

ETS 1/1

Assignment Sheet

Date _____

Name _____ Topic _____ Layman/Great Commission

Lesson _____ Perspective _____ Class _____

	Completed	
	Yes	No
Lecture		
Review "Perspective"		
Bible Study		
P\$MA		
Reading		
Read "Born to Reproduce"		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Pray for 2 people to win to Christ		
Pray for 1 person to disciple.		
Scripture Memory		
Ephesians 4:11-12		



PERSPECTIVE

Introduction

The purpose of this outline is to give a basic overview of the seminar which begins the Equipping The Saints course. It is to assist you if you decide to teach the seminar and/or the entire course yourself. For a more complete treatment of this subject, please refer to the booklet, The Layman and the Great Commission, which accompanies this course.

The Layman -- The Major Participant

Most Christian laymen are familiar with the Great Commission story, but they seldom grasp the fact that it has deep personal implications for anyone who names the Name of Christ. Instead they see themselves as spectators in the great competition for the souls of men and women. They stand at the sidelines shouting words of encouragement, praying and giving financial support to "full-time Christian workers"; however, their involvement normally ends here. If the job doesn't get done and the Church is not increasing, they feel badly, but they have no personal sense of responsibility for the outcome. After all, they surely cannot be accountable! Discipling is the job of the pastor, and the evangelist, and other full-time workers. They see themselves merely as faithful on-lookers and supporters watching the action on the field. This was never God's plan! God's original intention is outlined for us in Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

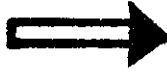
And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-12

And He gave some :



**Apostles , Prophets
Evangelists , Pastors
and Teachers**



**for the perfecting
of the saints**



**for the work of the ministry
for the edifying of the body**



Eph. 4:11-12

In this passage we can see that God gave the "full-time Christian workers" (the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers) to the Church for a special purpose. That purpose was NOT to do the work of the ministry themselves, but "...to get His holy people ready to serve as workers and build the body of Christ." (Beck translation) These special agents were to be coaches to train the laymen to be the players in the Great Commission. The ordinary saints of the Church were to be the ones on the front lines-- witnessing, leading their friends to Christ, discipling the nations.

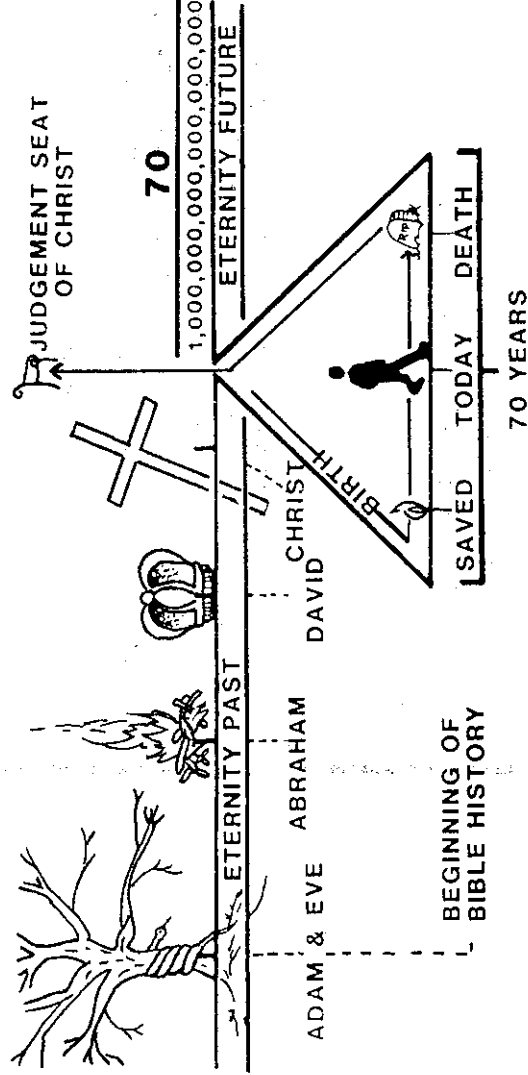
Let's gain some perspective on God's plan and see how He wants to make an impact on the world for Christ. In his epistle, James says:

Go to now, ye that say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and

then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that. But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil. Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

James 4:13-17

In this passage James wants us to understand the brevity of our lives in comparison to the vastness of eternity. We will draw a diagram to illustrate this.*



* At this point the teacher should draw the diagram step by step, explaining each line as he goes along.

Creation

This was the beginning of beginnings--the time when God brought the world and man into existence. The exact length of this period has been debated for centuries by the theologian, the geologist, and the astronomer who each have a different opinion. It is not our purpose in this study to enter this debate, but simply to recognize it as a definite point in God's history, and to grasp the spiritual

significance of God's relationship and purpose for man from the beginning.

The Bible tells us that the first human beings, Adam and Eve, lived in a perfect and fulfilling relationship with their Creator. However, this relationship was broken as the result of their rebellion and sin, and from that point on man was separated from his God.

However, right at the time of the first sin, God promised that He would provide a way for man to be reunited with Himself.

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Genesis 3:15

Here God said that through the offspring of the woman, Satan would be destroyed. The entire Bible account, from that point on, records how God went about fulfilling that promise--culminating in the coming of Jesus Christ to redeem sinners.

Abraham

Two thousand years after Creation, God chose one individual, whose name was Abraham, to become the father of a new nation--the nation of Israel. In calling Abraham, God reaffirmed his promise to redeem the world when He said:

And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 12:2-3

David

God again re-stated His promise through the person of David a thousand years later. He promised David that through his line would come One who would rule over the house of Israel.

And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for my name and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

II Samuel 7:12-13

Jesus

A thousand years passed again, and at last God fulfilled His promise when He sent His own Son, Jesus Christ, to be born of a virgin through the lineage of Abraham and David. He lived a sinless life as a man, died for the sins of the world, and rose from the dead to reign on David's throne forever. This is represented in the illustration by the cross.

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law.

Galatians 4:4

You

Now almost two thousand years have passed again and we have come to your life--a tiny gap in the expanse of history. We will enlarge this part of the diagram by drawing a triangle. Several things occur within your lifetime which will determine what eternity will be like for you.

Birth

The left side of the triangle in the diagram represents the first major event in your life--the day that you were born. This is where your life first intersected the time line and you became part of history. The base of the triangle, from left to right, represents the flow of your life.

Salvation

The flame marks the point in time when you received Jesus Christ as Savior. At this point, you made the decision which determined where you will spend eternity when your life on earth is over.

Today

NOTES

The figure in the diagram represents your living out your life today. Each day we are moving closer towards that next great event which is the day we die. On the day you die, your earthly body returns to the ground; and because you know Christ as your Savior, your soul will be reunited with God to spend forever with Him.

We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

II Corinthians 5:8

This is shown by the right side of the triangle which again intersects the time line and moves into the great expanse of eternity.

During our days here on earth, you and I are deciding two of life's greatest issues:

- Where We Will Spend Eternity

If we have received Jesus Christ into our hearts, this is a settled issue. We are on our way to heaven.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works lest any man should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

- What Eternity Will Be Like For Us

The way we invest or spend our lives day by day here on earth will greatly influence what eternity will be like for us. This is because God promises rewards to those who wisely invest their lives by faith in His eternal purposes.

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

To many Christians, the concept of heavenly rewards is a strange one. We will take just a moment here to do a short Bible study on the subject of God's rewards and their personal implication to us.

Study on Rewards

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Warnings Concerning Rewards

The Bible warns us many times that we are to be careful to both strive for and protect spiritual rewards.

Hold Fast Your Rewards

Behold I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

Revelation 3:11

Is it possible that someone could take another's crown away? Yes, or John would not have warned us about it.

Stay Alert

Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind.

Colossians 2:18

Is it possible that someone could deceive another of his reward? Yes, or Paul would not have warned us about it.

Be Careful

Look to yourselves that we lose not those things which we have wrought (gained), but that we receive a full reward.

II John 1:8

Is it possible that one could receive less than a full reward? Yes, or John would not have warned us about it.

Rewards and Works

The Bible is also very clear that our rewards are very closely related to our good works. Consider the following statement.

For the Son of Man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his work.

Matthew 16:27

Here we can see that rewards are clearly the result of our works. Because of this we can conclude our reward is NOT salvation, for we can never earn salvation.

For by grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: NOT of works, lest any man should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Since salvation is a free gift of God obtained through faith, our reward must be something other than salvation. We do know that it was God's plan for every Christian to give himself to good works.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10

We also know our good works are to be maintained carefully and they will result in profit for us.

This is a faithful saying and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.

Titus 3:8

If our works cannot save us and our reward is not salvation, to what end are our good works profitable?

The Five Crowns

The Bible mentions five different crowns or rewards which a child of God may win as he passes through this life. As we study these, we will particularly take note of three things:

- How the crowns are won
- The area of life where they refer
- God's commands for each of these areas

Crown of Joy

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For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

I Thessalonians 2:19

Here Paul says that the Thessalonian Christian, whom he had led to Christ, would be his crown of joy at the last day in Christ's presence. This crown is given to those who have been obedient to what the Scriptures teach concerning evangelism.

And he said unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Matthew 4:19

If you are not a fisher of men, I don't know who you are following, but I would wonder if it is Jesus. He said, "I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN." Evangelism may not be your primary gift, but at least you will know how to fish for men. I would like to believe that if Jesus teaches you to fish, you would not come home empty handed. Men and women will be brought into the Kingdom because of the testimony, not only of your life, but your lips as well. If you have been faithful to proclaim Christ to others during this life, then surely this crown will belong to you at that last day. Are you a fisher of men?

Crown of Life

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

James 1:12

This crown is evidently given to Christians who have endured under testing and hardship in this life and have remained faithful in their love for God. This crown is related to our own personal discipleship.

The writer to the Hebrews reminds us of Jesus' endurance under the supreme test, and exhorts us not to lose heart in our own personal struggles.

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set

before him, endured the cross, despising the shame and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

Hebrews 12:2-3

Are you enduring? Will you win the crown of life?

Crown Incorruptible

And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

I Corinthians 9:25,27

This crown is won for self-denial--something this existential age knows nothing about. People are being taught slogans like:

"If it feels good, do it."

"Don't wait for tomorrow."

"There are no absolutes. Truth is relative."

Contrast such sayings with the challenge of Jesus.

And he said unto them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

Luke 9:23

Though "self-denial" may be a dirty word for the existensialist, it is at the heart of personal discipleship for every follower of Jesus Christ. If we have disciplined our lives and have denied ourselves the pleasures of sin in this life, the crown incorruptible will be ours. Are you denying yourself?

Crown of Glory

Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint,

but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

I Peter 5:2-4

This crown is given as a reward to those who nurture the flock of God. It is not a special crown reserved for the clergy, but one that every Christian can win. It has to do with caring for the children of God, helping them to grow in Christ so they can serve in the building of God's Kingdom--in other words, disciplining. Jesus said:

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19 (NASV)

Jesus' last command is to be our first. We are charged with the responsibility of discipling the nations. Jesus not only commands us to BE disciples, but to MAKE disciples. Where are your disciples?

Crown of Righteousness

Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

II Timothy 4:8

This crown is won by those whose lives are lived in anticipation of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Many Christians have their own hopes, dreams and aspirations that have nothing to do with God or His Kingdom. In reality, for such people Christ's return would "ruin everything." Jesus said:

Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.

Luke 12:37

Jesus' desire was that we live life watching and waiting for His return, exchanging our lives for

the building of His Kingdom. If we do, we will receive the crown of righteousness. Are you living for His coming?

NOTES

Summary

Isn't it interesting that the crowns are not won for great heroic deeds of faith, but for the simple commands of Scripture that are to be lived out every day? The crowns are for the following:

FIVE CROWNS

CROWNS	HOW OBTAINED	AREA OF LIFE
Joy	Soulwinning	Evangelism
Life	Enduring Trials and Temptation	Discipleship
Incorruptible	Self Denial	Discipleship
Glory	Undershepherd	Disciplemaking
Righteousness	Looking for Second Coming	Second Coming

Motivation and Rewards

Many people say, "I am not going to worry about rewards. After all, what I am doing for God is out of love and not for personal gain." Such reasoning may appear unselfish, but it is also unscriptural.

As we have seen, the Scriptures admonish us over and over again to take seriously this whole matter of rewards. We dare not ignore such exhortations from God's Word. God has given them for a reason: to motivate us to exchange our lives for things that will count for eternity rather than for temporal things.

Remember, we are deciding two great issues in this life:

- Where we will spend eternity
- What eternity will be like for us

If we fail to heed God's instructions and warnings, we must bear eternal consequences.

What Concerned Jesus

Keep your eyes on Jesus, our leader and instructor. He was willing to die a shameful death on the cross because of the joy He knew would be His afterwards: and now He sits in the place of honor by the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2 (LB)

Jesus was concerned about the eternal rather than the temporal rewards. He forsook the immediate rewards for the ultimate ones. We, as His followers, must also be concerned for the ultimate.

What Concerned Moses

It was by faith that Moses, when he grew up, refused to be treated as the grandson of the king but chose to share ill-treatment with God's people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin. He thought that it was better to suffer for the promised Christ than to own all the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking forward to the great reward that God would give him.

Hebrews 11:24-26 (LB)

Moses was also concerned about eternal rewards. As the son of Pharaoh's daughter, he could have enjoyed "the good life" here on earth, but he realized that such pleasures were "fleeting"---only for a season. He was more concerned about the eternal rewards of God.

What Concerns Us

As Jesus and Moses were, we must also be motivated by the ultimate. Each of us will one day account for the stewardship of our lives.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

II Corinthians 5:10

There are three words in the Greek language for the word "bad." The one used in the verse above is KAKOS which has to do with the worth of something. It is not a word used to describe something that is ethically or morally bad, but rather something that

is of little or no value. Paul is saying in this passage that one day Christ will judge the works and accomplishments of Christians to see if they have worth or are worthless from His eternal viewpoint.

The preceding verse is speaking of Christ's "Judgment Seat" where only believers will appear. (Non-Christians will be judged at the Great White Throne recorded in Revelation 20:11-15). In I Corinthians, we find Christ's Judgment Seat described for us.

For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon; But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

I Corinthians 3:9-15

Paul says that there are two sets of materials which we may use to build. One set is indestructible: gold, silver, and precious stones. This set will stand the test of fire and only be purified by it. The other set is very perishable: wood, hay, and stubble. Such materials have a very low kindling point and will not endure the test of fire.

Peter describes the test of fire for us as he warns us about the end of the age.

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

II Peter 3:10

With what are you building? Are you using eternal material--that which has worth in the eyes of God? Or are you using temporal things to build your life's work?

The Bible tells us that if our works do not stand the test, we will still be saved, but we will suffer eternal loss (see I Corinthians 3:9-15 above).

What is Eternal

● God is Eternal

In the beginning you (God) laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. But you remain the same, and your years will never end.

Psalm 102:25-27 (NIV)

● God's Word is Eternal

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Mark 13:31

● The Souls of Men and Women Are Eternal

People will last forever--either in heaven with God...

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

I Thessalonians 4:16-17

...or separated from God in hell...

