

ETS 1/11

Date _____

Assignment Sheet

Name _____ Topic Basic Christian Living

Lesson Prayer Class _____

Lecture	Completed	
	Yes	No
Review "Prayer"		
Bible Study		
Do "Living by the Spirit of God"		
PSMA		
Do 5 PSMA		
Do 6 AWG		
Reading		
Read "How to Get Results Through Prayer"		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Pray for 2 people to win to Christ.		
Pray for 1 person to evangelize.		
Share Bridge with a non-Christian.		
Scripture Memory		
Matthew 18:19		
Romans 8:14		



PRAYER

Introduction

Prayer is the vehicle by which we communicate with God. At any hour of the day or night we may bow our heads or hearts to talk with Him; when we do, we are instantly in direct communication with the Living God.

Through prayer God makes Himself constantly available to His children. His "line" is never busy and He delights to listen to us share our hearts with Him. The author of the Book of Hebrews reminds us that Jesus is our High Priest, who perfectly understands us. There is nothing we cannot bring before Him since He has faced every trial and temptation that we will ever face.

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession; for we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16

The Lord's Example

As we study the life of the Lord Jesus, time after time we are confronted with His prayer life.

Early in the Morning

And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

Mark 1:35

Amidst A Busy Schedule

But so much the more went there a fame abroad of him: and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by him of their infirmities. And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed.

Luke 5:15-16

An Entire Night

And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles.

Luke 6:12-13

After A Busy Day

And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

Matthew 14:23

During His Last Hours

And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed.

Luke 22:41

The Lord's Teaching

Jesus' first disciples, like many of us, really wanted to learn how to pray as God would have them to pray. They asked Jesus one day,

Lord, teach us to pray as John also taught his disciples.

Luke 11:1

In response to this request, Jesus prayed a prayer which is the perfect pattern for us to build our prayers upon. It has become known as the Lord's Prayer.

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Matthew 6:9-13

The Lord's Prayer

Address God as Father

Our Father which art in heaven...

Matthew 6:9

All over the world people are praying, but their prayers are not addressed to the One True God.

But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased. Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: they have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not: they have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat. They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them.

Psalms 115:3-8

God commanded Jeremiah:

Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

Jeremiah 33:3

To simply pray to a vague deity or to an idol is not enough. Prayer must be addressed to God, our Father. We as His children have the amazing privilege of calling the all-powerful God, Father.

Honor the Name of God

Hallowed be thy Name.

Matthew 6:9

Since God is the Creator and Sovereign Ruler of the universe, He is worthy of our praise and worship. On every page of the Bible we are reminded of this fact.

Praise ye the Lord. Praise, O ye servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord. Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and for evermore. From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised.

Psalms 113:1-3

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Hebrews 13:15

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Revelation 4:11

Let us never be guilty of not giving God the praise due to Him. Jesus instructed us to begin our prayer this way, for this reminds us that our lives as well as our lips are to bring honor to God.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

Pray in the Kingdom

Thy kingdom come.

Matthew 6:10

God's desire is to build and establish His Kingdom. Jesus reminds us that this is to be the first priority of our lives.

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

Matthew 6:33

As we pray for the Kingdom, we are reminded that our lives are to be given to building it--not our kingdom, but God's.

Pray and Live Out His Will

Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Matthew 6:10

In heaven God's will is perfectly and constantly carried out, but on earth sinful man has rejected it. We need to pray for God to work out His will on earth through us. Jesus was the perfect example for us to follow in seeking and doing God's will.

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

John 6:38

Pray for Daily Needs

Give us this day our daily bread.

Matthew 6:11

Here we are reminded that we are to look to God for our daily needs. Many of God's children are looking to their employers, their bank accounts, and their budgets trying to figure out how their needs can possibly be supplied. God has little relevance to them in the everyday things of life. But this portion of the Lord's prayer shows us that God wants to supply the things we need. We may be missing some wonderful experiences from God by not prayerfully coming to Him with our needs.

God provided daily bread for the children of Israel.

The people asked, and he brought quails, and satisfied them with the bread of heaven.

Psalms 105:40

Jesus sent His disciples out without bread because He wanted them to trust Him to provide their needs.

And he said to them, Take nothing for your journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece.

Luke 9:3

God knows our needs and will meet them.

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

Jesus is the Bread of Life. We should be reminded that He is the source of our daily bread.

And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

John 6:35

Pray With a Forgiving Spirit

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Matthew 6:12

God has forgiven us entirely. He has forgotten our sins and put them far from Him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalms 103:12

...for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

Jeremiah 31:34

The tragedy of many Christian lives is that they remember better than God the sins of others. Although they have been forgiven so completely, they are unwilling to forgive others.

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Ephesians 4:32

Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

Matthew 18:21-22

But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Matthew 6:15

The Bible reminds us that we should not let the sun go down on our wrath (Eph. 4:26). We must forgive and be

done with the shortcomings of others, or when we seek forgiveness from God in the future, we will not receive it.

NOTES

Pray Against Temptation

And lead us not into temptation...

Matthew 6:13

Wherever we are experiencing defeat in our Christian life, Christ is not Lord. We need to pray for these areas daily and yield them again to His Lordship. When we do, He will lead us away from temptation and into victory.

Jesus warned His disciples to pray against temptation.

Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Matthew 26:41

James tells us where we get temptation:

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

James 1:13-14

We need to realize that everyone faces temptation but that God is faithful to deliver us from defeat if we look to Him.

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.

I Corinthians 10:13

- Are you resisting Satan in your prayers or have you given up and decided to live with your sin?
- Has Satan sold you the lie that there is no hope of breaking the chain of your sinful habits?

Pray For Deliverance

But deliver us from evil...

Matthew 6:13

God is able to deliver, and He will if we seek His help.

Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us.

II Corinthians 1:10

Acknowledge God's Sovereignty

For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Matthew 6:13

Our prayers should end with the assurance that God is in control and is able to do all that He desires to fulfill His will.

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

I Chronicles 29:11-13

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: and he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Colossians 1:16-18

Other Key Instructions

NOTES

Resist Satan

For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

Hebrews 2:18

Our part is to resist Satan under the Lordship of Christ and with the help of God.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

James 4:7

And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come.

Ephesians 1:19-21

Asking in Jesus' Name

Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

John 16:24

For Cleansing from Sin

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me...

Psalms 66:18

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Isaiah 59:1-2

In Faith

And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

Matthew 21:22

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not: and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.

James 1:5-8

According to God's Will

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

I John 5:14-15

Pray About Everything--Incidental or Incredible

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Philippians 4:6

Thou are coming to a King
Large petitions with thee bring
For His grace and power are such
None can ever ask too much.

Alone and With Others

But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

Matthew 6:6

Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Matthew 18:19-20

Be careful what you ask for

And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.

Psalms 106:15

Pray continually

Pray without ceasing.

I Thessalonians 5:17

Balanced Prayer

There are five key facets of a balanced prayer life.

- CONFESSION
- ADORATION
- THANKSGIVING
- INTERCESSION
- PETITION

Confession

We need to start here so that we can enter into God's presence as clean vessels.

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

I John 1:9

Adoration

Worship is praising God for who He is. Even if God had never done anything for us, He is still worthy of our praise because He is God, our Creator. It is good to use Scripture verses that tell us who God is as a basis for this part of our prayer time.

From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised.

Psalms 113:3

Praise ye the Lord, Praise the Lord, O my soul.
While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing
praises unto my God while I have any being.

Psalms 146:1-2

Blessed be the Lord my strength, which teacheth
my hands to war, and my fingers to fight: My
goodness, and my fortress; my high tower, and my
deliverer; my shield, and he in whom I trust; who
subdueth my people under me.

