. Created in the Image of God
 1. Genesis 2:7, Ephesians 4:24

DOCTRINE OF SIN

I. The Origin of Sin.

1. The Source of the Temptations
 1. Ezekiel 28:13-17, Isaiah 14:12-15
2. Ways of the temptations
 1. Subtlety, Guilt, Judgment
 - Genesis 3:1-6, Genesis 3:7-13, Genesis 3:14-19
3. Redemption was set up.
 1. Genesis 3:15, Matthew 1:23, 25 Luke 1:31-35

II. The Nature of Sin

1. Sin is in the Old Testament going against morals, brotherly conduct, holiness, truth and wisdom.
 - Genesis 4:7, Genesis 6:11, Leviticus 11:24, 27, 31, Leviticus 21:24
2. The Meaning of Sin in the New Testament.
 1. Missing the mark, debt, lawlessness, disobedience, transgression, fall, defeat, ungodliness, error.

- Scriptures: Matthew 6:12, I John 3:4, Hebrews 2:2, Romans 11:12, Romans 1:18, Hebrews 9:7

III. The Consequences of Sin.

1. Sin is both an act and a state.
 1. It brought Spiritual weakness.

- It marred some of our divine image.
- It became inborn into our lives.
- It brought inner discord.
- 1. Scriptures: James 3:9, Romans 3:23, I Corinthians 2:14, Romans 7:24-25
- 2. It brought a positive act of punishment.
 - Genesis 2:17, Romans 6:25, Hebrews 9:27

DOCTRINE ON THE ATONEMENT

I. Atonement in the Old Testament

1. The Sacrifice
 - Exodus 12:3,6
2. The Nature of the Sacrifice.
 - The Leviticus Chapters (1-7)
3. The Old Testament Sacrifices were good.
 - Psalm 26:6; Psalm 50:12-13
4. Jesus was the Ultimate Sacrifice
 - Hebrews 9:8-12

II. Atonement in the New Testament.

1. The Atonement in fact.
 - Matthew 23:37-39
2. The Need for Atonement.
 - God's holiness against our sinfulness= God's wrath.
 - Holiness Acts 17:28
 - Sinfulness Isaiah 59:2
 - Wrath Galatians 6:7
 - Atonement
3. The Nature of Atonement
 1. Atonement
 - Psalm 79:9
 2. Proposition-make grace for.
 - Romans 5:25
 3. Substitution
 - Isaiah 53:5, I Peter 2:24
 4. Redemption
 - Matthew 20:28
 5. Reconciliation
 - Romans 5:10-11

III. The Greatness of Atonement.

1. The pardon of transgression.
 - Take away the sins.
 - John 1:29

- Freedom from the sin.
- Romans 6:6-7
- Deliverance from death.
- Hebrews 2:9
- Eternal Life
- Romans 6:23, John 3:16-17
- Victory
- Galatians 2:20

DOCTRINE OF SALVATION

I. The Nature of Salvation.

1. Three aspects of salvation.
 1. Justification, Regeneration, and Sanctification.
 2. Romans 3:24, Romans 5:9, Psalm 51:2,7,10, II Corinthians 5:17, I Peter 1:2, I Corinthians 1:30
2. The Conditions of Salvation.
 1. Repentance and Faith
 - Acts 16:31, II Corinthians 7:10
 - James 2:19, Romans 10:17
3. Conversion
 1. Acts 3:19

II. Justification

1. Why do we need justification?
 1. Romans 2:14-15
2. Grace in the Source of Justification.
 1. Romans 5:8, Romans 6:23, I John 1:9
3. Jesus Righteousness made the ground for Justification.
 1. Isaiah 53:5, 11
4. Faith is the means of Justification.
 1. Romans 3:22, Romans 4:11

III. Regeneration

1. Birth, cleansing, quickening, creation, resurrection
 1. I John 5:1, Titus 3:5, II Corinthians 5:17, Romans 6:4-5
2. Each part of the Godhead are the means of regeneration.
 1. John 3:6, Titus 3:5
3. The Effects of Regeneration
 1. Position, spiritual, practical
 - Galatians 4:1-7, II Corinthians 6:16-18, I John 8:9

IV. Sanctification

1. I Thessalonians 5:23, I Peter 2:5, I John 3:6-10, Romans 12:1
 - The Divine means of Sanctification
 - The Blood of Christ, the Holy Spirit, and the Word.
 - Hebrews 13:12, I Corinthians 6:11, John 17:17

V. The Security of Salvation

1. John 3:16, Romans 6:23

CHAPTER 11 QUESTIONS

1. What is the definition for repentance?
2. Does repentance has any respect of persons?
3. Name some of the things repentance ushers in.
4. What is the meaning of dead works?
5. List the steps of repentance.
6. What is the definition of baptisms according to the Greek?
7. Name the three main baptisms found in the Word.