And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

II Thessalonians 1:7-10

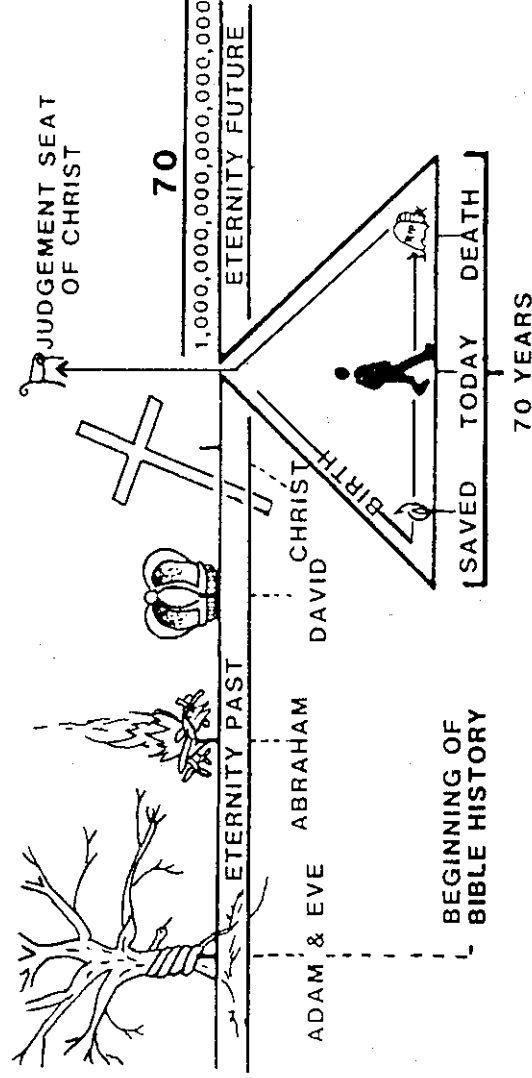
Jesus said:

Labor not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

John 6:27

If we are going to obey Jesus' command in this verse, we must give our lives in exchange for the three eternal values described above.

Back to the Illustration--Summary



You and I are here today moving certainly toward the next great event in our lives--the time when death will move us back into the vastness of eternity. How much time do we have before that event?

The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

Psalms 90:10

The Bible estimates that people have about seventy years of life; some have more, others less. After many years and millions of dollars of investigation, insurance companies have concurred with what the Bible said centuries ago.

You may be trying to mentally subtract your present age from seventy to find our how many years you have left. But in reality, each of us is only one heartbeat away from God! We must conclude, then, that we have x amount of time left, and there is insufficient data to solve x.

The next question we must answer is this: What am I going to exchange my life for between now and the time God calls me home? Will it be for the eternal or the temporal?

Remember, forever is a long time. How many years equal forever? How many zeroes should I add to represent such a number? If I were to put 70 years over one, 70 is a long time. If I put it over 100, 1,000, 10,000, or even 100,000, it does not take long to see how right our brother James was when he said, "our life is like a vapor."

It is during this vapor of life that we are deciding the where and the what of eternity. Life means different things to different people. Some people exchange it for these things of the world:

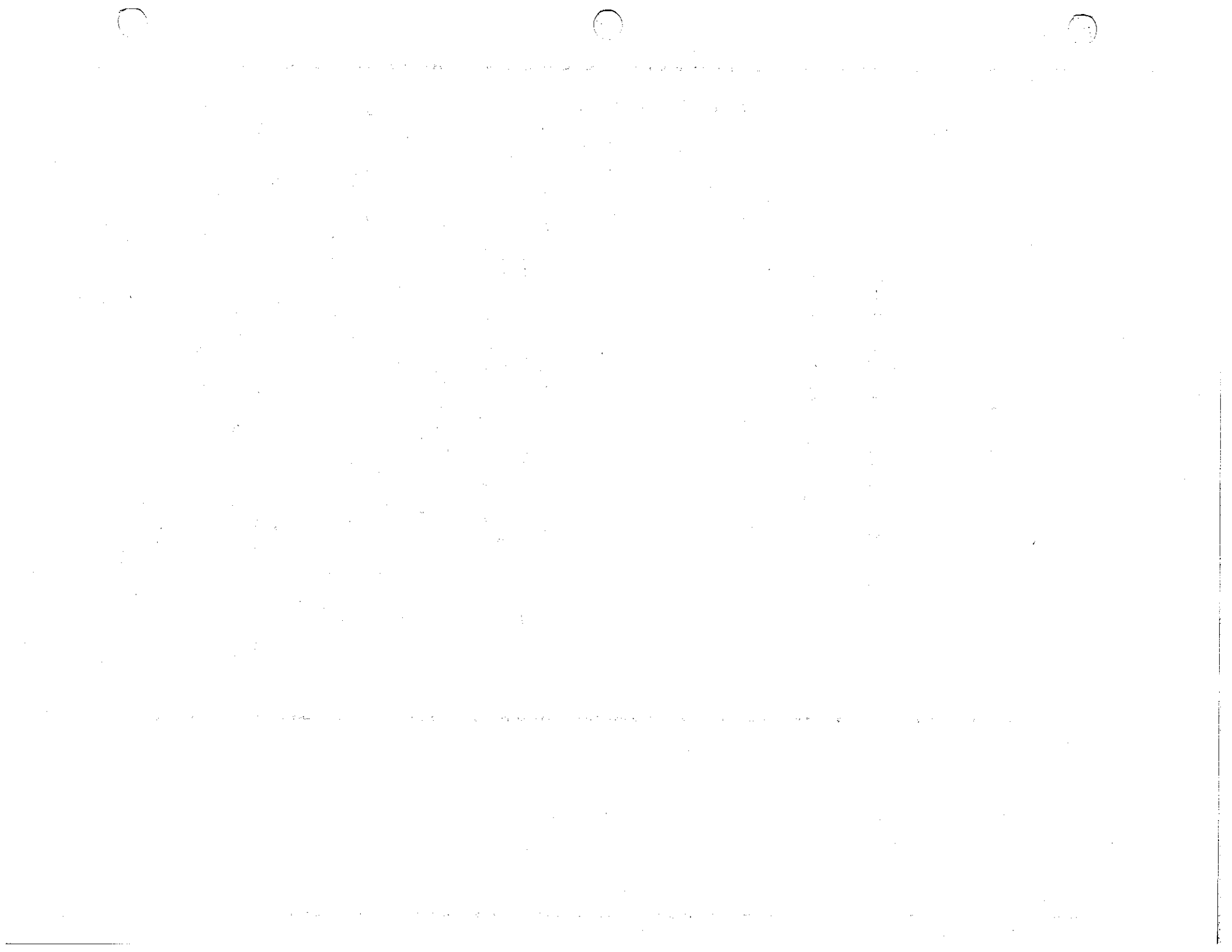
- Wealth
- Pleasure
- Education
- Status
- Power
- Materialism
(ad infinitum)!

But what are you exchanging your life for?

Don't Exchange It For

The

Wrong Thing!



BORN TO REPRODUCE

by Dawson Trotman

**Used by permission
of The Navigators**

Forward

In the summer of 1955 it was my privilege to meet Dawson Trotman, director of the Navigators, for the first time. My heart was thrilled not only with his vision of soul-winning, but also with the manner in which God had used this man to promote a method of first winning an individual, then teaching him how to win and teach others, multiplying the ministry in this manner, supplementing the mass approach.

Through the years I have met Navigators who were trained by either Dawson Trotman or one of his trainees, and I have usually found them to be people with a passion for souls, a good knowledge of the Word, and something that made them stand out as individual Christians.

From the day when I met Dawson Trotman, our friendship and fellowship grew by leaps and bounds. We spent many hours together on various occasions, and almost overnight a David-Jonathan love grew.

As I came to know this man better, I soon discovered the secret of his power. Early in his Christian life he and another young man coveted together to meet for prayer every morning for six weeks in order to find God's will in a certain matter. This spirit and practice of devotion was a rule of his life. He rose early to pray and read God's Word. Without this devotion to God he could not have been so successful in his service.

The unselfishness of Mr. Trotman could be seen on every hand. There was no trying on his part to hoard information or knowledge that he had gained in twenty-two years of experience, but rather there was a willingness to share and to cooperate with us in producing a much more thorough follow-up system for the Back to the Bible Broadcast.

The Back to the Bible Broadcast Home Study Course, a follow-up method for young Christians, was the result. Different ones in the organization gave many hours of their time in helping to produce this course, and Mr. Trotman himself supervised every phase of it.

Possibly one of the last major accomplishments of this man was his untiring work in making this Bible course a reality. It was a pooling of both experience and knowledge which we believe will bear much fruit.

Mr. Trotman went to be with the Lord on June 18, 1956. In rescuing another person from drowning in Schroon Lake, N.Y., he lost his own life. How characteristic this was of his lifelong ministry! One man summed it up in these words: "I think Daws has personally touched more lives that anybody I have ever known."

The work of the Navigators continues under able leadership. It was solidly built on the principle of one person training another instead of one person being the teacher of all.

My own life is dedicated to a greater effort than ever before to persistently follow this great principle of Bible memory work and person-to-person evangelism.

These messages were given by Mr. Trotman at a Back to the Bible Broadcast conference in Lincoln, Nebraska, and have been condensed for use in this booklet.

--Theodore H. Epp

Born to Reproduce

A few years ago, while visiting Edinburgh, Scotland, I stood on High Street just down from the castle. As I stood there, I saw a father and a mother coming toward me pushing a baby carriage. They looked very happy, were well dressed and apparently were well-to-do. I tried to catch a glimpse of the baby as they passed and, seeing my interest, they stopped to let me look at the little, pink-cheeked member of their family.

I watched them for a little while as they walked on and thought how beautiful it is that God permits a man to choose one woman who seems the most beautiful and lovely to him, and she chooses him out of all the men whom she has ever known. Then they separate themselves to one another, and God in His plan gives them the means of reproduction! It should be a wonderful thing that a little child should be born into their family, having some of the father's characteristics and some of the mother's, some of his looks and some of hers. Each sees in that baby a reflection of the one whom he or she loves.

Seeing that little one made me feel homesick for my own children whom I dearly love and whose faces I had not seen for some time. As I continued to stand there, I saw another baby carriage, or perambulator as they call it over there, coming in my direction. It was a second-hand affair and very wobbly. Obviously the father and mother were poor. Both were dressed poorly and plainly, but when I indicated my interest in seeing their baby, they stopped and with the same pride as the other parents, let me view their little, pink-cheeked, beautiful-eyed child.

I thought as these went on their way, "God gave this little baby whose parents are poor everything that He gave to the other. It has five little fingers on each hand, a little mouth and two eyes. Properly cared for, those little hands may someday be the hands of an artist or a musician."

Then this other thought came to me, "Isn't it wonderful that God did not select the wealthy and the educated and say, 'You can have children,' and to the poor and the uneducated say, 'You cannot.' Everyone on earth has that privilege."

The first order ever given to man was that he "be fruitful and multiply." In other words, he was to reproduce after his own kind. God did not tell Adam and Eve, our first parents, to be spiritual. They were already in His image. Sin had not yet come in. He just said, "Multiply. I want more just like you, more in My own image."

Of course, the image was marred. But Adam and Eve had children. They began to multiply. There came a time, however, when God had to destroy most of the flesh that had been born. He started over with eight people. The more than two billion people who are on the earth today came from the eight who were in the ark because they were fruitful and multiplied.

Hindrances

Only a few things will ever keep human beings from multiplying themselves in the physical realm. One is that they never marry. If they are not united, they will not reproduce. This is a truth which Christians need to grasp with reference to spiritual reproduction. When a person becomes a child of God, he should realize that he is to live in union with Jesus Christ if he is going to win others to the Saviour.

Another factor that can hinder reproduction is disease or impairment to some part of the body that is needed for reproductive purposes. In the spiritual realm, sin is the disease that can keep one from winning the lost.

One other thing that can keep people from having children is immaturity. God in His wisdom saw to it that little children cannot have babies. A little boy must first grow to sufficient maturity to be able to earn a living, and a little girl must be old enough to care for a baby.

Everyone should be born again. That is God's desire. God never intended that man should merely live and die--be a walking corpse to be laid in the ground. The vast majority of people know that there is something beyond the grave, and so each one who is born into God's family should seek others to be born again.

A person is born again when he receives Jesus Christ. "But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God . . . Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1:12-13)--the new birth. It is God's plan that these new babes in Christ grow. All provision is made for their growth into maturity, and then they are to multiply--not only the rich or the educated, but all alike. Every person who is born into God's family is to multiply.

In the physical realm, when your children have children, you become a grandparent. Your parents are then great-grandparents, and theirs are great-great-grandparents. And so it should be in the spiritual.

Spiritual Babes

Wherever you find a Christian who is not leading men and women to Christ, something is wrong. He may still be a babe. I do not mean that he does not know a lot of doctrine and is not well informed through hearing good preaching. I know many people who can argue the pre-, the post- and the amillennial position and who know much about dispensations, but who are still immature. Paul said of some such in Corinth, "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual (or mature), but as unto carnal even as unto babes. . ." (I Corinthians 3:1).

Because they were babes, they were immature, incapable of spiritual reproduction. In other words, they could not help other people to be born again. Paul continued, "I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it . . . ye are yet carnal (or babes): for . . . there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions . . ." (I Corinthians 3:2-3). I know a lot of church members, Sunday school teachers, and members of the women's missionary society who will say to each other, "Have you heard about so and so?" and pass along some gossip. Such have done an abominable thing in the sight of God. How horrible it is when a Christian hears something and spreads the story! The Book says, "These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto Him . . . a lying tongue . . ." (Proverbs 6:16-17). Oh, the Christians I know, both men and women, who let lying come in! " . . . he that soweth discord among brethren" (Proverbs 6:19) is another. This is walking as a babe, and I believe that it is one of the basic reasons why some Christians do not have people born again into God's family through them. They are spiritually sick; there is something wrong. There is a spiritual disease in their lives; they are immature. There is not that union with Christ.

But when all things are right between you and the Lord, regardless of how much or how little you may know intellectually from the standpoint of the world, you can be a spiritual parent. And that, incidentally, may even be when you are very young in the Lord.

A young lady works at the telephone desk in our office in Colorado Springs. A year and a half ago she was associated with the young Communist league in Great Britain. She heard Billy Graham and accepted the Lord Jesus Christ. Soon she and a couple other girls in her art and drama school were used of the Lord to win some girls to Christ. We taught Pat and some of the others, as they in turn taught the girls whom they led to Christ. Some of these have led still other girls to Christ, and they too are training their friends. Patricia is a great-grandmother already, though she is only about a year and four months old in the Lord.

We see this all of the time. I know a sailor who, when he was only four months old in the Lord, was a great-grandfather. He had led some sailors to the Lord, who in turn led some other sailors to the Lord, and these last led still other sailors to the Lord--yet he was only four months old.

How was this done? God used the pure channel of these young Christians' lives in their exuberance and first love for Christ, and out of their hearts the incorruptible seed of the Word of God was sown in the hearts of other people. It took hold. Faith came by the hearing of the Word. They were born again by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. They observed those Christians who led them to Christ and shared in the joy, the peace, and the thrill of it all. And in their joy, they wanted someone else to know.

In every Christian audience, I am sure there are men and women who have been Christians for five, ten, or twenty years, but who do not know of one person who is living for Jesus Christ today because of

them. I am not talking now about merely working for Christ, but about producing for Christ. Someone may say, "I gave out a hundred thousand tracts." That is good, but how many sheep did you bring in?