Psalms 144:1-2

Thanksgiving

The Bible instructs us:

In everything give thanks: for this is the will of
God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

I Thessalonians 5:18

This means exactly what it says. In the times of
blessing and the times of testing or difficulty we are
to thank God. To thank God even when we don't feel
like it is not hypocrisy; it is obedience. Thanksgiv-
ing acknowledges the truth of Romans 8:28.

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

Romans 8:28

Thanksgiving shows our appreciation and gratitude for
what God has done for us in the past and shows our
faith in Him for what He is going to do to work out
our present situation for our good.

Thanksgiving as well as praise cannot be neglected in
our prayer time. In Romans 1:21-32 Paul describes the
downward progression of man into sin. The list of de-
generating acts is depressingly descriptive and ends at
the very bottom of the pit. But notice verse 21! At
the very beginning of the downward progression was lack
of praise and thanks.

Because that, when they knew God, they glorified
him not as God, neither were thankful; but became
vain in their imaginations, and their foolish
heart was darkened.

Romans 1:21

Let us be careful to give thanks in everything in obedience to God.

NOTES

Intercession

Intercession is praying in behalf of another, for another's needs. Not to intercede for others is a sin against God.

Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way.

I Samuel 12:23

It is useful to keep a prayer list to help us remember those people God has laid upon our hearts. We should intercede for the lost, our families and relatives, fellow Christians, the Church, our government leaders, and missionaries--just to name a few.

Petition

Petition is laying my own needs before God.

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

I Peter 5:7

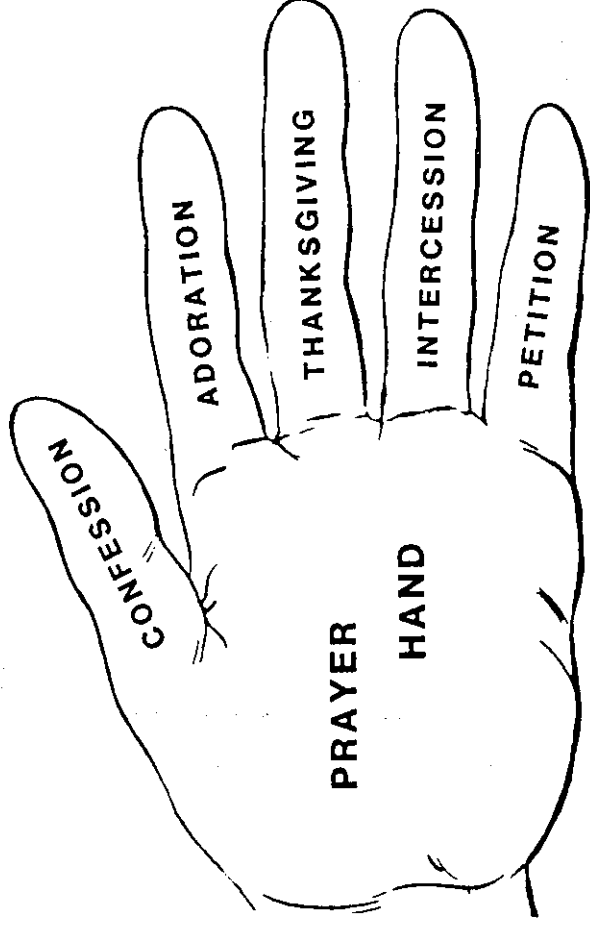
Don't worry over anything whatever; tell God every detail of your needs in earnest and thankful prayer, and the peace of God, which transcends human understanding, will keep constant guard over your hearts and minds as they rest in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7 (JBP)

We must learn to bring every need of our hearts to God as soon as we become aware of it. As we do, we will be freed from the burden of worry and anxiety and will have the peace of God ruling in our hearts. Yet, we must also remember not to let petition become our only form of prayer. Only as we have a balanced prayer life--including these five elements--will we really learn the joy of power in prayer.

The devil wants above all to keep the Christian from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless works, prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom; but trembles when we pray.

E. M. Bounds



NOTES

Week Two

Date: _____

You will find that as you pray you will naturally begin to fall into a pattern of praising God, confessing your sin in accordance with I John 1:9, thanking God for what He has done as well as what He is and will do and praying for others as well as yourself. You may not use this order, but you will want to use different aspects of prayer. You may not even know when in your prayers you make the transition from one aspect of prayer to the other. Remember the acronym ACTS is not a law; is it only a guide. The important thing is to pray!

1. The second week of your appointments with God will be aimed at getting closer to Jesus Christ. You will continue to explore a portion of the Book of John daily. Take time now to look over the second and third chapter of the Gospel of John. Read it through, taking time to think about what you have read.
2. The purpose of this time is to allow you to pray about your week of appointments and get fixed firmly in your mind the objective of the new week. Ask God to make you open and receptive to His Word, and gain new insights from each passage that you can apply to your life.
3. Commit the new week before you in prayer and agree with God to keep your appointments. Ask God to allow you to get closer to Him as you learn about Jesus Christ and seek to develop a relationship with Him.

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read John 2:1-12.

The passages that you have been reading each morning are intentionally short to encourage meditation on the Word. Read the passage carefully and with expectancy. Look for that outstanding thought. Apply the wondrous thing God has shown you in your daily life.

Pray using ACTS.

Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law (Psalms 119:18).

WONDROUS THING: _____

WONDROUS THING IN CONTEXT:
(What is happening in the passage?) _____

WONDROUS THING APPLIED TO MY LIFE: (What do I need to do about what God has said?) _____

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read John 2:13-25.

Pray using ACTS:

Adoration _____
Confession _____
Thanksgiving _____
Supplication _____

WONDROUS THING: _____

WONDROUS THING IN CONTEXT: _____

WONDROUS THING APPLIED TO MY LIFE: _____

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read John 3:1-15.

Did you remember to meditate?
The purpose of this chart is
not to have blanks to fill in.
It is only a tool which you
can use in getting closer to
the Lord if you meditate on
His Word. Do not hurry!
Take your time and think.
Thinking is skilled work!

Pray using ACTS.

Adoration
Confession
Thanksgiving
Supplication

WONDROUS THING: _____

WONDROUS THING IN CONTEXT: _____

WONDROUS THING APPLIED TO MY
LIFE: _____

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read John 3:16-21.

Pray using ACTS:

Adoration
Confession
Thanksgiving
Supplication

WONDROUS THING: _____

WONDROUS THING IN CONTEXT: _____

WONDROUS THING APPLIED TO MY
LIFE: _____

13

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read John 3:6-21.

Pray using ACTS.

WONDROUS THING: _____

WONDROUS THING IN CONTEXT: _____

14

Date: _____

Was the second week of meeting with God as profitable as the first? You may have found that you had not allowed enough time for your appointments with God. Record the time on your appointment calendar in the space provided. The time you spend with God may increase as you continue to develop a relationship with Him.

Review John 1, 2, and 3. What are some truths that God revealed to you in this passage? Are any of these truths important to you personally? Why?

Pray through those things that stood out to you during the week. What is the action you should take based on the new truth you have discovered about Jesus Christ?

Are you remembering to stay in contact with God throughout the day in prayer?

REMEMBER!

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness (I John 1:9).

HOW TO GET RESULTS THROUGH PRAYER

by Jerry Bridges

**Used by permission
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How To Get Results Through Prayer

by Jerry Bridges

Two men can go fishing at The Navigators' Eagle Lake in Colorado. One can come back without anything--completely skunked--while the other comes back with his limit.

What makes the difference?

How can two men fish in the same lake and one catch his limit while the other hardly catches anything?

The one who gets hardly anything doesn't know a great deal about fishing. He just puts his lure on his rod and flicks it out into the lake. When he reels it back in, there's nothing on the line. He puts it out again and reels it back in--still nothing. So he walks down the shoreline 20 or 30 yards thinking the fish might be biting there. He flicks the lure in and still nothing. Perhaps during the course of his afternoon or evening he might make one catch.