8. Describe the meaning of the baptism in the body.
9. Should baptism in water be something that one follows up in?
10. Describe the purpose of the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
11. Who should you lay hands upon?
12. Name the four usages' of the laying on of hands.
13. Can the gift of the Holy Spirit be imparted upon another?
14. Can God use the hands of the saints to see miracles and healings come to pass?
15. Where is the scripture that says that you should not lay hands upon someone suddenly?
16. What book of the Bible is the one most sought after?
17. What does the word Rapture mean?
18. Why do dead bodies come out of the grave?
19. List the four reasons for the resurrection of the dead.

20. What does Jesus do when He comes out of Heaven to come and get His children?
21. What is the meaning to eternal judgment in the Greek?
22. Describe the judgment for the Christians.
23. Do we reap what we sow?
24. List some of the things that Christians will be judged for.
25. List some of the rewards of those who come before the Lord.
26. Name some the names of God.
27. What does the name Jehovah-Jireh mean?
28. What does it mean when you say God is Omnipotent?
29. What does the word Trinity mean?
30. Name some of God's moral character.
31. What works did Christ perform?
32. What are some of the natures of Jesus?

33. If Jesus would have never died and resurrected would we have hope for our souls?
34. In John 1:1 when it is talking about the Word who was John referring to as the Word?
35. What four things did Jesus do for us?
36. What are some different names for the Holy Spirit?
37. Name some symbols of the Holy Spirit.
38. What was the role of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament?
39. What was the role of the Holy Spirit in the New Testament?
40. Name some of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
41. What two words describe scriptures?
42. Give some reason why you think that the scriptures are eternal.
43. Give some reasons why you think that the scriptures are inspired.
44. Give some reasons why you think that the scripture is verified inspiration.

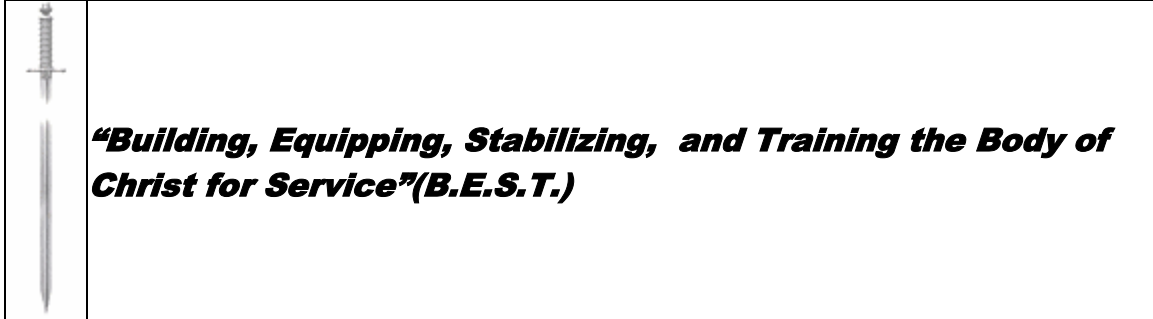
45. Name some natures of Angels.
46. Give some of the characteristics of Angels.
47. What are wicked angels known as?
48. Give some names that also describe the devil.
49. What are some of the works that Angels do?
50. Name the two types of man.
51. What is the nature of man?
52. Name some of the ways that a man can alter his spirit.
53. What does the Human Soul mean?
54. What is the center of the heart?
55. Were we created in the image of what?
56. What is the origin of sin?

57. What is the nature of sin?
58. What are the consequences of sin?
59. What is the meaning of sin in the Old Testament?
60. What is the meaning of sin in the New Testament?
61. What does the word atonement mean?
62. Who was the Ultimate Sacrifice?
63. What was the nature of atonement?
64. What is the greatness of the Atonement?
65. Give some examples of the pardon of transgression.
66. What is the nature of Salvation?
67. What are the conditions for Salvation?
68. Why do we need justification?

69. What does Regeneration mean?

70. What does Sanctification mean?

Chapter 12 The Vision of the Oasis of Living Waters Fellowship



VISION STATEMENT

Oasis Fellowship is a place where all people can come and gather around the presence of the Living God. We desire to be a place for all people to come and have a life changing experience. Our heart is to glorify God, give the people of God our (B.E.S.T.), and reach the world with the life changing words of Jesus Christ.

VISION SCRIPTURES

- 1. EZEKEIL 47:1-12**
- 2. PSALM 46:4**
- 3. JOHN 4:35-36**
- 4. MATTHEW 18:20**
- 5. ACTS 16: 9-10**
- 6. ISAIAH 41:17-20**

Vision Purpose

To be a gathering place that creates an atmosphere for all to worship the living God.