Some time ago I talked to 29 missionary candidates. They were graduates of universities, Bible schools, or seminaries. As a member of the board, I interviewed each one over a period of five days, giving each candidate from half an hour to an hour. Among the questions I asked were two which I considered very important. The first one had to do with their devotional life. "How is your devotional life?" I asked them. "How is the time you spend with the Lord? Do you feel that your devotional life is what the Lord would have it be?"

Out of this particular group of 29 only one person said, "I believe my devotional life is what it ought to be." To the others my question then was, "Why is your devotional life not what it should be?"

"Well, you see, I am here at this summer institute," was a common reply. "We do a year's work in only ten weeks. We are so busy."

I said, "All right. Let's back up to when you were in college. Did you have victory in your devotional life then?"

"Well, not exactly."

We tracked back and found that ever since they came to know the Saviour, they never had a period of victory in their devotional lives. That was one of the reasons for their sterility--lack of communion with Christ.

The other question I asked them was, "You are going out to the foreign field. You hope to be used by the Lord in winning men and women to Christ. Is that right?"

"Yes."

"You want them to go on and live the victorious life, don't you? You don't want them just to make a decision and then go back into the world, do you?"

"No."

"Then may I ask you something more? How many persons do you know by name today who were won to Christ by you and are living for Him?"

The majority had to admit that they were ready to cross an ocean and learn a foreign language, but they had not won their first soul who was going on with Jesus Christ. A number of them said that they got many people to go to church; others said they had persuaded some to go forward when the invitation was given.

I asked, "Are they living for Christ now?" Their eyes dropped. I then continued, "How do you expect that by crossing an ocean and speaking in a foreign language with people who are suspicious of you,

whose way of life is unfamiliar, you will be able to do there what you have not yet done here?"

These questions do not apply to missionaries and prospective missionaries only. They apply to all of God's people. Every one of His children ought to be a reproducer.

Are you producing? If not, why not? Is it because of a lack of communion with Christ, your Lord, that closeness of fellowship which is part of the great plan? Or is it some sin in your life, an unfessed something that has stopped the flow? Or is it that you are still a babe? "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again . . ." (Hebrews 5:12).

How to Produce Reproducers

The reason that we are not getting this Gospel to the ends of the earth is not because it is not potent enough.

Twenty-three years ago we took a born-again sailor and spent some time with him showing him how to reproduce spiritually after his kind. It took time, lots of time. It was not a hurried, 30-minute challenge in a church service and a hasty goodbye with an invitation to come back next week. We took care of his problems and taught him not only to hear God's Word and to read it, but also how to study it. We also taught him how to fill the quiver of his heart with the arrows of God's Word, so that the Spirit of God could lift an arrow from his heart and place it to the bow of his lips and pierce a heart for Christ.

He found a number of boys on his ship, but none of them would go all out for the Lord. They would go to church, but when it came right down to doing something, they were "also rans." He came to me after a month of this and said, "Dawson, I can't get any of these guys on the ship to get down to business."

I said to him, "Listen, you ask God to give you one. You can not have two until you have one. Ask God to give you a man after your own heart."

He began to pray. One day he came to me and said, "I think I have found him." Later he brought the young fellow over. Three months from the time that I started to work with him he had found a man of like heart. This first sailor was not the kind of man you had to push and give prizes to before he would do something. He loved the Lord and was willing to pay a price to produce. He worked with this new babe in Christ, and those two fellows began to grow and spiritually reproduce. On that ship 125 men found the Saviour before it was sunk at Pearl Harbor. Men off that first battleship are in four continents of the world as missionaries today. It was necessary, however, to make a start. The devil's great trick is to stop anything like this if he can before it gets started. He will stop you too, if you let him.

There are Christians whose lives run in circles who, nevertheless, have the desire to be spiritual parents. Take a typical example. You meet him in the morning as he goes to work and say to him. "Why are you going to work?"

"Well, I have to earn money."

"For what reason are you earning money?" you ask.

"Well, he replies, "I have to buy food."

"Why do you want to buy food?"

"I have to eat so as to have strength to go to work and earn some more money."

"Why do you want more money?"

"I have to buy clothes so that I can be dressed to go to work and earn some more money."

"Why do you want more money?"

"I have to buy a house or pay the rent so I will have a place to rest up, so I will be fit to work and earn some more money." And so it goes. There are many Christians like that who are going in big circles. But you continue your questioning and ask, "What else do you do?"

"Oh, I find time to serve the Lord. I am preaching here and there." But down behind all of this he has the one desire to be a spiritual father. He is praying that God will give him a man to teach. It may take six months. It need not take that long, but maybe it takes him six months to get started taking in the Word and giving it out and getting ready to teach a man himself.

So this first man at the end of six months has another man. Each man starts teaching another in the following six months. At the end of the year there are just four of them. Perhaps each teaches a Bible class or helps in a street meeting, but at the same time his main interest is in his man and how he is doing. So at the end of the year the four of them get together and have a prayer meeting and determine, "Now, let's not allow anything to sidetrack us. Let's give the Gospel out to a lot of people, but let's check up on at least one man and see him through."

So the four of them in the next six months each get a man. That makes eight at the end of a year and a half. They all go out after another and at the end of two years there are 16 men. At the end of three years there are 64: the 16 have doubled twice. At the end of five years there are 1,048 and at the end of fifteen and a half years there are 2,176,000,000 men. That is the present population of the world of persons over three years of age.

But wait a minute! Suppose that after the first man, A, helps B and B is ready to get his man and while A starts helping another B gets sidetracked, washes out, and does not produce his first man. Fifteen and one-half years later you can cut your 2,176,000,000 down to 1,048 because the devil caused B to be sterile.

God promised Abraham " . . . in Isaac shall thy seed be called" (Genesis 21:12), so Abraham waited a long, long time for that son. God's promise to make Abraham the father of many nations was all wrapped up in that one son, Isaac. If Hitler had been present and had caused Isaac's death when Abraham had his knife poised over him on Mount Moriah, Hitler could have killed every Jew in that one stroke.

I believe that is why Satan puts all his efforts into getting the Christian busy, busy, but not producing.

Men, where is your man? Women, where is your woman? Where is your girl? Where is the one whom you led to Christ and who is now going on with Him?

There is a story in I Kings, chapter 20 about a man who gave a prisoner to a servant and instructed the servant to guard the prisoner well. But as the servant was busy here and there, the prisoner made his escape.

The curse of today is that we are too busy. I am not talking about being busy earning money to buy food. I am talking about being busy doing Christian things. We have spiritual activity with little productivity. And productivity comes as a result of what we call "follow-up."

Majoring in Reproducing

Five years ago Billy Graham came to me and said, "Daws, we would like you to help with our follow up. I've been studying the great evangelists and the great revivals and I fail to see that there was much of a follow-up program. We need it. We are having an average of 6,000 people come forward to decide for Christ in a month's campaign. I feel that with the work you have done, you could come and help us."

I said, "Billy, I can't follow up 6,000 people. My work has always been with individuals and small groups."

"Look Daws," he answered, "everywhere I go I meet Navigators. I met them in school in Wheaton. They are in my school right now. (He was president of Northwestern Schools at that time.) There must be something to this."

"I just don't have the time," I said.

He tackled me again. The third time he pleaded with me and said,

"Daws, I am not able to sleep nights for thinking of what happens to the converts after a crusade is over."

At that time I was on my way to Formosa and I said, "While I am there I will pray about it, Billy." On the sands of a Formosan beach, I paced up and down two or three hours a day praying, "Lord, how can I do this? I am not even getting the work done You have given me to do. How can I take six months of the year to give to Billy?" But God laid the burden upon my heart.

Why should Billy have asked me to do it? I had said to him that day before I left for Formosa, "Billy, you will have to get somebody else."

He took me by the shoulders and said, "Who else? Who is majoring in this?" I had been majoring in it.

What will it take to jar us out of our complacency and send us home to pray, "God, give me a girl or man whom I can win to Christ, or let me take one who is already won, an infant in Christ, and try to train that one so that he or she will reproduce!"

How thrilled we are to see the masses fill up the seats! But where is your man? I would rather have an "Isaac" alive than a hundred that are dead, sterile, or immature.

Beginning of Follow-up

One day years ago, I was driving along in my little Model T Ford and saw a young man walking down the street. I stopped and picked him up. As he got into the car, he swore and said, "It's sure tough to get a ride." I never hear a man take my Saviour's name in vain but what my heart aches. I reached into my pocket for a tract and said, "Lad, read this."

He looked up at me and said, "Haven't I seen you somewhere before?"

I looked at him closely. He looked like someone I should know. We figured out that we had met the year before on the same road. He was on his way to a golf course to caddy when I picked him up. He had gotten into my car and had started out the same way with the name "Jesus Christ." I had taken exception to his use of that name and had opened up the New Testament and shown him the way of salvation. He had accepted Jesus Christ as his Saviour. In parting I had given him Philippians 1:6, "Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." "God bless you, son. Read this," I said, and went on my merry way.

A year later, there was no more evidence of the new birth and the new creature in this boy than if he had never heard of Jesus Christ.

I had a great passion to win souls, but after I met this boy the second time on the way to the golf course, I began to go back and find some of my "converts." I want to tell you, I was sick at heart. It seemed that Philippians 1:6 was not working.

An Armenian boy came into my office one day and told me about all the souls he had won. He said that they were all Armenians and had the list to prove it.

I said, "Well, what is this one doing?"

He said, "That one isn't doing so good. He is backslidden."

"What about this one?" We went all down the list and there was not one living a victorious life.

I said, "Give me your Bible." I turned to Philipians and put a cardboard right under the 6th verse, took a razor blade out of my pocket and started to come down on the page. He grabbed my hand and asked, "What are you going to do?"

"I'm going to cut this verse out," I replied. "It isn't working."

Do you know what was wrong? I had been taking the 6th verse away from its context, verses 3 through 7. Paul was not just saying, "All right, the Lord has started something, He will finish it." But you know, that is what some people tell me when they win a soul. They say, "Well, I just committed him to God."

Suppose I met someone who has a large family and say to him, "Who is taking care of your children?"

"My family? Oh, I left them with the Lord."

Right away I would say to that one, "I have a verse for you: 'But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he . . . is worse than an infidel' (I Timothy 5:8)."

Paul said to the elders of the church at Ephesus, "Take heed . . . to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers . . ." (Acts 20:28). You cannot make God the overseer. He makes you the overseer.

We began to work on follow-up. This emphasis on finding and helping some of the converts went on for a couple or three years before the Navigator work started. By that time our work included few converts but more time spent with the converts. Soon I could say as Paul said to the Philipians, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, For your fellowship in the Gospel from the first day until now" (Philipians 1:3-5). He followed up his converts with daily prayer and fellowship. Then he could say, "Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Philipians 1:6). In keeping with this, the 7th verse reads: "Even as it is meet (or proper) for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart . . ."

Before I had forgotten to follow up the people God had reached through me. But from then on I began to spend time helping them. That is why

sometime later when that first sailor came to me, I saw the value of spending three months with him. I saw an Isaac in him. Isaac had Jacob, and Jacob had the twelve, and all the rest of the nation came through them.

It takes time to do God's work

You can lead a soul to Christ in anywhere from 20 minutes to a couple of hours. But it takes from 20 weeks to a couple of years to get him on the road to maturity, victorious over the sins and the recurring problems that come along. He must learn how to make right decisions. He must be warned of the various "isms" that are likely to reach out with their octopus arms and pull him in and sidetrack him.

But when you get yourself a man, you have doubled your ministry--in fact, you have more than doubled your ministry. Do you know why? When you teach your man, he sees how it is done and he imitates you.

If I were the minister of a church and had deacons or elders to pass the plate and choir members to sing, I would say, "Thank God for your help. We need you. Praise the Lord for these extra things that you do," but I would keep pressing home the big job--"Be fruitful and multiply." All these other things are incidental to the supreme task of winning a man or woman to Jesus Christ and then helping him or her to go on.

Where is your man? Where is your woman? Do you have one? You can ask God for one. Search your hearts. Ask the Lord, "Am I spiritually sterile? If I am, why am I?"

Don't let your lack of knowledge stand in the way. It used to be the plan of The Navigators in the early days that whenever the sailors were with us for supper, each fellow was asked at the end of the meal to quote a verse.

I would say it this way, "Quote a verse you have learned in the last 48 hours if you have one. Otherwise, just give us a verse." One evening as we quoted verses around the table, my little three year-old daughter's turn came. There was a new sailor next to her who did not think about her quoting Scripture, so without giving her an opportunity, he began. She looked up at him as much as to say, "I am a human being," then she quoted John 3:16 in her own way. "For God so loved the world, dat He gave His only forgotten Son, dat whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." She put the emphasis on the whosoever because when she was first taught the verse, she could not pronounce that word.

Days later that sailor came over and said to me, "You know, I was going to quote that verse of Scripture. It was the only one I knew. But I didn't really know it, not until little Ruthie quoted it. When she said, 'whosoever,' I thought, 'that means me.' Back on the ship I accepted the Lord." Today that young man is a missionary in South America.

Until several years after we were married, my wife's father did not know the Lord. Here again God used children to reach a hungry heart. When Ruthie was three and Bruce was five, they went to visit Grandpa and Grandma. Grandpa tried to get them to repeat nursery rhymes. He said, "Mary had a little lamb" and "Little Boy Blue," but the children just looked at him and asked, "Who is Little Boy Blue?" He thought they did not know very much.

Their mother said, "They know some things. Quote Romans 3:23, Bruce." This Bruce did. Then he asked Grandpa, "Shall I quote another one, Grandpa?"

"Sure," said Grandpa.

Bruce began to quote verses of Scripture, some 15 in all, and Ruth quoted some in between. This delighted Grandpa. He took them over to the neighbors and to the aunts and uncles, showing them how well these children knew the Scriptures. In the meantime, the Word of God was doing its work. It was not long before the Holy Spirit, through the voices of babes, planted the seed in his heart. "Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast Thou ordained strength . . ." (Psalm 8:2).

Soulwinners are not soulwinners because of what they know, but because of the Person they know, how well they know Him, and how much they long for others to know Him.

"Oh, but I am afraid," someone says. Remember, "The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe" (Proverbs 29:25). Nothing under heaven except sin, immaturity, and lack of communion will put you in a position where you cannot reproduce. Furthermore, there is not anything under heaven that can keep a newly born again one from going on with the Lord if he has a spiritual parent to take care of him and give him the spiritual food God has provided for his normal growth.

Effects obey their causes by irresistible laws. When you sow the seed of God's Word, you will get results. Not every heart will receive the Word, but some will and the new birth will take place. When a new soul is born, give it the care that Paul gave new believers. Paul believed in follow up work. He was a busy evangelist, but he still took time for follow up. The New Testament is largely made up of the letters of Paul which were follow-up letters to the converts.

James believed in it. "But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only," he said in James 1:22. Peter believed in it. "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby" (I Peter 2:2). John believed in it, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth" (III John 4). All the writings of Peter, Paul, James, and most of John's, are food for the new Christian.

The Gospel spread to the known world during the first century without radio, television or the printing press, all because these produced ones were reproducing. But today we have a lot of pew-sitters--

people who think that if they are faithful in church attendance, put good-sized gifts into the offering plate, and get people to come, they have done their part.

Where is your man? Where is your woman? Where is your boy? Where is your girl? Every one of us, no matter what age we are, should get busy memorizing Scripture. In one Sunday school, a woman 72 years of age and another who was 78 years of age finished The Navigators Topical Memory System. They then had something to give.