The other man will go up, cast his line and immediately pull one in. A few more casts and he'll pull another one in. The difference between the two is that the man who catches his fish has taken the time to learn something about the fish--not about fishing, but about the fish. He knows where the fish are. He knows their habits. He knows the time of day they strike. He knows the kind of lures or bait that attract them. He knows the effect of the wind, rain and sun upon the fish. And he adapts his fishing methods to the fish he is trying to catch. The methods he would use at Eagle Lake will not work down in Texas where there is a different kind of fish with different habits. You might say that the effective fisherman catches fish on their terms. He has taken the time to learn about fish and adapted himself to their habits.

The man who doesn't catch anything is just playing at the game. He's just going up for fun--for a little relaxation. If he happens to catch a fish, fine. If not, fine. He might wonder, "Why is my 'luck' always so bad? Why does this other fellow always have such good 'luck'?" The reason is he has never taken the time to learn about fish and how to catch them on their terms.

perhaps you are wondering what fishing has to do with the subject of prayer. Two men or women can kneel down to pray. One of the two can consistently and regularly see God answer his prayers. This person is known as a prayer warrior. While the other person prays quite frequently, he has never taken the time to learn about God and about God's conditions and method of prayer. So he doesn't pray on God's terms. The one who consistently receives answers to his prayers

is the man or woman who prays on God's terms. Many people pray helter-skelter--when something is happening.

For example, the other day I was having radiator trouble and I prayed, "Lord, help me to get to the garage before this thing blows up." Or maybe we are convicted that we ought to remember Grandmother and so we pray, "God bless Grandma." And that's about the extent of our praying. All of us can be like the successful fisherman. We can become prayer warriors, if we will take the time to study God's Word and His conditions for prayer.

God's Conditions

Let's consider some of God's conditions for prayer. Most of these conditions are couched in the form of promises. God gives us a promise regarding prayer. That promise is conditional if we pray in accordance with these conditions, then God says we will receive our answers.

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father" (John 14:12). Notice that Jesus is talking about doing His works. First, the works that He does and then the works we are going to do on His behalf.

"Whatever you ask in My name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son; if you ask anything in My name, I will do it" (John 14:13,14). This is the first condition we want to consider.

What does it mean to ask--to pray--in the name of Jesus? All of us probably conclude our prayers with this term or something similar, "Lord, we ask this in Jesus' name." We are not just signaling people that this is the end of the prayer so that they can open their eyes and look up. And, hopefully, it is not just a formality that we have fallen into because that's the way we always have heard other people pray. To pray in the name of Jesus is much more than this. Notice again that the context is doing His work. We are praying as His agents --as His representatives. Paul writes in II Corinthians 5:20, "...We beseech you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." What was he saying? "I am an agent, I am a representative." The term he actually uses here is "I am an ambassador"--an official representative of Jesus Christ.

As the treasurer of The Navigators, I have to use our line of credit at the bank from time to time. For those of you who are not familiar with finances, that means I borrow money. So I call up one of the vice presidents there, and say, "George, The Navigators have a situation where we need \$4,000 for a year to use in Indonesia." Of course, he doesn't care where we are going to use it. He says, "Fine. Come on down. I'll fix up a note. You sign it and we'll put it in the Navigator account." Now that's very easy. In fact, I could probably walk in off the street and if he happens to be free, we could consummate this transaction in about ten minutes.

But suppose I were to go down and say, "George, I would like to borrow

\$4,000 for my personal use." Well, he would clear his throat, take off his glasses, look at me and say, "What are you going to do with it? What's your security?"

What makes the difference in his attitude? In the first case, I am the representative of The Navigators. He doesn't care about my personal bank account. What he cares about are the resources of The Navigators. Because The Navigators have a good credit standing with the bank, I can go in and very easily transact this business. I am simply a representative of The Navigators.

Two things are involved. First, The Navigators have a good credit standing. You might say The Navigators have earned the right to borrow that \$4,000--by the figures on our balance sheet, by our past performance, etc. The second is that the money is going to be used for The Navigators. He is depositing it in the Navigator account--not in mine. I'm simply acting as an agent of The Navigators.

Now when I come to God and pray in Jesus' name, I'm coming first of all in His merit. There is absolutely no reason within me why God should answer any of my prayers. Considering myself, I am utterly bankrupt. I have no credit with God. But I'm not coming as myself. I'm coming as a representative of Jesus Christ. Secondly, I'm coming on His behalf. That's what it means to ask in the name of Jesus--to ask in His merit and to ask on His behalf.

You notice that He says in John 14:13, "...I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son..." This is the end result of all prayer--that God has purposed that the Father may be glorified in the Son. An article entitled "I Was Afraid to Fly" appeared in "Power" sometime ago. In it a man had prayed that the Lord would deliver him from a fear of flying. He had a job that took him back and forth across the continent all the time and flying was the only practical means. Yet he always ended up riding the train and wasting time because of his fear of flying. Finally, there came a time when he was on the West Coast and his wife was on the East Coast and a call came that she was going into the hospital for emergency surgery. He knew he needed to fly, but he was still afraid. He got down on his knees and said, "Lord, for your glory I ask that You would deliver me from this fear." And God did when he finally came to the place where he wanted it for God's glory--that he might be used in the life of someone else. He finally learned about God's prayer requirements.

According To His Will

There is a companion passage in 1 John 5:14,15. "And this is the confidence which we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have obtained the requests made of Him." Now this is a very categorical statement. John says that we know that we have the request we make of Him if we ask according to His will.

Naturally, the question comes up, how can we know we are praying according to the will of God? If we have a Scripture passage we can say, "Well, Lord, this is what You say in Your Word so it is Your will." But so often it's not that clear cut. There are many decisions in life for which there is no clear guidance in the Scriptures. You have to determine the will of God. It's the same way in prayer. If we would take the time to determine the will of God concerning this matter of prayer, we might pray less but we would receive a lot more answers. John plainly says that if we ask according to His will, we have those requests made of Him. It's as simple as that.

Let's consider the situation where we do not know what God's will is. We can come and say, "Lord, I've given thought to this. I've thought about Your Word, about Your character (who You are) and I've tried to put myself in Your position. I've tried to see the situation as You would see it. As best as I know, I believe that this is Your will and this is what I'm asking."

When you come on these terms, you can come with confidence. You have not just rushed helter-skelter into the presence of God. You have, as it were, prepared your case. You can come and say, "Lord, to the best of my knowledge, I believe it is Your will for such and such to happen. This is what I'm praying." In Matthew 18:19 Jesus says, "...if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven." Jesus is getting at the same thing here. It's not that Bud and I just say, "Well, we are going to agree to pray to God that it will rain this afternoon." But assume that Bud and I get together and discuss this and consider the Scriptures and agree that, according to our understanding of the Scriptures, such and such is the will of God. Then we agree and pray together. Jesus says that kind of prayer gets answered. This is thoughtful prayer. It's doing our homework before we come into the presence of Almighty God.

There are some specific things we know are according to the will of God because men of God in the Word have prayed these prayers or told us they were praying them. We know these are according to the will of God.

Praying For The Healthy

I told my Bible class a few weeks ago that it is pretty hard to get prayed for unless we're sick or out of a job. Stop and think about that for a moment. It's not so funny. Ninety percent of the prayer requests concern someone who is sick or out of a job. The implication is that someone who is healthy and working doesn't need prayer. That's not true.

Let's look at some of the things we can pray for those who are healthy and working. Psalm 119:18 says, "Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law." Have you ever opened the Word of God for your quiet time or Bible study and found it just like dry dust? You just didn't understand it. Get down on your knees, or however you pray, and pray, "Lord, open my eyes--the eyes of my understanding

that I might behold the wonders in Your law." God says that if we ask according to His will, He hears us. This is according to His will. If we pray that, God is going to open the eyes of our understanding and we are going to begin to get things out of the Word of God.