To be a gathering place for those that are thirsty

To be a gathering place for those that are hungry for the fullness of God's word.

To be a gathering place for the Presence of God

To be a gathering place for God's vision to grow and mature.

To be a gathering place that reaches out to the Kansas City area and to the World with the precious Gospel of Jesus Christ.

To be a gathering place that demonstrates true New Testament church function.

To be a gathering place that equips and trains the Saints for service

To be a gathering place for the lost to come and find refuge and deliverance.

To be a gathering place that ministers to the broken heart and bring emotional, physical, and mental healing.

Vision Strategy

To have open, creative, inspiring, and Spirit inviting worship gatherings

To bring prophetic insight, developmental teaching, inspirational preaching and encouraging words to those who attend

To create an atmosphere for the prophetic to be in

To encourage strong relationships among the people who attend.

To create opportunities for all to reach out and evangelize in their neighborhoods

To create opportunities for all to be equipped and trained for their individual callings.

To be a place of true apostolic impartation to those that attend

To create a place that changes from glory to glory.

To encourage congregational unity that builds a habitation for the presence of God to abide in.

To generate the right understanding of true Biblical leadership

Vision Values

We will live, demonstrate, and declare holy living for all of the Saints.

We will not manipulate or weaken the word of the Living God.

We will be servant leaders to each other.

We will believe God's Word as is by obeying and following His commandments and doctrines.

We will present true New Testament standards for the church by developing the local church according to these standards.

We will be a place free from religious mind sets and doctrines.

We will demonstrate true Christ-like behavior to all people living in the Kansas City area and to the world.

We will revitalize the meaning and purpose of the local church in each region. _

Vision Structure

(Note: This structure is for this church's vision. We do not believe that it has to be for every church. Our main goal is to promote relationships.)

Our main structure is that of the House church structure.

We desire to build many house churches that will form one local church.

The house church structure will promote true relationship building and accountability.

We desire to see these house churches gather together for corporate worship and for the promotion of Unity within the Body of Christ.

The house church will be the main structure; however, we understand the purpose of having a building and will obtain one as the Holy Spirit permits.

We would like to gather and build relationship with other house churches around the City.

We would like to form a fellowship of different house churches that are autonomists but joined together by relationship.

These autonomists house churches would come together in one meeting place each week for corporate worship, unity, and celebration

Chapter 13

Next Steps

NEXT STEPS Written by: Brian Boland

OK. You have now completed the Foundations manual. So, what is next? This is a question I am sure is on your mind. The final Chapter was written with that question in mind. You have already covered many topics up to this point. This part will give you a better idea as to what you are to do from this point on.

GET FIRMLY PLANTED IN THE BODY

It is very important that you get yourself planted in the body. There are many reasons for this. I will cover a few of them with you.

YOU ARE A PART OF A WELL CONNECTED NETWORK

*Just as each of us has one body with many members and these members do not all have the same function. **Romans 12:4***

No matter how new to the body you are, you have an important place here. God has called each one of us to serve in a different role. No matter how big or how small you feel, your place is just as important as the pastor's. You are needed in order for the body to function as a whole. Remember one thing, God created that place you are in just for you. No one else can fill that position quite like you.

YOU ARE PART OF A FAMILY

While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. Someone told him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you." He replied to them, "Who is my mother and brothers?" Pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother." Matthew 12:46-50

Welcome to the family! As Jesus was pointing out to the crowd, His family was those in the body. The ones carrying out the work and the will of the Father. Now, Jesus was not disrespecting His family in this. He was showing just how important His disciples were to Him. I am in any way not saying to neglect your family. But, you can not let them stand in your way and keep you from following the call of God on your life.

YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED FOR A PURPOSE

The word of the Lord came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. Before you were born I set you apart. I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

Jeremiah 1:4-5

As I said earlier, God has a calling and a purpose for you. As with this verse, Jeremiah was called to be a prophet to the nations. I am sure he thought when he heard the word of God place the call upon his life, "Gee, God. I don't know if I can fulfill such an honor." If God has called you, you are able to fulfill the call. There are different positions God needs in the body in order for it to move as a well oiled machine. And your call is the cog that keeps the body together.

CONTINUE TO STUDY THE WORD

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. II Timothy 2:15

In the King James Version, this same verse says to study to show yourself approved. The more we study, the more we move closer to being able to move in our calling. The idea of studying will constantly open our eyes to what we need to do next. The bible was given to us as a roadmap. If we study the roadmap, we will know which path to travel down.

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