Load your heart with this precious Seed. You will find that God will direct you to those whom you can lead to Christ. There are many hearts ready for the Gospel now.

ETS 1/2

Assignment Sheet

Date _____

Name _____

Topic Layman/Great Commission

Lesson The Great Commission

Class _____

	Completed	
	Yes	No
Lecture		
Review "The Great Commission"		
Bible Study		
PSMA		
Reading		
Read "The Need of the Hour"		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Pray for 2 people to win to Christ.		
Pray for 1 person to disciple.		
Scripture Memory		
Matthew 28:18-20		



THE GREAT COMMISSION

Introduction

In our last session we looked at our lives from God's perspective. We realized He wanted us to exchange our lives for the eternal things of God, rather than for the temporal things of earth. We saw that the only three things that are eternal are God, His Word, and the souls of men and women. These three eternal things are best stated for us in a command that Jesus gave to His disciples. Today we call that command The Great Commission. If we give ourselves to God, He will have us exchange our lives for the Great Commission. The commission demands that we disciple men and women of all nations. The way we disciple is by teaching all that Jesus commands which is found in the Word of God. Consequently, the three eternal things are best understood by us in light of The Great Commission.

The Great Commission

Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Matthew 28:16-20

The passage opens with Jesus meeting His disciples on top of a mountain after his resurrection. Matthew says that some of them doubted. Jesus told them He possesses all the power in heaven and earth.

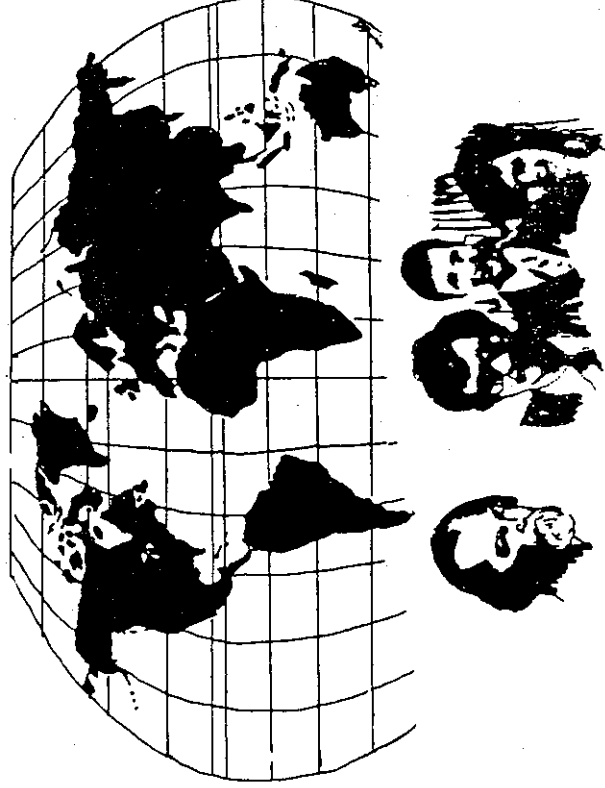
ALL POWER is
given unto me

MATTHEW 28:19-20



GO YE

MAKE DISCIPLES
of ALL NATIONS



teach them ALL THINGS I command you

I am with you ALWAYS

OBJECTIVE

RESOURCES

On the basis of that power they were to go and disciple all the nations. They were to make disciples by teaching others all Jesus had commanded them. He closes by saying He would be with them always.

In order to better understand the commission and the implication for our lives, we need to examine this phrase by phrase.

The Resource

All power is given unto me in heaven and earth. Go ye therefore.

Jesus first instructs his disciples that all power or authority had been given to Him. On the basis of this He said, "Go ye therefore." When one finds the word "therefore" or "wherefore", it means to stop and examine the preceding statement. What is about to be said will be based on the preceding statement. So what does "All power is given unto me" mean?

From the context it would appear Jesus is talking about a resource because Jesus is in the process of commanding them to reach the 250,000,000 who inhabited the earth at that time. This means each of them would have to reach about 22,000,000 people. If they had to rely on their own resources, they would never get the job done. Jesus was saying, "Whatever you need in heaven or earth to get the job done, I have the power and the authority to give it to you." On the basis of that resource, Jesus is able to say, "Go ye and make disciples of all nations."

It is interesting to note Jesus begins with the resource, He does not just give them this fantastic job and leave it to them. He makes sure they have the resources necessary to accomplish the task. It is also important to note that Jesus ends with the resource.

Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

He promises to be with us always. This means He will provide whatever our needs are. If we don't understand verse eighteen, we will never be able to come to grips with verses nineteen and twenty. Notice on the diagram (page 2) that the two resources have been joined with a line.

The Objective

NOTES

Beautifully sandwiched between the two resource statements is the objective.

Go ye therefore, and teach [make disciples of] all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.

The objective of the Great Commission is to go and make disciples of all nations. In this objective, there are several components which we need to consider.

Disciplemaking

Jesus said make disciples. There is the imperative of the passage and this is where the emphasis is focused. Jesus is saying this one thing you must do, MAKE DISCIPLES. As we study this passage, we will see why this imperative is so important.

How to make Disciples

Jesus said, teach them to observe all things I have commanded. Jesus taught the eleven how they were to live if they were going to be His disciples. Now He commands the eleven to teach their followers everything that He had commanded them, thus making them disciples.

When Peter saw three thousand converted at Pentecost, he realized his job had only started. Jesus said make disciples, not converts.

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

Acts 2:41-42

It is of little wonder the next verse says they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine. What was the apostles' doctrine? It was all the things Jesus had taught the apostles. They were commanded to teach them to the 3,000 in an effort to disciple them.

Practical Application

NOTES

What should the apostle teach the 3,000 about stealing?

You would say, "Teach them 'Thou shall not steal.'"

What would the apostle teach about adultery?

You would say, "'Thou shall not commit adultery.'" In fact Jesus warns that if we entertain the thought in our mind we have committed adultery in our hearts.

If I ask you, "Why should the apostle teach the 3,000 these things?" Your reply would be:

"Because Jesus commands them to teach all he had commanded them. So they must teach these things to the 3,000 in an effort to make them disciples."

Who is to Go?

A natural question arises from Jesus' command "go ye." Who is to go? What should the apostles teach the 3,000 about who is to go? Often people are silent when asked this question. It was not hard to answer the other question, but for some reason this becomes harder, because of the far reaching implications it has on each of our lives. If we teach them "all Jesus commanded," we must teach them that they are to go.

This is a crucial point to grasp and understand. Everywhere I go people tell me, "If God were to call me I would go." I have news for you. God has called you. The last word from heaven was go ye. I don't know where you are to go, when you are to go, or with whom you are to go, but I do know you are to go.

Wherever you go, Jesus said to make disciples. If you can't make disciples where you are, there is no need to send you anywhere. When you have mastered the art and skills of being a disciple, God will reveal when, where, and with whom you are to go. God may only send you locally or to another state or country. The geography is irrelevant as long as you are committed to obey and to go where He commands you.

A World Wide Ministry

NOTES

Jesus said to make disciples of all nations. God wants every Christian to have a world wide vision as well as a world wide ministry. In the verse below, cross out the incorrect connecting conjunction and think about the implications of this.

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem (or, and) in all Judea (or, and) in Samaria, (or, and) unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 1:8

The Bible says "and" in each of these places. There are a number of ways in which a person can have a world wide ministry.

How to have a World Wide Ministry

Go Personally

God has called many to labor in foreign fields. Bringing the good news of salvation to a foreign culture is an exciting assignment. This may be God's will for you. However, for many it will not be God's will to labor overseas.

Through your Children

God may call one of your physical or spiritual children to serve in the uttermost parts of the earth. Your children are an extension of your life. Nothing could be more exciting than to see God extend your ministry through them. It is a sad commentary on our vision when we don't want our children to exchange their lives in a foreign field.

Through your Prayers

Every time we bow our heads and hearts to God, we have the capability of reaching around the world. There is nowhere we can be shut out. If we can't talk to people about God in other places, at least we can talk to God about them. Through our prayers we can enter into the labors of missionaries. Again it is a tragic commentary on our lives when we refuse to invest our precious time in intercession for others.

Through Finances

NOTES

One can enter into the labors of any missionary through giving. Your financial participation makes you a co-laborer with the missionary or missionaries you choose to support. It is unfortunate we give so sparingly.

Through Vocation

Choose a missionary and arrange to spend your vacation helping him. If you can win and disciple people, you will be an asset to any program. It may be you have a special skill that would be of benefit to a specific field. Not only would your service be a blessing to the missionary, it would do a great deal to strengthen your own vision and Christian walk. There are no skills possessed by a Christian which are not needed by some mission organization.

Whose Responsibility is the Great Commission

You do not need to look very far to realize the Great Commission is not being fulfilled. The nations are not being disciplined. Have you ever wondered whose responsibility it is? It is obvious that whoever is responsible needs to be fired and replaced with someone more capable. But who should we fire?

You may say that it is the church's responsibility. However, when we talk about the church, people normally think about the building on the corner, the brick and mortar, the stained glass, the soft organ music. It does not take long to realize that God did not give the responsibility to these. Then who is responsible?

The illustration shows us how the objective is passed to us and also shows us how the responsibility is passed down from one generation to the next. "Teach them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you."

At this point most of us get very uncomfortable. We do not want the responsibility. If it were left to us, the job would never get done.

My Response to His Ability

NOTES

Our reasons for not wanting such a tremendous responsibility are certainly understandable. We are not smart enough, rich enough, or strong enough to get the job done. So how can God saddle us with a job which is beyond our ability?

Notice that the word responsibility is made up of two English words, response and ability. Now we are nervous because we don't have the ability. However, we are dealing with the wrong issue. The real issue is this: Is God able? Certainly we would all agree that God is rich enough, smart enough, and strong enough. We are not able, but God is. Responsibility is responding not to our ability, but to God's ability. That is why I said if we didn't understand verse 18, all power is given unto me, we would never be able to come to grips with verses 19-20. Now we can see why Jesus' first words to the eleven disciples atop the mountain pertained to His infinite resources.

Conclusion

God is searching for men and women who believe that He is able and who will respond to His ability. It is imperative that we take this responsibility. As it is, the nations are not being disciplined. Will you respond to His ability to get the job done through you? If you, as His disciple, say no, then to whom shall we turn?

THE NEED OF THE HOUR

by Dawson E. Trotman

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1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses. The names are listed in the first column, and the addresses are listed in the second column. The names are: John Doe, Jane Doe, and John Doe. The addresses are: 123 Main St, 456 Main St, and 789 Main St.

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The Need of the Hour

By Dawson E. Trotman

What is the need of the hour? That depends upon the person who is thinking about it. If I'm walking along the street and see a beggar with a tin cup, what's the need of the hour? A dime. If a woman is being taken to the hospital, what's the need of the hour? A doctor. But in Christian work, what is the need of the hour? I started to list the things that we often feel are the need, which if supplied, would end our troubles.

Some say, "Well, if I just had a larger staff..." Would more staff be the answer? Today many a minister would like to have an assistant, and many a mission would like to have more missionaries. The cry of returned missionaries is always for more men and women to fill up the ranks...to them, the need of the hour.

Others say, "We don't need more workers, but if we had better facilities, if we just had more office space and more buildings and bigger grounds and a base of operation...if we had a place like Glen Eyrie...then we could do the job."

In certain areas of the world they say it's communication we lack, or better transportation, or better means to take care of health. The need of the hour on many a mission field is merely a radio. But if you get that radio, there's another need, and something else, and something else. Many feel it is literature. I hear that in my travels all over the world, "We just lack literature."

I know of people today who are saying, "If we could just get into a certain place." For years people have been on the borders of Nepal saying, "If we could just get in there." To them the need of the hour is an open door into Nepal. Right now hundreds of people are saying, "If we could just get into China." The Bible says, "My God shall supply all your needs." If the need were an open door into China, why doesn't God open it? "These things saith He that is holy, He that is true, He that hath the key of David, He that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth...I have set before thee an open door."

Paul found closed doors, but closed doors to him weren't the problem. I really believe these closed doors were used of God to show him the open doors he was to go through next. I believe if God wanted to put His hand over the great country of China tonight, turning the Reds into confusion so they would start killing each other (a good deal of which they are already doing), He could do it. I believe in forty-eight hours the door to China could be opened.

Some say, "We need more time. If we just had more time..." Others say, "If I just weren't so old, if I were young again." People have said to me, "Daws, if I had known when I was twenty years old what I know now, I could have done a hundred times more for the Lord. Why didn't I."

Often the biggest need of the hour seems to be money. "If we just had money...That's the answer for a larger staff, more facilities, literature, communications and transportation...If we just had money."

What is the need of the hour? Frankly, I don't believe it is any of these. I am convinced that the God of the universe is in control, and He will supply all of these needs in His own way and in His own time, all else being right.

Let me tell you what I believe the need of the hour is. Maybe I should call it the answer to the need of the hour. I believe it is an army of soldiers, dedicated to Jesus Christ, who believe not only that He is God, but that He can fulfill every promise He has ever made, and that there isn't anything too hard for Him. It is the only way we can accomplish the thing that is on His heart...getting the gospel to every creature.

In 1948 I was in Germany for six days. I had been put in touch with Colonel Paul Maddox, Chief of Chaplains for all of Europe, and through his recommendation to the Commanding General I got into Germany. I invited fifty German fellows to meet with me for three days, and twenty-five of them came. I talked to them every evening for three hours, beginning to lay before them the Great Commission, and the idea that I felt Germany not only needed to hear the gospel, but that Germans themselves needed to obey the Great Commission by sending missionaries.

I gave them the privilege of asking questions during the meetings, and every once in a while a hand would go up. I was trying to lay upon their hearts the very thing the Lord laid on the hearts of the disciples when He told them to go to every creature, make disciples of every nation, start in Jerusalem and go to the ends of the earth. One German spoke up, "But, Mr. Trotman, you don't understand. Here in Germany some of us right in this room don't even have an Old Testament; we only have a New Testament." I said, "When Jesus Christ gave these commandments, they didn't have even a New Testament."

Later one of them said, "But, Mr. Trotman, we have very few good evangelical books in this country. In America you have thus and so." I asked, "How many books did the disciples have?" A little further on one of them said, "Is it true that in America you can hear the Gospel any day?" I answered, "Yes." He said, "If we had that...but we can't get the message out on any radio." They said, "You have automobiles, we ride bicycles." I reminded them, "The disciples didn't have bicycles. Jesus rode a borrowed burro."

Now these questions didn't come up one right after the other or they would have caught on, but they arose during the nine hours together.

Finally one fellow spoke up and said, "In America you have money. I work twelve hours a day for sixty cents. We don't have much money. I replied, "The disciples were sent out without purse and without script.

Every excuse in the books was brought up. "We don't have this, and we don't have that. We don't have buildings; we don't have facilities." Each time I replied, "But the twelve didn't and He sent them out."

Then finally near the end one fellow, a little older than the rest and with almost a bitter expression on his face, got up and said, "Mr. Trotman, you in America have never had an occupation force in your land. You don't know what it is to have soldiers of another country roaming your streets. Our souls are not our own." I said, "The disciples lived at the time Jesus Christ lived, and their souls weren't their own. The Roman soldiers were in charge."

Then it dawned on me in a way I had never considered before, that when Jesus Christ sent the eleven out, he let a situation exist which was so bad that there could never be a worse one. No printing presses, no automobiles, no radios, no television, no telephones, no buildings, not one single church, no uniforms, nothing for the vestry...He didn't even leave them a little emblem.