I can guarantee that if we will begin to take God seriously when He says if we pray according to His will, He hears us, we will begin to see answers to our prayers. So often we are like the fisherman who casts out his lure and hopes that a fish just might happen to be swimming by about that time. We pray hoping that God might just happen to answer that prayer. Let's get on a footing where we have the assurance that God is going to answer. Then we will begin to see some answers.

Ephesians 3 contains a prayer which Paul is praying for the Ephesians. In verses 17-19 he says, "And that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fulness of God."

The greatest need we have today is to be filled with the love of God--to be overwhelmed by the insight and perception of God's love for us. If during the nitty gritty of daily living when the little things come in and take away our joy, we could just be gripped by the love of God through Jesus Christ and filled with all the fullness of God, our lives would be transformed. Paul said he was praying this for these people. I think Paul knew what the will of God was. I can pray that for myself, my wife and everyone I pray for--that we might come to know the love of God and be filled with all the fullness of God. God says if we pray according to His will, He hears us and answers.

In Colossians 1:9 Paul tells the people at Colossae what he is praying for them. He says, "And so, from the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding." You know, it's the will of God that you and I be filled with the knowledge of His will through spiritual wisdom and understanding--through insight into God's ways, God's character, God's person. Paul says that the Colossians might lead a life that is worthy of the Lord. I'm sure you want this. If you are working with some young Christians trying to help them in the Christian life, it is certainly the desire of your heart that they lead a life that is worthy of Jesus Christ. God says we can pray this according to His will. A study of Paul's epistles and prayers reveals that they are all different because they were adapted to the particular needs of each church. These things were all prayed according to the will of God.

Personal Prayer

I want to draw your attention to one more prayer of Paul's. In

Ephesians 6:18-20 he requests prayer for himself. He says to pray at all times and begins to give them some brief instructions on prayer. In verse 19 he asks them to pray for him ". . . that utterance may be given me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the Gospel." Usually we use this verse from Paul as an instruction to us that we can and should pray for boldness in evangelism. But if you go back and read the Book of Acts, you will discover that Paul was a very bold man and he certainly knew how to articulate the Gospel. He was not afraid to stand before kings, judges, soldiers or anyone to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Yet he was asking that these people pray that God would give him boldness and clarity of expression.

What was he doing? He was asking that they would pray that God would enable him to use the gifts God had given him. Paul was an evangelist. He had a special task of proclaiming the Gospel throughout the whole Roman Empire. This was his calling. It was his gift. He was praying that God would help him to use that gift which required boldness and clarity of expression. Now whatever your gift is--whatever it is God has called you to do in the Body of Christ--you can pray according to the will of God that God will enable you to develop and fulfill that gift. My particular responsibility in The Navigators is in legal and financial affairs. The thing I need more than anything else is wisdom in making decisions. I need wisdom to know how to handle my responsibilities. The Navigators have relationships with some 20 or 30 state governments, as well as the federal government. The State of Colorado made a decision this year which cost us \$5,000. I need wisdom in our dealings with them. God has given me the responsibility for making many financial decisions.

But I'm not alone. James 1:5 says, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives to all men generously and without reproaching, and it will be given him." I believe with all my heart that God will give me the wisdom that I need to make the necessary decisions. If I didn't believe that, I'd walk out today and quit because I couldn't take it. I said to someone the other day, "I really don't see how an unsaved man makes it in the business world. There are just too many contingencies and unknowns. Too often you just have to make a choice. I'm grateful today that God had given me the promise that I can ask for wisdom."

You may say that the main responsibility that God has given you right now is raising your children. You can pray to God for the necessary resources, for the poise, grace, wisdom and patience to do a good job of raising your children. God has not left you alone. Whatever it is He has called you to do, you can pray according to His will and He will give you the resources to do that job. Isn't this a wonderful assurance? This is the kind of thing that gives life a solid foundation. This is why we can plant our feet firmly on the Rock of Jesus Christ and face the things of life that come to us. But if we have never come to this assurance, then we are easily shaken and battered with all the winds of circumstances that come our way.

Often we pray for a particular need which we believe is for God's glory and is according to God's will. We pray and say, "Lord, I need \$1,000 to fix the leaky roof and get rid of the termites under the house, etc. Uncle Ned died a few months ago and I might be in his will." But suppose Uncle Ned hasn't died. There is just no way in the world that we see how God can provide \$1,000. The amount really doesn't matter. In these situations our expectations are rather low. We say in our minds something like, "Well, Lord, I'm going to pray and ask You for this, but I don't really believe you are going to answer because I don't see how you could." If we were really honest with God and expressed our thoughts, this is how it would come out, "You know, Lord, it's just a long shot. I'm going to pray and see if something just might happen."

Believing God

In II Kings 6 the northern kingdom of Samaria was besieged by the Syrian army. The food situation had become so critical that two women had agreed together to boil their children and eat them. The king of Israel comes to the prophet Elisha who says that tomorrow this siege is going to be lifted and food is going to be so plentiful that it will be on sale. It is going to go at bargain prices (II Kings 7:1). "Then the captain on whose hand the king leaned said to the man of God, 'If the Lord Himself should make windows in heaven, could this thing be?'" (II Kings 7:2). If God would open the windows of heaven and rain down grain, could this thing be? I don't see how this thing can possibly happen. I don't believe it will happen. Then Elisha says, "You shall see it with your own eyes, but you shall not eat of it" (II Kings 7:2). Elisha was telling the captain, you will see this happen, but you won't partake of the blessings.

The next day three lepers who were sitting on the wall of the city said to themselves, "Let's go out to the camp of the Syrians. They have food. Now, we might die, but that's going to happen to us anyway. On the other hand, they might give us some food." When they got there they found the Syrians had deserted their camp.

After these three lepers began to eat, they said to one another, "It isn't right for us to be out here enjoying all of this. We ought to go back to the city and tell the good news." So they went back and told the people who then began to go out and gather up the food. So, as Elisha had prophesied, the next day they did have barley and wheat on sale at bargain prices. And what happened to the captain who said, "Can this thing be if the Lord were to open the windows of heaven?" The king told the captain to go stand in the gate of the city and take charge of this operation. So he posted himself there and the masses of people going back and forth trampled him to death. Thus, Elisha's prophesy that he would not partake of the food was also fulfilled.

As the passage illustrates, God is not limited to our ability to see how He is going to answer prayer.

In Jeremiah 32 God told Jeremiah that the southern kingdom of

Judah was going to be taken over by another country and they would be taken to their captor's country--they were to be exiles out of their land. Then out of the blue one day God said to Jeremiah, "Jeremiah, go buy this field."

Suppose someone were to come to me and say, "You know, Jerry, there is not going to be any water in Colorado Springs three years from now. All the sources of water are going to be dried up. The people are going to leave here by the thousands. In view of this, I want you to go down and buy this piece of property." Now what would my reaction be? I would not be interested in buying a piece of property in a ghost town. This is, in effect, what God was telling Jeremiah to do. But God went on to explain, "Jeremiah, they are going into exile 70 years, but I'm going to return them again into this land. Your heirs are going to own and enjoy this piece of property you are buying." So Jeremiah paid the money and the deed was executed. Then he prayed in Jeremiah 32:16,17, "After I had given the deed of purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed to the Lord, saying: 'Ah Lord God! It is Thou who hast made the heavens and the earth by Thy great power and by Thy outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for Thee.'" Then he proceeded to tell God how impossible it is and how foolish the transaction was. So God comes right back to him in verse 26, "The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah: 'Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; is anything too hard for Me?'" God does not need our help. He does not need our assistance figuring out how He is going to bring certain things to pass. A cross-reference of this thought is Genesis 18:14 where God said "is anything too hard for the Lord?" to Abraham concerning the son He was to give him.