He left them only a job to do, but with it He said, "All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. "Go ye therefore..." What does the "therefore" mean? It means, "I have the power to give you the order and I have the power to back you to the hilt." He has all power in heaven and earth...not just heaven, but in the earth; all power, not part of the power, but all power, which means power over the Romans and power over the Communists.

Earlier Jesus Christ had said to this same little group, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on Me..." He that what? "... believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do." Do you believe that statement is true? Or must you say that for a moment it makes you stop to wonder. Could it possibly be true that the Son of God would say to a human being, "The things that I do, you shall do, and greater things than these you shall do"?

I believe with all my heart that the reason so many wonderful Christians don't accomplish more in their lives is they don't believe Jesus meant what He said. They have never come to the place where they believe that the all-powerful One, Who commissioned them, could enable them to do these greater works. The last thing He said, was, "All power is given unto Me. I'm giving you your orders now. Go and teach all nations and see that every created being hears the Word."

Now, gang, we think it is going to be a tough job, even with the printing press, the radio, the airplane, and modern medicine. What do you think the early disciples thought about it? When Paul wrote to the Romans, he said, "I thank my God that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world." When he wrote to the Thessalonian church,

he said, "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance." And he said to the Thessalonians, who were not even as strong as the Bereans, "For from you sounded out the Word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad."

How did the message go? Not by telephone, not by television, but by tell-a-person. That's the only method they had. It was as simple as that. Everyone was to tell someone else. "I cannot help but speak the things which I have seen and heard," was the impelling force. That's how it spread, and it did spread. They didn't need the printing press and they didn't need materials.

Over in England they really went for the Bible study and memory materials. It was hard to get them to see their value at first, but when they did, some of them felt they were a necessity. One rainy night during the Billy Graham Crusade at Wembley Station around 3000 came forward at the invitation. Two clergymen came running up to me, "Mr. Trotman, Mr. Trotman, we ran out of materials! What will we do? I said, "Relax. They probably ran out of them at Pentecost too!" They looked at me for a minute and, obviously getting the point, said, "That's right!"

The answer is the man, not materials. Maybe the greatest problem today is that we try to put into printed form that which should go from lip to ear and heart to heart. We de-emphasize materials, and people can't understand why. Materials are the tools. Tools by themselves are useless. If there were a young fellow beginning his study of medicine who had all the necessary instruments for a major operation, and an old doctor who just had a razor blade and a plain, ordinary crooked needle and some strong string, I'd put myself into the hands of the old doctor for surgery rather than this boy over here with all the instruments, wouldn't you? It's not only the tools; it's the man who has the tools in his hands.

What is the need of the hour, gang? I'll tell you the need of the hour. It is to believe that our God controls the universe, and when He said, "The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea," He meant it. That is exactly what is going to happen. The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord!

Today more people than ever in a lot of our civilized countries know about Jesus Christ because of the radio, literature, mission societies, Billy Graham, etc. But they only know about Him; they don't know Him. The Book says, "The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." How much does the water cover the sea? Do you think that every square inch of sea has water in it? Yes! That's how every tongue and tribe and nation in every single nook and corner of this earth is going to hear about Jesus Christ and His glory.

What is the need of the hour? It is to believe that "Thy God reigneth." The rain isn't coming down like you feel it should in order to have good crops. Can He send it if it's necessary? If He doesn't, can you say, "Thank you, Lord"? That's what He wants. "In everything give thanks."

You don't need anything that He can't supply. Is it knowledge? Is it strength? God can do more through a weakling who is yielded and trusting than He can through a strong man who isn't. "For all the promises of God in Him are yea, and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God by us" (II Corinthians 1:20).

I want the fellows and girls who come to Glen Eyrie to go away with this thought securely in their minds: "God, I'll never come to the place where I'm going to let the lack of anything persuade me that you are being hindered." I would rather you would go away with that in your hearts than with methods or materials or ideas that we may have to share with you, because I know the potential of the man who will come to the place where he can say hour after hour, day after day, week after week, month after month, and year after year, "Lord, I believe my God reigneth."

Listen! You have an excuse if you want one. You have more than an excuse: you have hundreds of them. That isn't what's holding us back. It's that we don't live and preach the fact that He is on the throne. And when He's running the show, He will take care of all the props, even the transportation.

I was in Hong Kong on my way to India in 1948 when a Pan American flight was delayed long enough to make me miss my connection in Bangkok. I inquired if there were any way for me to get to Calcutta. The crew said, "No, not a chance in the world." Then one said, "We do have orders for this plane to go on to Calcutta, but because of regulations this crew can't take it." So I prayed, "Lord, you know about the meetings in Calcutta, and it's nothing for you to work this out."

We got to Bangkok and a radio message came, "We do not have a crew to bring this ship to Calcutta. Your crew ordered to bring it." Only four people were on that big DC-6, and the other three didn't have to go to India for three days. I arrived in time for those meetings, and as a result, a man from Nepal came to know the Lord, a man who later became a key for getting the gospel to that closed country way up in the Himalayas.

The need of the hour, as far as I'm concerned, people, is to believe that God is God, and that He is a lot more interested in getting this job done than you and I are. Therefore, if He is more interested in getting the job done, He has all the power to do it, and has commissioned us to do it, our business is to obey Him...reaching the world for Him and trusting Him to help us do it.

The Lord could easily have said to the disciples, "You fellows are only eleven men, and you lack facilities and transportation, so all I want you to do is start the fire in Jerusalem," but He didn't say

that. The believers in South India testify they are glad Thomas believed Jesus Christ that he was to go to the uttermost part of the earth. I understand that the Mar Thoma Church, the largest in Southern India, traces its origin back 1900 years to the work of this disciple. Aren't you glad that Thomas didn't say to Jesus Christ, "I don't have a DC-6 jet?"

"Ye shall be witnesses unto Me in..." not EITHER Jerusalem OR Samaria OR Judea OR on the foreign field. You are to be witnesses, when you have the Holy Ghost, "BOTH in Jerusalem, AND in all Judea, AND in Samaria, AND unto the uttermost part of the earth."

Suppose you are a pastor. You have a responsibility to your people to be a shepherd to the flock. You also have a responsibility for people in other countries. You have to be concerned. The only reason you are not out there telling them about Jesus Christ is because you're training the lay people to love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ in your city, your state, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

I close with this...a little of the Nav story. I used to have a map of the world that I kept before me. I'd put my fingers on some of the islands--Australia, New Zealand, Okinawa, "Formosa--and say, "Lord, let me win men for you in these places." I wasn't challenged to do this by hearing a sermon, but by a verse of Scripture, Jeremiah 33:3, "Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." It was in the previous chapter Jeremiah had said to the Lord, "Ah Lord God! behold, Thou hast made the heaven and the earth by Thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for Thee." Ten verses later the Lord says to Jeremiah, "I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for Me?" Then just a few verses later He says, "All right, if you believe Me, call unto Me and I will answer."

I asked a buddy, "Do you believe this verse?" He said, "Yes." I said, "I do, too, but I've never seen these great and mighty things, and I'd like to." So we started a prayer meeting every morning. We decided to meet at a certain spot, have a fire built, and be in prayer by five o'clock. Not one minute after five...we just made it a date. We prayed two hours on weekdays but met at four on Sundays to pray for our Sunday school boys by name and for the Sunday school. We prayed for Harbor City, Torrance, Long Beach, San Pedro, Los Angeles, Pasadena, and the surrounding cities from which I had received calls from young Christian fellows saying, "Come over here and show us how you're reaching these boys."

The third and fourth weeks we started to include cities up the coast--San Francisco, Oakland, Seattle and Portland. We said, "Lord, use us in these cities." By the fourth or fifth week we had covered every state in the Union. As we listed them we prayed, "Lord, use us to win young men to You in the State of Oregon. Use us to win young men in Massachusetts." Every morning we prayed for every one of the forty-eight states. Then about the sixth week one of us said to the

other something like this: "If we believe God is big enough to let us win men in every one of the forty-eight states, let's go all out!"

We bought a world map and left it up in the Palos Verdes hills. Each morning we'd pull this old map out and pray that the Lord would use us in China and in Japan and in Korea. At the end of forty-two days I felt a burden lift. We stopped asking God to use us and began thanking Him that He was going to do so. "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for," and substance is substance. It's reality; it's something you can believe in. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. We claimed the promises as we prayed. These promises were the brick and prayer was the mortar that put them together.

After forty-two days we discontinued our prayer meeting. Forty-eight hours later I was in the hospital, flat on my back, for a week, and I had a lot of time to think. The Minute-Men idea came and from that The Navigators work was born.

Three or four years later I was rummaging around in a drawer of the living room table when I found a little purple card..."Washington, Oregon." In another drawer was a list of names--Les Spencer from Illinois, John Dedrick of Texas, Gurney Harris from Arkansas, Ed Goodrich of Wisconsin. I discovered that men from every one of the forty-eight states had come to the Saviour during those three or four years. God had answered, and these men were being trained as disciples. Then I thought of the world. "Why, Lord, am I permitted to have a part in this?" For the same reason you are.

"All power in heaven and earth is Mine. It's Mine for you to appropriate." This is not only a privilege; it's an order. He wants nothing less. God doesn't want you to take an island...He wants you to take the world. For what are you asking God? What do you want? Do you want to win a few? You'll have to start with a few, and you'll have to be successful with the few. You can be because Jesus said, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." No man ever followed Jesus who didn't become a fisher of men. He never fails to do what He promised. If you're not fishing, you're not following. You have to win one before you can win five, and five before you can win five hundred. The world is before you. How big is your faith?

The need of the hour is men who want what Jesus Christ wants and believe He wants to give them the power to do what He has asked. Nothing in the world can stop those men. Do you believe that? Do you want to be one of them? You may, but you will have to ask. "Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." Years ago when I prayed for Formosa I couldn't have comprehended what I'm seeing now. But that's the way He has promised it will be, so when you call, ask big!



ETS 1/3

Assignment Sheet

Date _____

Name _____

Topic Layman/Great Commission

Lesson Fulfilling the Great Commission

Class _____

Lecture	Completed	
	Yes	No
Review "Fulfilling the Great Commission"		
Bible Study		
PSMA		
Reading		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Pray for 2 people to win to Christ.		
Pray for 1 person to disciple.		
Scripture Memory		
Colossians 1:28-29		

Other: Write 100 word essay on your convictions about the Great Commission and whose responsibility it is to see that the nations are discipled.

American Edition



FULFILLING THE GREAT COMMISSION

Introduction

Jesus not only gave the eleven the responsibility to reach all nations, he also gave to them the power and resources necessary to get the job done. In this session I want us to see how Jesus gave to them the plan for completing the task. Nowhere in Scripture did they call a meeting to discuss how they were going to reach the 250,000,000 who then inhabited the world. They just did what Jesus commanded them to do.

Did They Reach The World ?

When Paul wrote his letter to the church at Colosse, some thirty-three years after the death of Jesus, he said:

For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel. Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth.

Colossians 1:5-6

Now this is an amazing statement! Paul was saying that the Gospel had gone to all the world. But verse twenty-three is even more amazing.

If ye continue in the faith, grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister.

Colossians 1:23

Not only had it gone to all the world, but every creature had heard. In a very real way Paul was saying, "We have done it!"

NOTES

Acts and most of the epistles deal with the ministry of the apostle Paul. They give us a rather graphic view of how the gospel expanded into the gentile world of Asia Minor and Rome. But Paul was not the only one who carried the message to the ends of the earth. Some of the other apostles also went. Matthew and Simon labored in Africa, and Thomas and Bartholomew carried the gospel to India. James went to many of the Asiatic countries to the east. History doesn't record the ministries of the seventy whom Jesus also sent out, or the ministries of the 120 in the upper room, or the five hundred who were assembled at the ascension or of the three thousand who were converted at Pentecost who had come from all over the world. If God used them as he did Paul, you can understand how Paul could say "the gospel has gone to all the world and every creature has heard."

Can We Reach Our World?

Twenty centuries have come and gone and the world has greatly multiplied since the early Christians reached their world. The demographers tell us that 250 million people inhabited the world at the time of Christ.

It took from the time of Christ until...

1850 to reach 1 billion people;

By 1930 the population was 2 billion people;

1960 the population was 3 billion people;

1975 the population was 4 billion people.

By 1984 there will be 5 billion people; by

1993 there will be 6 billion people; by

2000 there will be almost 7 billion people.

Is it still possible to get the job done with the world exploding the way it is? I think we can, mainly because other people are doing it.

Coca-Cola

The story is told of a man by the name of George Pemberton. He lived almost 100 years ago. One day George stirred together a concoction called Coca-Cola. The first year he sold two gallons of syrup. Today, one hundred years later, 100,000,000 bottles will be consumed every day. Coca-Cola can be found in almost every country of the world. They have found a way to get their product to the ends of the world. They are not the only ones who are getting their products to the ends of the earth.

Record Companies

NOTES

A few years ago a young lady by the name of Debbie Boone sang a song, "You Light Up My Life," and in just a matter of months this song was being sung around the world. The record companies have found a way to get their messages to the ends of the world. But, the children of God, who have all the power of God, not just in heaven but upon earth, can not get the job done. Maybe we should hire the president of Coke or the record company to lead us.

The Power Of Multiplication

Can the world still be reached with the population exploding at such a rapid rate? The answer is "yes."

THERE IS AN OLD STORY--
THAT REMINDS US OF THE SURPRISES WE CAN GET
WHEN EVEN A SMALL NUMBER LIKE 2 IS
MULTIPLIED BY ITSELF MANY TIMES.

KING SHIRHAM OF INDIA
WAS SO PLEASED WHEN HIS GRAND VIZIER,
SISSA BEN DAHIR, PRESENTED HIM WITH THE GAME OF CHESS
THAT HE ASKED BEN DAHIR TO NAME HIS OWN REWARD.
THE REQUEST WAS SO MODEST THAT THE
HAPPY KING IMMEDIATELY COMPLIED.

WHAT THE GRAND VIZIER HAD ASKED WAS THIS--
THAT ONE GRAIN OF WHEAT BE PLACED ON THE FIRST SQUARE
OF THE CHESSBOARD--
2 GRAINS ON THE SECOND SQUARE
4 GRAINS ON THE THIRD SQUARE
8 GRAINS ON THE FOURTH SQUARE
16 GRAINS ON THE FIFTH SQUARE--AND SO ON,
DOUBLING THE AMOUNT OF WHEAT ON EACH SUCCEEDING SQUARE
UNTIL ALL 64 SQUARES WERE ACCOUNTED FOR.

WHEN THE KING'S STEWARD HAD GOTTEN TO THE 17th SQUARE
THE TABLE WAS WELL FILLED.
BY THE 26th SQUARE THE CHAMBER HELD CONSIDERABLE WHEAT
AND A NERVOUS KING ORDERED THE STEWARD TO SPEED UP
THE COUNT.

WHEN 42 SQUARES WERE ACCOUNTED FOR--
THE PALACE ITSELF WAS SWAMPED.

NOW FIT TO BE TIED,
KING SHIRHAM LEARNED FROM THE COURT MATHEMATICIAN
THAT HAD THE PROCESS CONTINUED
THE WHEAT REQUIRED WOULD HAVE COVERED INDIA TO
A DEPTH OF OVER FIFTY FEET.