Ephesians 3:20 is a well known verse, "Now to Him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think." The idea we carry with this is that God is not only able to answer our prayers but far beyond whatever we could even imagine, ask or think. God is able to answer all our prayers. I'd like to just point out to you that the context of this verse is the prayer I referred you to earlier where Paul says he is praying that they might be filled with the love of God. He says that God is able to do this. He is able to do "exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think." Look at that prayer. He says you may have power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth, length, height and depth, and know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge that you might be filled with all the fullness of God. It seems like Paul has pressed his prayer request right out of the very outer limits--that you may be filled with the fullness of God. You can't reach any farther than that. Then he says, "Now unto Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly above this." When I have thought of the greatest prayer request I can think of, God's resources have just begun to come into operation. Never take time to try and figure out how God is going to answer that prayer. Very likely He will fool you. For even if you think you know how He might answer that prayer, He'll probably come up with a different way just to keep you on your toes.

The end of all this is found in John 16:24 where Jesus says, "Hitherto you have asked nothing in My Name; ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full." We started out by talking about asking in His Name that the Father may be glorified. In the same prayer that glorifies the Father, we find that our joy is made full. There is nothing--there is nothing--that provides greater joy than to see God answer prayer and to know that we have a direct line with the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

ETS Prayer List

CONFESSION

ADORATION

THANKSGIVING

INTERCESSION

	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Family						
Friends						
Church						
Work						
Missionaries						
Leaders (Govt.)						
ETS Evangelism						
ETS Disciple						
ETS Leaders						
Sick						
Needy						
Persecuted						

PETITION

His Will						
Daily Needs						
Forgiving Spirit						
Help in Temptation						
Health						

DATE ANSWERED

[illegible]

ETS Prayer List

CONFESSION

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Needy						
Persecuted						

PETITION

His Will						
Daily Needs						
Forgiving Spirit						
Help in Temptation						
Health						

[illegible]

Living by the Spirit of God

Begin memorizing Romans 8:14

Meditation on Romans 8:14

Who is led? _____

Who does the leading? _____

What does being led indicate? _____

"...as many as are led by the Spirit of God..."

1. What are some other names for the Holy Spirit?

Romans 8:9 _____

2. Whom does the Holy Spirit glorify?

John 16:13,14 _____

3. What should be your response to the Holy Spirit?

Galatians 5:16 _____

4. What do you have to do to live according to the Spirit?

Romans 8:5 _____

5. What did Jesus tell His disciples the Spirit would do?

John 14:26 _____

6. What does the Holy Spirit do for you?

I Corinthians 2:12 _____

7. What is the Holy Spirit's role in prayer?

Romans 8:26 _____

"...are the sons of God."

8. Does every child of God have the Holy Spirit?

Galatians 4:6 _____

9. How does the Spirit of God help you understand you are a child of God?

Romans 8:16

10. How should the Holy Spirit's presence affect your life?

I Corinthians 6:19,20

Write out Romans 8:14.

Application of Romans 8:14

As a child of God take time now to express appreciation to God for His Spirit which leads, comforts and instructs you.

Reveiw Romans 8:14 daily along with your other Scripture memory verses.

ETS 1/12

Assignment Sheet

Date _____

Name _____

Topic Basic Christian Living

Lesson The Victorious Life

Class _____

Lecture	Completed	
	Yes	No
Review "The Victorious Life"		
Bible Study		
Do "Living by Faith"		
PSMA		
Do 5 PSMA		
Do 6 AWG		
Reading		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Pray for 2 people to win to Christ.		
Pray for 1 person to disciple.		
Share Bridge with non-Christian.		
Scripture Memory		
I Corinthians 15:57		
II Corinthians 5:7		



THE VICTORIOUS LIFE

Introduction

One of the most important doctrines that Christians, young or old, must grasp is that God wants each believer to have victory over sin. God has already given it to each child of God, but many are not appropriating it in their lives.

But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

I Corinthians 15:57

In the letter to the Church at Corinth, Paul reminded the Christians:

Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us...

II Corinthians 1:10

Here we learn that God has delivered us from sin-- past, present and future.

Past

We have been delivered from sin's penalty.

Present

We are being delivered from sin's power.

Future

We will be delivered from sin's presence.

As Christians each of us are faced with the problem of sin.

If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

I John 1:10

But although we are all faced with the problem of sin, many Christians are not enjoying victory over sin in daily living. They are still in bondage to old habits and temptations. Why are so many Christians not experiencing the victory that is already theirs in Christ?

The Nature of Fallen Man

Sin entered the human race through the first man and woman that God created. Eve disobeyed in the garden and Adam followed, plunging all of mankind into sin.

Often the question is raised, "Why did God ever put restrictions upon man in the first place? If man had had no rules to break, there would have been no sin."

Although the Bible never addresses itself specifically to that question, it does allude to it. When God created man, He created him in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27) with a WILL, an INTELLECT and EMOTIONS. It was therefore imperative that God should place man in a context where these attributes could become operative. If God had kept man in a protected environment with no choices available, these attributes would have been invalid.

God gave man freedom to use his will, and restrictions or laws for man's own good. God gave man the choice to obey or to disobey (will) based upon his intelligence (intellect) and his love for God (emotions).

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

Genesis 2:16-17

Sin came into the world when man chose to abuse his God-given freedom and disobey God's restrictions. Ever since our first parents sinned, all men born have the same nature of Adam when he sinned--one which abuses God-given freedom and disobeys God's restrictions.

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Romans 5:12

The Bible classifies all fallen men as "in Adam." For this reason all men are dead in sins.

And you...were dead in trespasses and sins....

Ephesians 2:1

The Nature of Redeemed Man

When Jesus Christ came, He revealed man's true state and sin.

If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloak for their sin.

John 15:22

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

John 3:19

Because of God's great love for us in Christ, we who are saved are no longer dead in sins (in Adam), but alive together with Christ (in Christ).

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

Ephesians 2:4-5

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

I Corinthians 15:22

As Christians, now rightly related to God, we are to live daily in accord with our new sphere of life "in Christ." Yet we discover quickly that we at times sin and act as we used to do "in Adam." Paul describes this struggle we face in the Christian life.

For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

Galatians 5:17

Why do we have this struggle? We struggle because our outward man is yet unredeemed and perishing, but our inward man is a new creation in Christ by the Holy Spirit. We will have this struggle until the Lord changes our bodies to be like His. Until that time He has given us His Holy Spirit to enable us to live the kind of life we should in accord with our new identity "in Christ."

For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

II Corinthians 4:16

And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

Romans 8:23

For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Philippians 3:20-21

Victorious Living is possible through obedience to the Spirit.

As we walk daily by the Spirit that God gave us at salvation, we can please Him. This is victorious living--living in accord with all that we now are in our new identity "in Christ" by the power of His Holy Spirit!

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Ephesians 4:23-24

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:2

That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

Ephesians 3:16-19

For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Romans 7:22-25

And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Galatians 5:24-25

Summary

Before a person becomes a Christian, he is spiritually dead. We inherit Adam's sin nature and the Bible classifies us as being "in Adam." Because of God's love, we who have received Jesus are made alive "in Christ." God's Spirit now lives and dwells within us. However we still often find ourselves wanting to act in the old nature of Adam rather than the new nature of Christ. This struggle exists because our outer man is still unredeemed even though we have a new inner man as the result of God's Spirit living in us. This struggle will continue until our bodies are one day changed to be like His. Until that change takes place, victory is possible if we will choose to act in accordance with our new identity "in Christ." By living in obedience to God's Spirit, He gives the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

Galatians 5:17

The person who lives by bodily impulses alone is sold out to sin

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Romans 6:16

For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

Romans 7:14

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

Romans 8:7-8

Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind: and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Ephesians 2:3

Victory over the flesh is possible through obedience to the Spirit

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:2

The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

I Corinthians 15:56-57

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Ephesians 4:23-24

And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts; If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Galatians 5:24-25

Victory Over Sin

Four Stages of Progression Into Sin

There are four stages of progression into sin described for us in the Scriptures. We will examine these stages from two different passages.