Multiplying or Adding to the Kingdom

NOTES

The difference between multiplication and addition is making of disciples and not converts. Let me illustrate it this way. If I were the only Christian in the world, whose responsibility would it be to discipline the nations? You would answer, "It would be your responsibility." So I start out and share the gospel and the first person comes to Christ. I would have gone from 4,500,000,000 to 4,499,999,999.

Encouraged by my success, I go to the next and that person comes to Christ; so now the ratio becomes 4,499,999,998. If I continue on winning it will be;

1
4,499,999,997 4,499,999,996 4,499,999,995 4,499,999,994

1
4,499,999,993 4,499,999,992 4,499,999,991 4,499,999,990.

Now I have a question to ask. Am I doing what Jesus commanded me to do? Now think carefully before you answer.

You may say, "No, I am not doing what Jesus commanded."

What is wrong with what I am doing?

"You are getting decisions, or making converts."

What did Jesus say to make?

Disciples

That's right, so by making converts I am only doing part of the job. I am adding to the Kingdom. If I do what Jesus commanded me to do, I would go back and train the first person. Train until he was able to share his faith and to see that it was his responsibility to reach the world. At that point I would have reduced the ratio from 4,500,000,000 to 2,250,000,000.

1 Then, if the two of us were able to reproduce ourselves again in the lives of two more people who saw it was their responsibility, we could reduce the ratio to 1,125,000,000; and if we could

reproduce ourselves again, the ratio goes to:

562,500,000 to 281,250,000 to 140,625,000 to 70,312,500
1 1 1 1

to 35,156,250 to 17,578,125 to 8,789,062. Do you
1 1 1

see the difference between adding and multiplying?

Adding

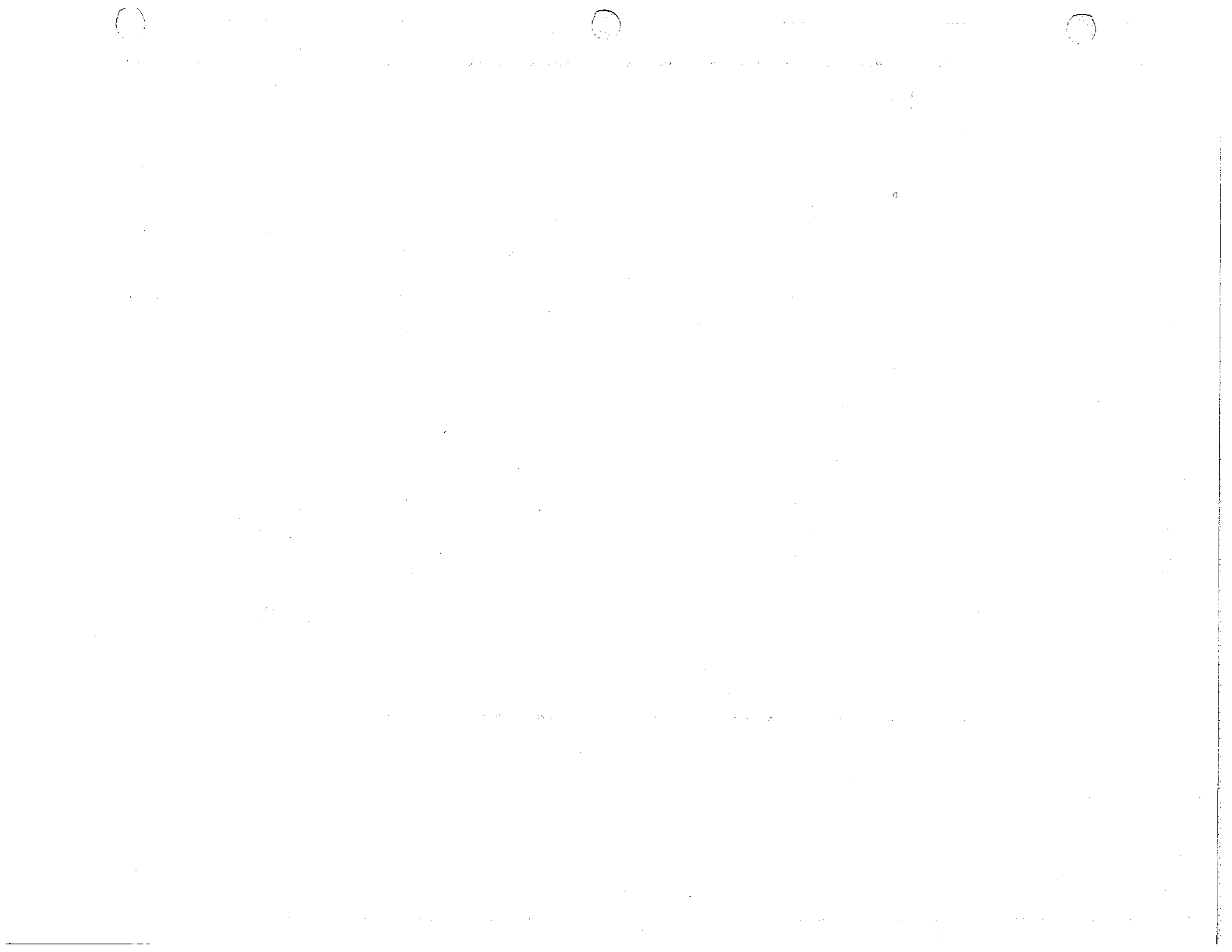
Multiplying

People Needed	Ratio	Ratio	People Needed
1	4,500,000,000	4,500,000,000	1
1	4,499,999,999	2,250,000,000	2
1	4,499,999,998	1,125,000,000	4
1	4,499,999,997	562,500,000	8
1	4,499,999,996	281,250,000	16
1	4,499,999,995	140,625,000	32
1	4,499,999,994	70,312,500	64
1	4,499,999,993	35,156,250	128
1	4,499,999,992	17,578,125	256
1	4,499,999,991	8,789,062	512

It is within our power to take any town, state, country, and the world for the cause of Christ. We only need people who see that:

- It is their responsibility
- It is possible
- God wants to use them
- One needs to exchange his life for it.

What are you exchanging your life for? Is it the eternal things of God or the temporal things of the world?



BEGINNING WITH CHRIST

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Beginning with Christ

Jesus Christ said, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him, and he with Me" (Revelation 3:20). Coupled with this wonderful truth is the statement in His Word that "... as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God . . ." (John 1:12).

If you have, to the best of your knowledge, received Jesus Christ, God's Son, as your own Savior, according to the Scripture quoted above, you have become a son of God in whom Jesus Christ dwells.

Altogether too many people make the mistake of measuring the certainty of their salvation by their feelings. Don't make this tragic mistake. Believe God. Take him at His Word: "These things have I written unto you that believe in the Name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life . . ." (I John 5:13).

It is impossible in the short space of these few paragraphs to go into all the wonderful results of the transaction that took place when you received Christ. A child may be born into a wealthy home and become the possessor of good parents, brothers and sisters, houses and lands, but at the time of his birth it is not necessary that he be informed of all these wonderful things. There are more important matters to take care of first. He must be protected, for he has been born into a world of many enemies. In the hospital room he is handled with sterilized gloves and kept from outsiders that he might not fall victim to the myriad germs waiting to attack. It is the knowledge of such enemies which enable the doctors and nurses to take measures to protect the precious new life.

You have become a child of God; you have been born into His family as a spiritual babe. This is a strategic moment in your life. It is our desire to share with you a few simple truths which will strengthen you for the battle ahead and keep you safe from the onslaughts of Satan.

In I Peter 2:2 you will read, "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby." In Acts 20:32 you will read, "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the Word of His grace, which is able to build you up . . ." His Word will now serve as your spiritual food and will build you up in the faith. You probably have a Bible or New Testament. If not, get one and begin to read it faithfully every day. It is most important that you have time set aside, preferably in the morning, to read and study the Word of God and pray.

Now let's be more specific with regard to your intake of the Word of God. In the 9th and 11th verses of Psalm 119 we read, "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to Thy Word," and then the psalmist speaks to the Lord saying, "Thy Word

have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee." So we challenge you to hide His Word in your heart--to memorize it. Each section titled "Assurance of . . ." has included in it a scripture with which you may begin.

But we have spoken only about your spiritual food. Let us consider for a moment this new enemy which you face.

Before you trusted Christ, Satan may not have bothered you particularly, but now he has seen you make the step which angers him more than any one thing in all the world. You have left his crowd and joined the ranks of those who believe and trust in the Son of God. You are no longer in Satan's domain; you now belong to the One who has "bought" and paid for you "with a price," the price of His own blood shed on the cross. You may be sure that Satan will attempt to trouble you. His attacks assume many forms, but we wish to speak of some of the most common ones and give you help on how to resist him successfully.

We can overcome him only as we use the weapons which God has provided. Ephesians 6:17 says "And take . . . the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God." Not only is the Word of God spoken of as the sword of the Spirit but it is that through which faith comes as a shield to ward off the darts of the enemy (Romans 10:17, Ephesians 6:16). The Word of God then, is our weapon of defense as well as our weapon of offense.

For example, consider that our Lord was tempted by Satan in three specific ways, and He defeated him each time with Scripture, saying, "It is written . . ." (see Matthew 4). If Christ deemed it necessary to meet Satan this way, how much more do we need this mighty weapon, the Word of God. How much more we need to be prepared to say to Satan, "It is written" or "Thus saith the Lord . . ."

Assurance of Salvation

The five verses of Scripture we have suggested for memorization have been chosen to equip you for your first few encounters with the enemy. His first approach is often to cast doubt upon the work which God has done in your heart, and although you will not hear his audible voice, he will whisper in your heart:

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

What will your answer be? Your only hope to withstand such an attack is to resort to God's Word. What does God say about the matter? That is the important thing. And so the first memory passage, I John 5:11-12 entitled Assurance of Salvation, says:

"And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."

When this passage has been written on the table of your heart so you are able to use it every time a doubt arises during the next few days, and when on the basis of this "record"--God's written word--you are thoroughly convinced that you now have the Lord Jesus Christ and with Him eternal life, you will have overcome in one of the first tests. This attack may recur, but now you have the Word of God in your heart with which to meet it.

Assurance of Answered Prayer

Another attack of Satan may be to cause you to doubt the effectiveness of prayer. He may whisper to you:

"You really don't think God is personally interested in you? He is far away and is concerned about more important things. Surely you don't think He'll hear you when you pray--much less answer your prayers?"

Now that Jesus Christ is your Saviour and Lord, you have the unique privilege of speaking directly with your heavenly Father through Him. He wants you to come confidently into His presence (Hebrews 4:16) and to talk to Him about everything (Philippians 4:6). He is intensely interested in you and your needs. In the second verse, John 16:24, Jesus gives us His Assurance of Answered Prayer:

"Hitherto have ye asked nothing in My Name; ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full."

Jesus did not say His disciples had never asked before. You yourself have probably asked many times, especially when in trouble. But now you can ask "in Jesus' Name," because you belong to Him. To ask in His Name means to ask in His authority and on His merit. Just as the Father answered Jesus' every prayer, so will He answer you when you ask in Jesus' Name. He delights to answer your call and meet your needs. Memorize this wonderful promise, apply its truth and experience the joy of answered prayer.

Assurance of Victory

Still another attack may be along this line. Satan may whisper to your heart:

"You have life, all right, but you are a weakling; you have always been a weakling."

He will remind you of some sin which has gripped you throughout the past years of your life. He will point to something of which you are keenly aware, and say:

"You are weak; you will not be able to stand against this particular temptation. Perhaps you will be able to stand against others, but not this one."

How will you answer him? Will you attempt to reason? Will you try to produce your own arguments? Will you run to see what this person or that one says, or will you resort to the invincible Word? The third verse, I Corinthians 10:13, is chosen especially to meet this attack of Satan:

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

This gives Assurance of Victory. God promises victory. It belongs to you as a child of His. Believe it and you will see that things impossible with men are possible with God. It will thrill you to see that chains of lifetime habits can be broken by His mighty power. Memorize this verse; write it on the table of your heart.

Assurance of Forgiveness

This brings us to the next attack of Satan. Although victory is rightfully yours, you will likely fail at some point. Sin will suddenly crop up and immediately your enemy will be on the job to say:

"Now you've done it. Aren't you supposed to be a Christian? Christians don't do those things."

Nevertheless, God makes provision in His Word for the failures of His children, and so the fourth verse speaks of the Assurance of Forgiveness, I John 1:9:

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

To confess a sin means to uncover it by calling it exactly what God calls it. Implicit in honest confession is the willingness to forsake the sin (Proverbs 28:13). God promises not only to forgive us, but also to cleanse us. What a gracious provision!

Assurance of Guidance

The four preceding assurances have been given to help you meet the principal attacks of Satan. However, the fifth passage for you to memorize is for a different purpose. You may have questions about the future, wondering how this new life of yours is all going to work out. What about God's will for your life? Will He really lead you? Hence, this verse comes to give you Assurance of Guidance, Proverbs 3:5-6.

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."

God promises to lead you and direct your path when you rely on Him completely. Memorize and apply this Scripture and you will surely experience His guidance in your life.

We suggest this procedure as you memorize these verses:

Start with the first one, I John 5:11-12. Read it over several times to help grasp the passage as a whole. Then break it into natural phrases. Memorize the reference and the first phrase. Then add the second phrase, then the third and so on. Each time you go over it, state the reference, the verse and the reference again at the end. Repeating the reference "fore 'n aft" will prevent future difficulty in remembering the location of the passage.

When you are able to quote the first passage, tackle the second in the same way and review the first. Then when you can quote these two, start the third. When you can repeat the three perfectly, work on the fourth, and so on.

The secret of mastering these verses is review. So each day as you work on your newest verse, review the ones you have already learned. One of the best ways to do this is to carry this pack with you in pocket or purse so that it is handy to use during spare moments.

After you have memorized these verses and learned to apply them, you will be aware of the strength and blessing that comes from hiding God's Word in your heart. You may continue a systematic Scripture memory program that will help you grow in your Christian life by purchasing the Topical Memory System.

ETS 1/4

Assignment Sheet

Date _____

Name _____ Topic _____ PSMA _____

Lesson _____ A Biblical Perspective On Time _____ Class _____

	Completed	
	Yes	No
Lecture		
Review "A Biblical Perspective On Time"		
Bible Study		
Do "Assurance of Salvation"		
PSMA		
Reading		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Pray for 2 people to win to Christ.		
Pray for 1 person to disciple.		
Scripture Memory		
Psalms 90:12		
I John 5:11-12		



PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL MANAGEMENT

- **Biblical Perspective on Time**
- **How to Organize My Time**
- **Principles of Time Management**
- **How to Write Good Objectives**
- **Priorities in the Use of Time**
- **Evaluation and Appraisal**
- **Management of Financial Resources**

Introduction

How will Personal and

Spiritual Management help me?

- It will help me to learn to manage both the SECULAR and SPIRITUAL parts of life.
- It will teach me some basic principles of time management.
- It will teach me what God's Word teaches about the use of time.
- It will teach me how to give God a tithe of my time.
- It will help me to plan and live by PRIORITIES.
- It will help me to invest my life for God's eternal purpose rather than to spend it frivolously on other activities.
- It will teach me to evaluate the use of my time.

In what ways will good time mangement help me?

- It will keep me from getting involved in too many activities.
- It will keep me from doing things that have nothing to do with my objectives and priorities.
- It will keep me from letting other people plan my day by delegating their responsibilities to me.
- It will keep me from doing what other people can and will do if I don't.
- It will give me a basis for refusing certain activities without feeling guilty.
- It will keep me majoring on my objectives.
- It will keep me from activity without productivity.

A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE ON TIME

Introduction

We have discussed the brevity of life and the importance of exchanging our lives for the fulfilling of Christ's Great Commission.

The problem is that most of us are already too busy and don't have enough time to do what we are already doing. We constantly feel we need more time but there isn't any more. Each of us is entrusted with only 24 hours per day and there is NO WAY to extend the number of hours no matter how hard we try.

The real difficulty is not the LACK OF TIME but what we do with the time we have. Since we can never accumulate, stockpile, replace or turn back time, we must learn to control it as it passes. If we fail to manage our time, nothing else in our lives can and will be managed.

The BIBLE has a great deal to say about time.

There is a time and a season for everything under heaven.

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted...

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

We must know our priorities and apply our resources to the best opportunities.

Teach us to number our days and recognize how few they are; help us to spend them as we should.

NOTES

Psalms 90:12 (LB)

Live life then, with a due sense of responsibility, not as men who do not know the meaning of life but as those who do. Make the best use of your time, despite all the evils of these days.

Ephesians 5:15-16 (JBP)

Another reason for right living is this: You know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for the coming of the Lord is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is far gone, the day of his return will soon be here. So quit the evil deeds of darkness and put on the armor of right living, as we who live in the daylight should! Be decent and true in everything you do so that all can approve your behavior. Don't spend your time in wild parties and getting drunk or in adultery and lust, or fighting, or jealousy. But ask the Lord Jesus Christ to help you live as you should, and don't make plans to enjoy evil.

Romans 13:11-14 (LB)

The Conflict

In God's plan there is NO CONFLICT between the objectives God has given to us and the time He has given us to accomplish them.

It lies with us

We have the following:

- The objective given to us by God in Christ's Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20),
- Limited time to accomplish the task (Romans 13:11),
- The knowledge that our rewards are based on our ability to accomplish the task (II Corinthians 5:10),

- A lack of understanding as to the best method of accomplishing the task, and
- A lack of discipline to discern and major on the truly important things.

How to resolve it

We must examine our vertical and horizontal relationships to God.

Our vertical relationship to God

- If I run my own life, I assume the responsibility to work it all out myself. I may be putting things into my schedule that God wants out or taking out things that are very important to Him.

RESULT: One Giant Mess!

- If I make Jesus Lord of my life and allow Him to plan my time as He sees fit, He assumes the responsibility to work it all out--and He makes no mistakes.

Moreover, we know that to those who love God, who are called according to His Plan, everything that happens fits into a pattern for good.

Romans 8:28 (JBP)

- Jesus is now living out His life in my body.

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20

- My body is to be a living sacrifice lived unto God.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Romans 12:1

Our horizontal relationship to the world

NOTES

- I am to be WINNING and DISCIPLING the world, training everyone I meet and teaching everyone I can.

Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus...

Colossians 1:28

- Go and make disciples of all nations.

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

Matthew 28:19-20

- I am to be a STRANGER and a PILGRIM to the world--and not investing my life for things of earth.

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

Hebrews 11:13

- As a good soldier of Jesus Christ I am not to entangle myself with the affairs of this life.

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

II Timothy 2:3-4

- I am to abstain from lusts which war against the soul.

Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul...

I Peter 2:11

- I am not to let the world squeeze me into its mould.

Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould, but let God remould your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all his demands and moves towards the goal of true maturity.

Romans 12:2 (JBP)

- I am not to love the world or the things in the world.

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

I John 2:15-16

- Pure and undefiled religion means I am to keep myself unstained by the world.

Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

James 1:27

- **When I try to have the best of both worlds,
I lose both!**

Tools for accomplishing Christ's Objective

Time

The Equalizer of the Race (24 hours in every day)

- In Psalm 90:12, we are urged to "consider each day of value." And an unknown author has described our time allotment in the following way:

If you had a bank that credited your account each morning with \$86,000--that carried over no balance from day to day--and allowed you to keep no cash in your account...and every evening cancelled whatever part of the amount you had failed to use during the day--what would you do? Draw out every cent, of course! Well, you do have such a bank--its name is 'time.' Every morning it credits you with 86,000 seconds...every night it rules off as lost whatever of this you have failed to invest to good purposes. It carries over no balance...It allows no overdrafts. Each day it opens a new account for you. If you fail to use the day's deposit, the loss is yours. There is no going back. There is no drawing against tomorrow. You must live in the present--on today's deposit.

Paul urges us to be good stewards of this resource.

Live life, then, with a due sense of responsibility, not as men who do not know the meaning and purpose of life but as those who do. Make the best use of your time, despite all the difficulties of these days.

Ephesians 5:15-16 (JBP)

If you and I make the most of our time, it will be because we have learned the value of a day and how to spend it wisely. "This is the beginning of a new day, God has given me this day to use as I will. I can waste it or use it for good. What I do today is very important, because I am exchanging a day of my life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever, leaving something in its place I have traded for it. I want it to be gain, not loss; good, not evil; success, not failure, in order that I shall not forget the price I paid for it."

2.4 - hour Principle

How much time do you give to God?

In the Old Testament, God gave to His people certain guiding principles concerning their resources. Everything that exists was made by God and belongs to him. God told them to use nine-tenths of all that He prospered them with to provide for their personal needs. They were to set aside the first one-tenth to be returned for the building of His kingdom.

Time is as much a resource as is our money. If we would learn to tithe our time like our finances, it would mean that we could give 2.4 hours a day for the building of His kingdom. This would give us the time we need to grow spiritually, and learn to win and discipline others. It would give us time for the eternal things of God so that our lives are not disapated for the temporal.

If God were to give you one more day, would you be willing to return to Him 2.4 hours of that day?

Talents and Finances

- God gave me TALENTS or abilities not only to provide for myself but to be used in building His Kingdom.

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

I Corinthians 12:7

What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

I Corinthians 6:19-20

- God gave me FINANCES for building His Kingdom by requiring that each of us return 10% of God's provision to Him.

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.

Deuteronomy 14:23

- Following is a warning of the danger of trying to rob God.

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

Malachi 3:8-9

● Are you seeking the Kingdom of God first?

But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Matthew 6:33

Are you doing what God requires of you?

Are you building your kingdom or God's?

All the Promises of God

The Bible is full of God's promises to His children. The promises were given to assist us in our walk with Christ and the ministry God has called us to.

Matthew 28:18 tells us that "All Power" is Christ's and therefore He is able to fulfill all these promises.

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying,
All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Matthew 28:18

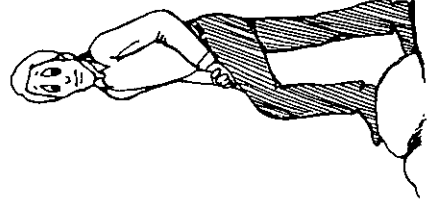
Opportunities

God sets multitudes of opportunities before us so that we can be involved in building His Kingdom. We must simply CAPITALIZE on these opportunities. But, we must make sure that the opportunities don't produce activity without productivity.

God wants us to invest some of our TIME, TALENTS and FINANCES in His OPPORTUNITIES.

One person put it this way:

Isn't it strange that kings and queens
And clowns that caper in sawdust rings
And common folks like you and me
Each is a builder for ETERNITY
Each is given a Book of Rules
a Block of Stone
a Set of Tools
And each must make ere life has flown
A STUMBLING BLOCK or a STEPPING STONE.



Each Day is a Short Life

MY LIFE EQUALS THE SUM OF EACH DAY TIMES THE NUMBER OF DAYS OF MY LIFE.

If we were to take last FRIDAY and multiply it by the number of days in your life, would you be willing to let this be your total contribution?

You may say, "Not last Friday! That was a bad day!"

O.K.--How about last Wednesday or a week ago Wednesday?

How about one day next week?

What would you put into it?

Would there be time for your--

QUIET TIME?

BIBLE STUDY?

PRAYER?

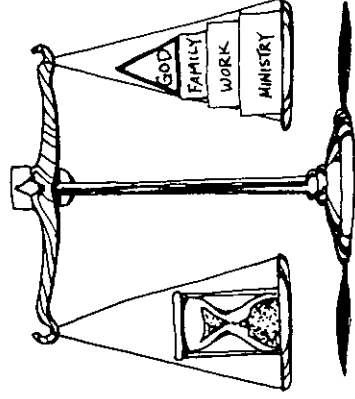
WITNESSING?

DISCIPLING?

TITHING OF RESOURCES?

A Proper Balance

We must have a Proper Balance in our lives regarding TIME.



Program

My Program should have allowance in it for my

Walk with God,
Family,
Work,
Study,
Play,
Ministry.

NOTES

Poor Testimony

It is a poor testimony to work yourself to death.

Robert McCheynne died at the age of 30. He said:

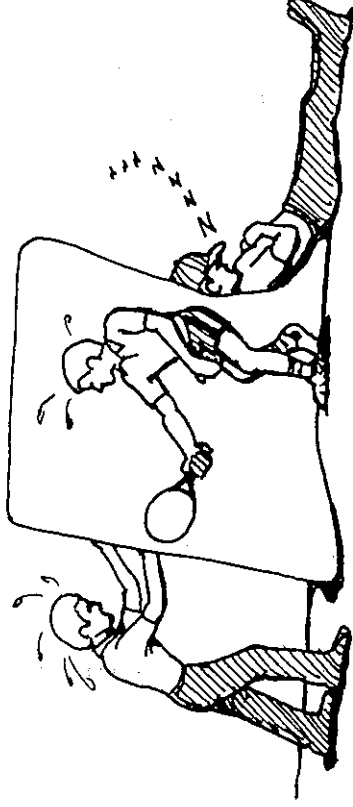
God gave me a message to deliver and a horse to ride. I beat the horse to death and now I can no longer deliver the message.

Efficiency

A steel mill once hired an efficiency expert to increase their ability to move steel. The expert had the men work 12 minutes and rest 3--then work for 12 minutes more. The company went from moving 10 tons to 30 tons a day.

Sometimes we are more effective if we stop to rest, take a nap, a day off or a vacation. We need to plan well to make time for the things God desires us to do.

We should work hard, play hard, rest well.



BIBLE STUDIES

GROWING IN CHRIST

Book One: Lessons on Assurance

Book Two: Lessons on Christian Living

Design For Discipleship

Book One: Your Life in Christ

Book Two: The Spirit-filled Christian

Book Three: Walking with Christ

Book Four: The Character of the Christian

Book Five: Foundations for Faith

Book Six: Growing in Discipleship

Studies In Christian Living

Book Seven: Increasing Your Hope

Book Eight: Living in Fellowship

Book Nine: Achieving Victory

Bible Studies used throughout this course were developed by The Navigators .

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LESSONS ON ASSURANCE

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LESSONS ON ASSURANCE

Introduction

To assure is to "put beyond all doubt." Lessons on Assurance is designed to assure you or "put you beyond all doubt" regarding some basic promises God has made to Christians. This will be accomplished as you memorize, meditate on, study and apply the verses presented in Lessons on Assurance. By memorizing, meditating on and studying God's Word, you will be able to better understand God's promises.

First, memorize the verse presented at the beginning of each lesson. Be sure to memorize the topic and reference as well as the verse. One good way to do this is to quote the topic and reference at the beginning and the reference at the end of the verse--"Assurance of Salvation, I John 5:11,12...I John 5:11,12."

Learn one phrase at a time. Say "Assurance of Salvation, I John 5:11,12 'And this is the record..'" and repeat it several times until you think you know it. Then, repeating what you have just learned, add the next phrase, "Assurance of Salvation, I John 5:11,12, 'And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life...'" Repeat this several times until you know it. Then add the next phrase. Repeat this process until you have memorized the verse.

An essential part of Scripture memory is review. This will help you retain what you have memorized. Be sure to review each verse daily. You can take advantage of spare moments by carrying the Beginning With Christ packet with you wherever you go. The Beginning With Christ packet contains verse cards for each verse studied in Lessons on Assurance.

You'll notice that each of the studies in this booklet has four sections:

- The meditation section is designed to help you think over what the verse says and means.
- The question-and-answer section amplifies your meditation by relating each key phrase of the verse with other passages of Scripture.
- The section for writing out the verse gives you a chance to check up on yourself to see if you have memorized the verse word perfectly.
- The application section will show you one way to apply the verse you have memorized and studied to your life.

Going through the process of memorizing, meditating, studying and applying will help you "put beyond all doubt" the principles presented in the verses of the Beginning With Christ pack.

Assurance of Salvation

Begin memorizing I John 5:11-12

Meditation on I John 5:11-12

Who gives eternal life? _____

Where is eternal life found? _____

Who has eternal life? _____

Who does not have eternal life? _____

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life...

I John 5:13

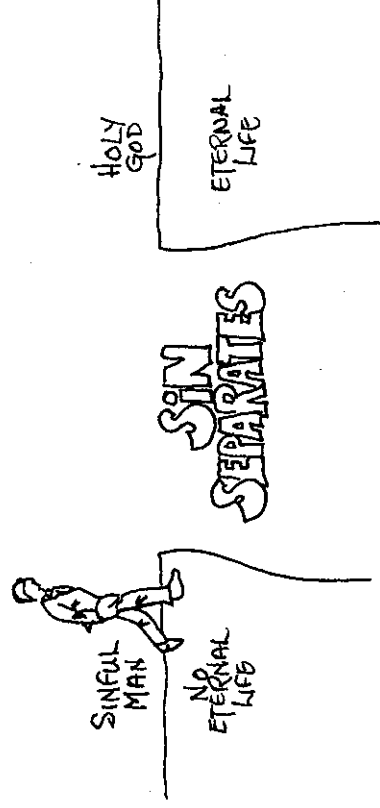
"...this is the record..."

1. How has God shown that He loves you? Romans 5:8 _____

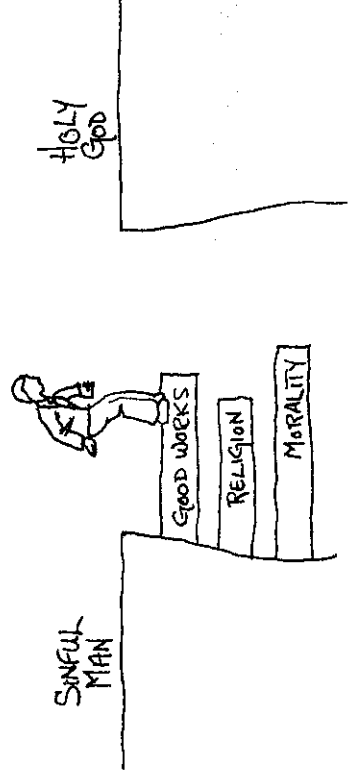
2. Why was the Bible written? John 20:31 _____

"...God hath given to us eternal life..."