The Original Sin

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

Genesis 3:6-8

Achan's Sin

The people of Ai were able to defeat the Israelites because Achan took spoils which he had been commanded not to take. In his confession he said:

When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it.

Joshua 7:21

From these two passages we can easily identify the four stages.

Sight

Sin always begins with sight. We see something, either in our minds or with our eyes, which we would like. At this point we must deal with the problem if we are serious about having victory. We are not responsible for the first look, but we are responsible for the second.

Desire

The second stage into sin is desire. If we have not dealt with the problem at the eye gate, the problem will make its way into the heart, and we will begin to covet the desire. Sin is very hard to deal with if it gets to this point.

Taking/Action

At this stage the act of sin is committed. Sin never just happens spontaneously. Sometime in the past it has been entertained in the mind and heart, and when the opportunity presents itself, the act is almost inevitable. At this point victory has surrendered to defeat. It is too late for anything but forgiveness.

Hiding

Sin always ends with fear and shame. Adam and Eve hid themselves from the presence of God. Achan hid his stolen treasures. The sinner no longer wants to look God in the eye so he seeks cover and darkness. Jesus said:

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

John 3:19-20

As long as the person hides from God, his fellowship with God will be broken. This is exactly what Satan wants--for us to be cut off from God's presence and

power. We are then even more vulnerable to further temptation and sin. The only solution is open confession to God.

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

I John 1:9

Categories of Sin

In John's first epistle, he warned his readers to beware of three kinds of sin.

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

Any sin which we battle will come under one of these three categories:

- The Lust of the Flesh--This includes bodily temptations caused by Satan's attacks on our senses. Some of these would include sexual sins, sins of intemperance in eating or drinking, laziness, etc.
 - The Lust of the Eyes--This category includes covetousness, seeing and desiring things that we cannot or should not have. It would also include mental and visual indulgences which may not be overt acts but are nevertheless sinful (watching pornographic films, reading bad literature, allowing the eye to wander at will).
 - The Pride of Life--This is the desire to be great in this life--to build your kingdom here on earth through riches, power and status.
- Think for a moment about the sin you battle. Into which of these three categories does it fit? Remember, these things are not of the Father but of the world, and John warns us in the very next verse:
- And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.

I John 2:17

Overcoming Sin

Realize its terrible consequences

Playing with sin is like playing with fire. It can only be a matter of time before you are hurt. Remember that:

The wages of sin is (always) death.

Romans 6:23

Although you cannot lose your eternal life once you have become a child of God, sin can still cause your daily witness, your family life, and your general enjoyment of life to be dead and unproductive. Sin is like termites. For a long time things may look good on the outside, but underneath the whole structure is being eaten away. Eventually, sin will catch up with you.

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Galatians 6:7

Confess and forsake it

Because of Christ's death on the cross we can confess our sins and know that we will find forgiveness.

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

I John 1:9

But simply asking forgiveness over and over again for the same sin is not the same as living a victorious life. We must also forsake the sin, determine to be done with it and seek God's help in daily victory.

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

Proverbs 28:13

When the Israelites entered the Promised Land, God warned them not to let the inhabitants remain in the land. He commanded them to destroy all the godless kingdoms that were in the Promised Land.

But if ye will not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you; then it shall come to pass, that those which ye let remain of them shall be pricks in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and shall vex you in the land wherein ye dwell.

Numbers 33:55

When we became Christians we entered into God's Promised Land for us. But we also are commanded to get rid of the strongholds of sin that are in our lives. If we do not do so, these sinful patterns will become pricks in our eyes and thorns in our sides--never allowing us to live in peace.

What sinful habits have you not confessed and forsaken?

Surrender yourself to God

There is absolutely no way to have victory without surrender to God. Most of us like the idea of being independent and able to handle life on our own. But the Bible says that no one is independent; we are all serving someone or something.

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Romans 6:16

The choice is not, "Should I yield myself or not?" The choice is, "To Whom shall I yield?" Without being yielded to Christ, I will never have the power to overcome sin.

Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

Romans 6:13

Resist Satan

Satan is a defeated enemy. Christ has conquered him. If we are submitted to God we can confidently resist Satan, knowing that he will have to back down.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

James 4:7

Don't give up. Don't stop resisting sin. Satan wants you to lose heart and feel defeated, but in reality it is he who has already lost!

Renew your mind

Repressing sin will not clear up the problem; it will only explode again somewhere down the road. We must learn to substitute and replace the bad with the good. The best way to replace evil or sinful thoughts is through Scripture memory. This was Paul's message to the Romans.

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable and perfect, will of God.

Romans 12:2

Pray for help and victory

Jesus commanded His disciples:

Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Matthew 26:41

He set the pattern for their prayer by including:

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil...

Matthew 6:13

God has promised victory and will deliver if we seek Him.

But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

I Corinthians 15:57

Week Three

Date: _____

Remember that the time you spend with God during your appointment need not necessarily be the high point of your day. God may choose to speak to you dramatically one day, but not the next. Allow yourself to be flexible and available to His leading throughout the day. A good way to learn how to establish a relationship with God is to observe another person's relationship with Him.

1. The third week of your appointments with God will be aimed at observing the Psalmist's relationship with God. Most of the psalms were written by King David. You will be exploring a different psalm each day. Take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the Book of Psalms by thumbing through and observing chapter titles or reading passages that happen to catch your eye.
2. The purpose of this time is to fix firmly in your mind the objective of the week. Look over your appointment calendar and ask God to illuminate each psalm to you. Ask Him in prayer to allow you to see how the Psalmist's relationship with God might be different from yours. How can you have a similar relationship with God?
3. Commit the new week before you in prayer and agree with God to keep your appointments. You might like to share your appointments with someone. Perhaps you have a friend who also wants to develop a relationship with God. Plan to meet together and follow the outline, each taking part in reading, prayer, and making observations from the Scripture.

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read Psalm 1.

In order to look more closely at the relationship between the psalmist and God, select one verse that may stand out to you. Answer the following questions about the verse.

Key Verse _____

Pray.

What is the thought before the verse?

What is the thought after the verse?

What is the thought of the verse?

What is another verse that teaches the same thought?
What are your questions/observations on the verse?

What personal application will you make from the verse?

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read Psalm 5.

Select one or two verses that stand out to you and answer the following questions.

Key Verse _____

Pray.

What is the thought before the verse?

What is the thought after the verse?

What is the thought of the verse?

What is another verse that teaches the same thought?
What are your questions/observations on the verse?

What personal application will you make from the verse?

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read Psalm 15.

Select one or two verses that stand out to you and answer the following questions.

Key Verse _____

Pray.

What is the thought before the verse?

What is the thought after the verse?

What is the thought of the verse?

What is another verse that teaches the same thought?

What are your questions/observations on the verse?

What personal application will you make from the verse?

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read Psalm 23.

Select one or two verses that stand out to you and answer the following questions.

Key Verse _____

Pray.

What is the thought before the verse?

What is the thought after the verse?

What is the thought of the verse?

What is another verse that teaches the same thought?

What are your questions/observations on the verse?

What personal application will you make from the verse?

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read Psalm 112.

Select one or two verses that stand out to you and answer the following questions.

What is the thought before the verse?

What is the thought after the verse?

What is the thought of the verse?

What is another verse that teaches the same thought?
What are your questions/observations on the verse?

What personal application will you make from the verse?