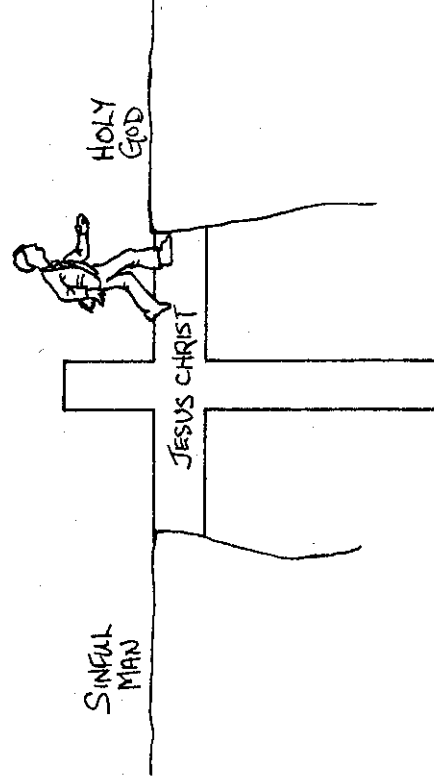
3. What are the results of man's sinfulness? Isaiah 59:2 _____



4. Why do human efforts to reach God fail? Ephesians 2:8,9 _____



5. What provision has God made to bring men to Himself? I Peter 3:18



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

Present _____

Future _____

Past _____

"...He that hath the Son hath life..."

7. How does a person receive the gift of salvation? John 1:12

8. What did Jesus promise His followers in John 10:27-29?

9. What takes place when a person becomes a Christian? II Cor. 5:17

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

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

Write out I John 5:11,12 from memory.

Application of I John 5:11,12:

How do you know that you have eternal life?

Now take a few moments to thank God for all that He has given you in Jesus Christ.

ETS 1/5

Assignment Sheet

Date _____

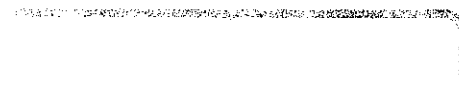
Name _____

Topic PSMA

Lesson How To Organize My Time

Class _____

Lecture	Completed	
	Yes	No
Review "How To Organize My Time"		
Bible Study		
Do "Assurance of Answered Prayer"		
PSMA		
Do 5 PSMA		
Reading		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Pray for 2 people to win to Christ.		
Pray for 1 person to disciple.		
Scripture Memory		
Ephesians 5:15-16		
John 16:24		



HOW TO ORGANIZE MY TIME

Objectives

What is your objective for life?

Most people have never really thought about this question and would find it very difficult to define a lifetime goal or objective. As a result, when daily decisions come up, they are unable to make choices in a way that will move them toward their specific goals.



DECISIONS THAT ARE NOT MADE ON THE BASIS OF ONE'S OBJECTIVES ARE WASTED ENERGY--ACTIVITY WITHOUT PRODUCTIVITY.

The only way a person can make sound decisions for his life is to know clearly what his objective in life is. Then he must make EVERY decision on the basis of that objective.

The Apostle Paul was very clear about his life objective:

So naturally we proclaim Christ! We warn everyone we meet and we teach everyone we can, all that we know about Him, so that we may bring every man up to his full maturity in Christ. This is what I am working at all the time, with all the strength that God gives me.

Colossians 1:28-29 (JBP)

Paul knew what his basic objectives in life were.

- Proclaim Christ
- Warn everyone we meet

NOTES

- Teach everyone we can
- Bring every man to his full maturity in Christ

Because he had defined his goal so well, Paul therefore wrote to the Philippians:

...but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13-14

Paul had one great vision or objective to which he continually pressed, harnessing all his resources to accomplish it. This is why he could say:

This is what I am working at all the time, with all the strength God gives me.

Colossians 1:29 (JBP)

For most of us, instead of saying, "this one thing I do," we would have to say, "these many things I dabble at." We may not even be sure what the objective is. It has never come into focus for us. We may be:

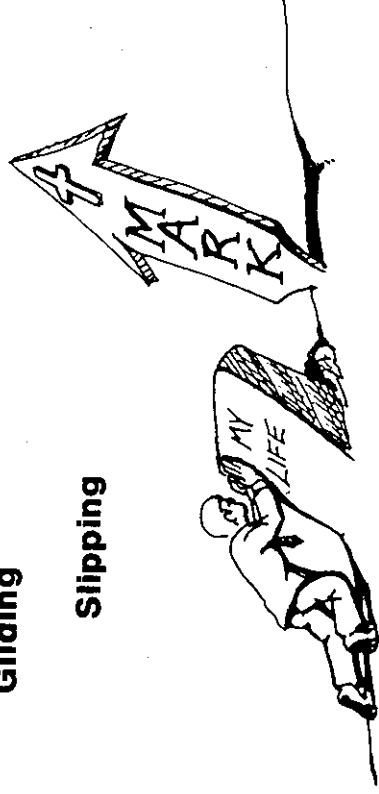
Drifting

Sliding

Floating

Gliding

Slipping



But are we PRESSING toward the mark?

If someone were to ask you to write out your objective for life, could you write it?

My objective is _____

A Test to Discover Your Real Objective

Perhaps you have never even thought about your life objective--or perhaps you have thought of it a great deal. Perhaps you think your objective is spiritual and of God. Here is a little test:

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Matthew 6:21

This means simply that where you are investing your resources (TIME AND MONEY)--there your heart is. That is your real goal in life.

Many Christians would be quick to say that their goal was to serve God and reach others for Him. But if you were to analyze the money and time they invest in their so-called goal, you would find very little given for this purpose.

- Are your goals temporal or eternal?
- When was the last time you evaluated the investment of your resources? Are they in keeping with your stated objectives?

God's Objectives for Every Believer

To do His Will

This was His plan for Jesus and it is His plan for us as well. Jesus said:

For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

John 6:38

Are you doing God's will or your own?

NOTES

To set God's Kingdom as first priority

The Kingdom of God is people who allow Christ to rule in their lives.

The Righteousness of God is God's Word.

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all of these things shall be added unto you.

Matthew 6:33

- Are you one of the people who live under the Lordship of Christ? Are you seeking to draw others to Him, expanding His kingdom?
- What priority does God's Word have in your daily schedule? What percentage of every day is spent in the Word? (Remember: THE SUM OF ALL YOUR INDIVIDUAL DAYS EQUALS YOUR LIFETIME.)

To bear fruit

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

John 15:16

- Are you bearing fruit--both the fruits of the Spirit as well as the fruit of other lives?

To be made a fisher of men

And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Matthew 4:19

- When was the last time you went fishing for people?
- When was the last time you "caught" a person for Christ?

To make disciples

Go ye into all the world and make disciples of every nation...

Matthew 28:19

- Who are you discipling now?

To live for Him and not for ourselves

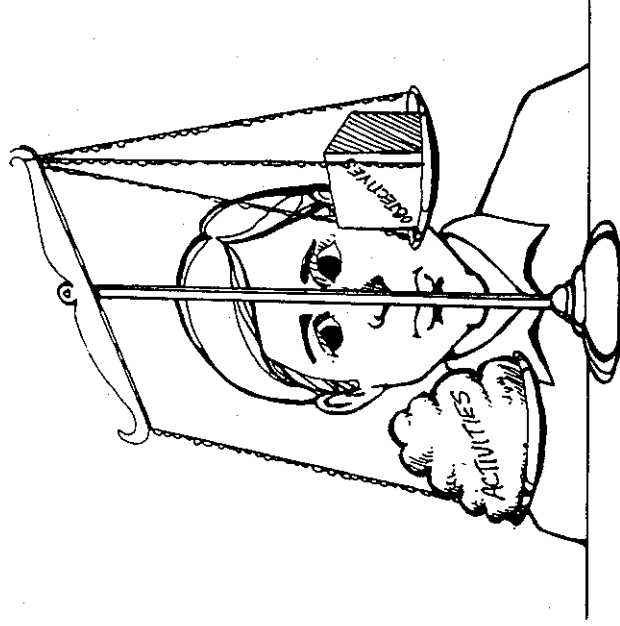
And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them and rose again.

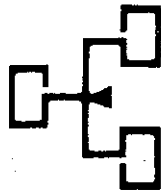
II Corinthians 5:15

- Who are you really living for: SELF OR GOD?

It is not enough simply to have an objective. One must have an objective that is in keeping with God's will for His children. God's objectives are eternal, not temporal.

If you desire to find God's will for your life, you must set aside a portion of time for Him daily. In this lesson you will be introduced to the "Personal and Spiritual Management Aid" which will help you schedule your day with God in it.





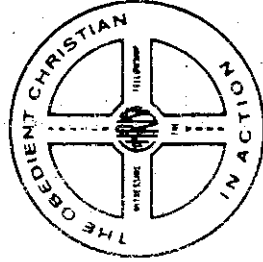
PERSONAL & SPIRITUAL MANAGEMENT AID



QUIET TIME
OBSERVATIONS

DATE _____

APPLICATION



BASICS

DESCRIPTION

CHECK

SCRIPTURE
MEMORY

CURRENT REVIEW

BACK REVIEW

NEW VERSES

BIBLE READING

BIBLE STUDY

PRAYER

WITNESSING

FOLLOW UP

EXERCISE

SLEEP

WAKE UP

MANAGEMENT

6 AM

Do List

Priorities

8

10

12 PM

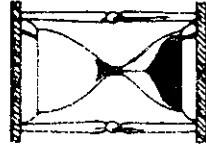
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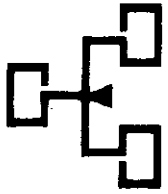
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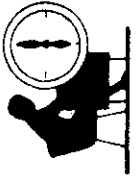
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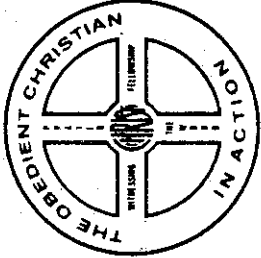
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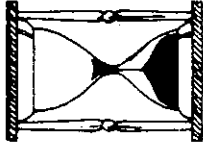
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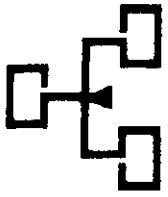
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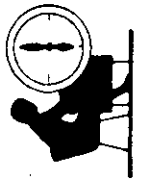
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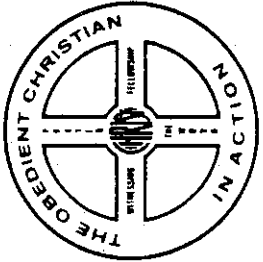
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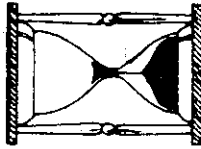
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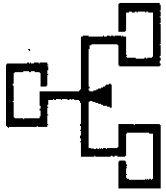
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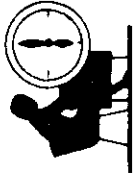
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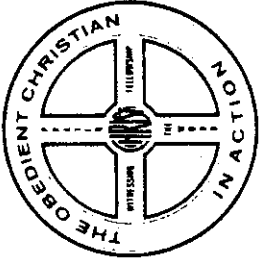


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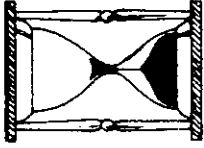
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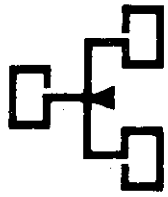
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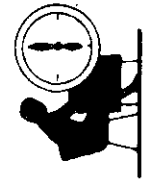
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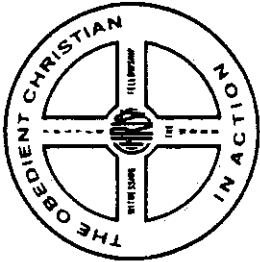
PERSONAL & SPIRITUAL MANAGEMENT AID



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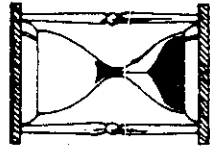
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Assurance of Answered Prayer

Begin memorizing John 16:24

Meditation on John 16:24

What is prayer? _____

In whose name should you pray? _____

What results from prayer? _____

"Hitherto have ye asked nothing in My Name..."

1. What does Jesus teach about prayer in Matthew 7:7,8?

2. What is characteristic of God's answers to prayer?

Jeremiah 33:3

Ephesians 3:20

"...ask, and ye shall receive..."

3. What are some important conditions for answered prayer?

John 15:7

I John 5:14,15

4. Read Matthew 7:9-11

What kind of gifts does God give His children? _____

How do you think God would respond to a request for something He knew would be bad for you? _____

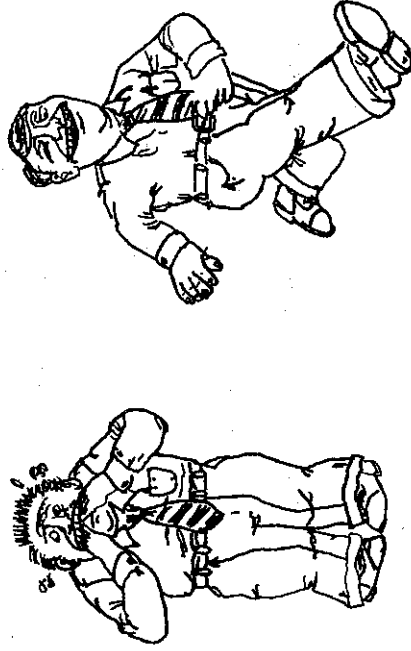
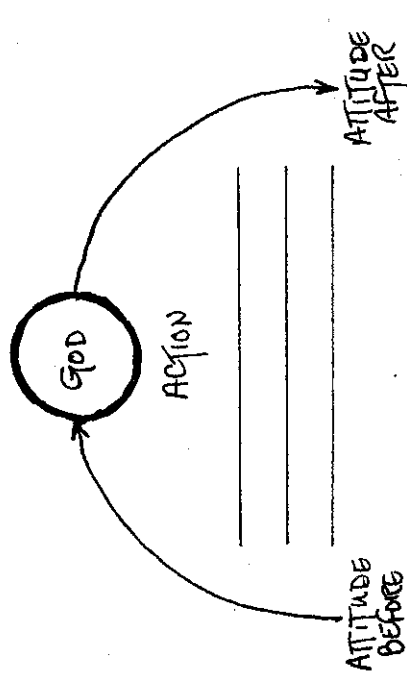
What do you think God would do if He knew the answer would be better for you at another time? _____

5. What are some hindrances to answered prayer?

James 4:3

Psalms 66:18

6. Fill in the appropriate attitudes and actions as presented in Philipians 4:6,7 in the illustration below.



"...that your joy may be full."

7. What are some of the benefits of prayer? Philipians 4:6,7

8. What resulted when Zacharias and Elizabeth prayed for a son?
Luke 1:13,14

Write out John 16:24 from memory.

Four important areas of prayer are:

- Adoration is reflection on God Himself. Praise Him for His love--His power and majesty--His wonderful gift of Christ.
- Confession is admitting to God where you have sinned. Be honest and humble. Remember He knows you and loves you still.
- Thanksgiving is telling God how grateful you are for everything He has given--even the unpleasant things. Your thankfulness will help you see His purposes.
- Supplication is making specific requests. Pray for others first, then for yourself.

The first letters of these four words form the word "ACTS." Using this as a mental guide for prayer helps you maintain a balanced prayer life.

Application of John 16:24:

List four specific things that you can pray about today. Pause and talk to God about them right now.

Adoration _____

Confession _____

Thanksgiving _____

Supplication _____



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EVANGELISM

- **Introduction to Evangelism**
- **“Bridge” Presentation**
- **Opening and Controlling
a Conversation**
- **“Open Nerves” of Evangelism**
- **How to Share Your Testimony**
- **Basic Tactics of Evangelism**
- **Stevens’ Law and the Socratic
Form of Evangelism**