Date: _____

As you look back over your week investigating the Psalmist's relationship, you will probably see many applications that you can make in your own life that would enhance your relationship with Jesus Christ. It is not important to have many applications, but it is important that you apply those that God brings to mind and confirms in your heart.

Take time now to pray over your applications from your previous week of appointments with God. Ask Him to give you the wisdom to choose one you need to work on now. Read the passage again and ask God to clarify His thoughts to you. How can you put this application into action?

Did observing another man's relationship with God give you any ideas to employ in developing your own relationship with Him? What are they?

Are you continuing to pray and let God know how grateful you are for His love? What are some of the things you thanked Him for this week?

Living by Faith

Begin memorizing II Corinthians 5:7

Meditation on II Corinthians 5:7

What is walking by sight? _____

What is walking by faith? _____

"...walk by faith..."

1. Why is faith necessary?

Hebrews 11:6 _____

2. How does faith grow?

Romans 10:17 _____

3. Paul based his faith upon _____ (Acts 27:25)

4. What must accompany your faith?

James 2:17 _____

Hebrews 6:12 _____

5. How did Abraham respond to God's promise?

Romans 4:20,21 _____

6. Why should you be joyful when your faith is tested?

James 1:2-4 _____

"...not by sight."

7. Contrast the things which are seen with those which are unseen in II Corinthians 4:18.

8. What results from walking by sight?

Jeremiah 17:5,6 _____

9. What can you do even though you have not seen Jesus?

I Peter 1:8

Write out II Corinthians 5:7

Application of II Corinthians 5:7:

What is one area of your life where you are walking by sight?

How can you exercise faith in this area?

Review II Corinthians 5:7 daily along with your other Scripture memory verses.

ETS 1/13

Assignment Sheet

Date _____

Name _____

Topic Basic Christian Living

Lesson The Word Of God

Class _____

Lecture	Completed	
	Yes	No
Review "The Word Of God"		
Bible Study		
Do "Living a Life of Love"		
PSMA		
Do 5 PSMA		
Do 6 AWG		
Reading		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Pray for 2 people to win to Christ.		
Pray for 1 person to disciple.		
Share "Bridge" with non-Christian.		
Scripture Memory		
Matthew 4:4		
I John 4:11		



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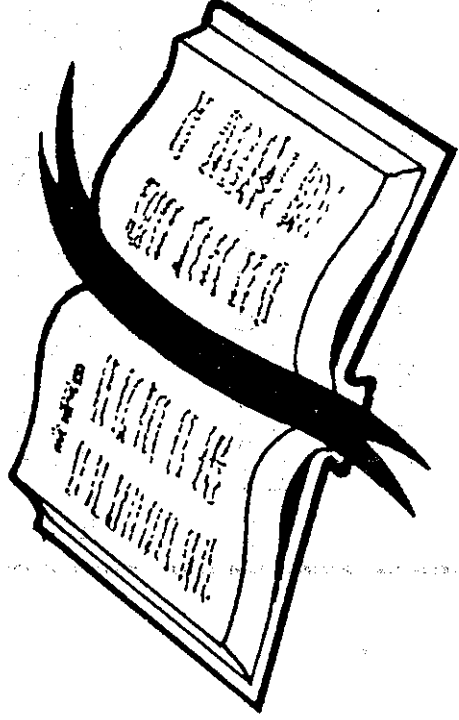
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THE WORD OF GOD



Introduction

The Bible is God's revelation of Himself to us in written form. It contains 66 books divided into two sections: the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The Old Testament is divided into four parts.

- The Law - 5 books
- History - 12 books
- Poetry - 5 books
- Prophecy - 17 books

The New Testament is also divided into four parts.

- The Gospels - 4 books
- History - 1 book
- The Epistles - 21 books
- Prophecy - 1 book

Authorship and Inspiration

NOTES

The Spirit of God Himself was the Author of the Bible. It was recorded by men of God to whom God spoke over a period of some 1500 years. Holy Scripture is inspired by God. The Greek word for inspired means God-breathed.

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation, For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

II Peter 1:20-21

This means that as our words come from our mouths with our breath, so the Word of God or the Bible actually proceeded from the breath of God's mouth. Men were not the authors--only the scribes.

In Revelation John records how Christ actually appeared to him and instructed him to write what was revealed to him. In verse 19 Christ says:

Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter...

Revelation 1:19

Peter testifies that Paul's writings came from God's wisdom given to him and that these writings of Paul were actually Scripture.

And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

II Peter 3:15-16

In Romans we see that the Old Testament, as well as the New Testament, was inspired of God and necessary for a proper understanding of God.

derstanding, that they might understand the scriptures. And said unto them, Thus it is written and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day.

Luke 24:44-46

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

John 5:39

Cannot Mature without it

The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

Psalms 119:130

The author of Hebrews said that everyone unskilled in using the scriptures is a babe.

For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

Hebrews 5:13

Paul advised his young converts:

And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

Acts 20:32

Spiritual Food for our Souls

...It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Matthew 4:4

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

I Peter 2:2-3

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts.

Jeremiah 15:16

Weapon for Spiritual Warfare

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Ephesians 6:17

It makes us like a weapon as well

Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; The Lord hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name. And he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me; And said unto me; Thou art my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.

Isaiah 49:1-3

Spiritual Seed to Sow

Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

Luke 8:11

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.

I Peter 1:23

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

Romans 15:4

The Old Testament declares 3,808 times that it is expressing the Word of God and II Timothy 3:16 affirms that:

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

II Timothy 3:16

The fulfilled prophecy of the Old Testament in the first coming of Christ is another evidence of God's authorship and inspiration. Christ fulfilled 60 major Old Testament prophecies in His first coming. The probability of any one person fulfilling just eight of these is 1 in 10¹⁷. This is a staggering statistic but even more staggering when illustrated.

Visualize, to cover the state of Texas two feet deep with silver dollars would require 10¹⁷ silver dollars. Then, if a person marked one coin, blindfolded a man and asked him to find the one marked coin, this would be equal to the probability of one person's fulfilling eight of the 60 prophecies.

Authority of Scripture

Because the Scriptures are God's Word, they are to be the final authority in all matters of faith and practice.

Jesus accepted the Total Scripture

Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

Luke 24:25-27

The Apostles endorsed its Authority

NOTES

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

II Timothy 3:16

Scriptures used as Standard for Judgment

He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

John 12:48-50

The Word of God is Eternal

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

Matthew 24:35

The Importance of the Word of God

Reveals God and His Plan

God has given us the Scriptures to reveal Himself and His commandments to us. The Bible is of great value because it explains:

What did happen (past)

What is happening now (present)

What is going to happen (future)

Jesus used the Scriptures to reveal God's plan.

And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their un-

shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Isaiah 55:11

Keeps us from Going Astray

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

II Timothy 3:16

- Doctrine and instruction teach us what is right.
- Reproof and correction help us to know where we are wrong and get back on the right track.

Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.

Jeremiah 20:9

Because of God's Word within, Jeremiah was kept from error.

The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

Psalms 37:31

A veteran missionary who spent over thirty years in Asia once said:

In all my years in Christian service, I have never met anyone who was consistently reading, studying and memorizing the Word who has fallen into sin.

Roy Robertson

The Word of God is our only insurance against sin.

Strengthens and Produces Faith

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 10:17

It is an Eternal Investment

NOTES

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

Matthew 24:35

Getting the Word into Our Lives

We have looked at the importance and authority of God's Word and why it is necessary to get it into our lives. How do you do this? There are basically five ways of getting a solid grasp on the Word of God.

HEARING

STUDYING

MEDITATING



READING

MEMORIZING

Hearing

Why?

Most of us begin to learn the Word and to know about God first through hearing it. Hearing the Word is an important part of Christian growth. We listen to God's teachers as they explain the Word to us.

Jesus said:

He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Matthew 11:15

Six times in chapters 2 and 3 of the Book of Revelation we are told by the Spirit of God to hear what God is saying:

He that hath an ear to hear, let him hear what the Spirit saith...

Revelation 2:7

Paul tells us that our faith comes by hearing the Word of God.

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

Romans 10:17

However, just hearing alone is not enough because we retain only 5 to 10% of what we hear.

Reading

Why?

Moses instructed the leaders to read the law of God all the days of their lives.

And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life; that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them.

Deuteronomy 17:19

Deuteronomy 17:19 gives us three reasons why we should read the Bible daily.

- To learn to fear the Lord
- To keep all the Words of His Law
- To practice them

Paul commands Timothy:

Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

I Timothy 4:13

John says we are blessed if we read and keep God's Word.

Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein...

Revelation 1:3

Most people have never read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. Somehow Bible reading is not a part of their lives. It is of little wonder that they don't have a better grasp of the Word of God.

How?

If you read three chapters a day and four on Sunday, you will complete the whole Bible in a year.

However, reading is also not enough, because within 72 hours we retain only 30% of what we have read.

Studying

Why?

Paul commended the Berean believers because they did not just accept someone's teaching lightly but went back to study the Scriptures themselves.

These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

Acts 17:11

How?

There are four basic ingredients to a good Bible study program.

Personal Investigation

This means not only listening to someone else's discoveries, but discovering Bible truths for yourself.

Regular and Consistent

Not spasmodic

Written Reproduction

Write this down in your study

- Title and Key verse
- Observations
- Difficulties
- Cross references
- Outline or paraphrase

NOTES

Practical Application

NOTES

This is where the rubber meets the road. We must take what we have studied and begin to put it into specific practice in our lives.

It is not until we begin to study the Bible for ourselves that we start to grow and mature. As we learn to dig out the hidden treasures of the Word, we will have spiritual food to feed others.

Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; if thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God. For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.

Proverbs 2:3-6

However, even study is not enough because we still only retain 35 to 50% of what we study.

Memorizing

Why?

In Deuteronomy we are commanded by God to memorize His Words.

Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.

Deuteronomy 11:18

The Word of God hidden in our hearts promises to keep us from sin.

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Psalms 119:11

The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

Psalms 37:31

God promises that if we hide His Words in our hearts, the Holy Spirit will help us use them effectively.

Bow down thine ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply thine heart unto my knowledge. For it is a pleasant thing if thou keep them within thee; they shall withal be fitted in thy lips.

Proverbs 22:17-18

The great value of Scripture memory is that we retain 100% of what we memorize. As we fill our conscious mind with His Word, it begins to actually change our entire thinking process.

Romans in the Phillips Translation says:

Don't let the world around you squeeze you in- to its mould, but let God re-mould your mind from within.

Romans 12:2 (JBP)

This is exactly what happens when we allow our minds to be filled with the Word of God.

In addition to using the Word in our personal lives, God also says that He will use the memorized Word in us to minister to others.

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Isaiah 55:11

How?

Practical hints for memorizing

- Choose a time when your mind is free.
- Read and study the context of the verse.
- Include the reference and topic as you memorize.
- Memorize by phrases.

Meditating

Why?

God commands Joshua to meditate on the Word of God.

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Joshua 1:8

David says that one who meditates will be like a well-watered tree.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Psalms 1:2-3

What is Meditation?

Meditation is not putting your mind in neutral and drifting off into some quasi-state of consciousness. It is prolonged thought directed to a single object. One Bible dictionary likens it to a cow chewing on its cud. Meditation is like digestion. Or it is like passing a light through a prism where the different light rays are refracted and separated.

How to Meditate

Basic Ingredients for Meditating

ANALYZING

Taking a verse apart word by word and phrase by phrase

REFLECTING

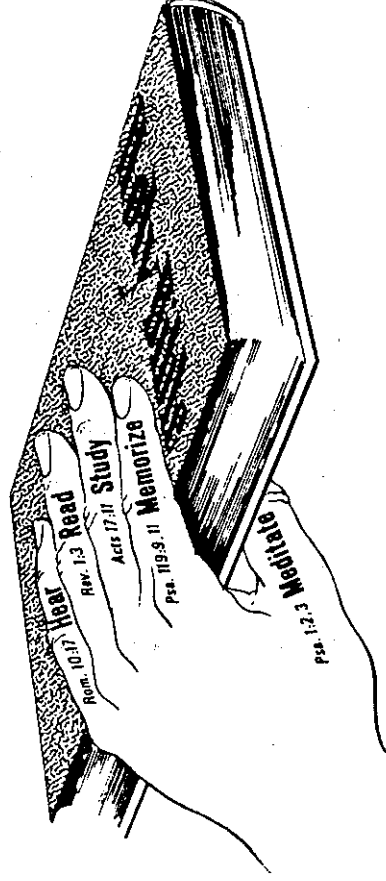
Calling up personal thoughts and applications in the light of the passage under consideration

QUESTIONING

Taking the verse apart by asking it:

Who?
Where?
Why?
How?

The Word Hand is an illustration to help you grasp and remember the five ways to MASTER THE BIBLE.



FIVE WAYS TO KNOW THE BIBLE

Application

Fill out the following chart! Set new goals that are reachable! Do it now!

Method of Intake	My Present Weekly Program	New Goals and Plans
HEARING		
READING		
STUDYING		
MEMORIZING		
MEDITATING		

Living a Life of Love

Begin memorizing I John 4:11

Meditation on I John 4:11

Whom should you love?

Why should you love?

What is love?

"...God so loved us..."

1. What is the source of love?

I John 4:7

2. Whom does God love?

John 3:16

3. Describe God's love.

I John 4:10

4. What else does Romans 5:8 tell you about God's love?

5. List the things which cannot separate you from the love of God.

Romans 8:38-39

"...we ought also to love one another."

6. What two commandments does Christ emphasize in Matthew 22:37-39?

7. What is Christ's new commandment?

John 13:34

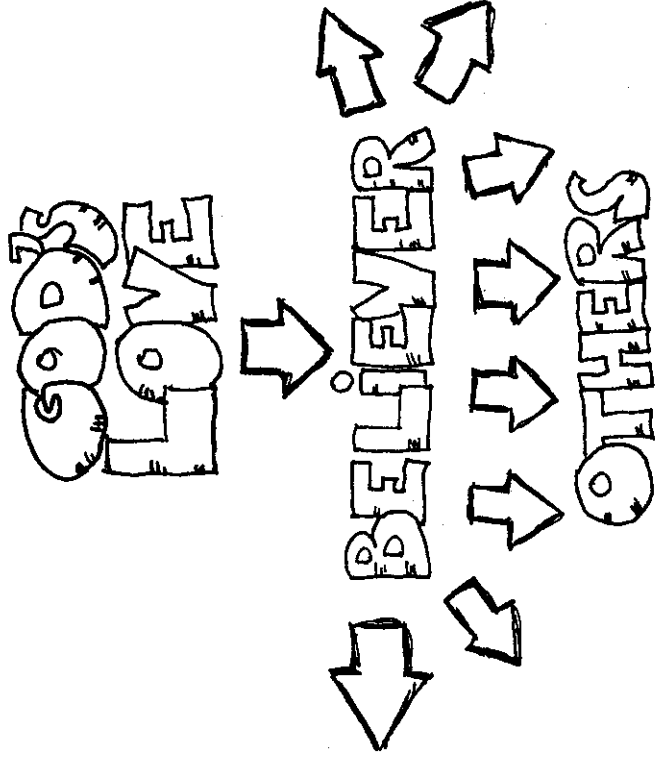
8. What should be the extent of your love?

Matthew 5:44

9. From I Corinthians 13:4-7 list the four characteristics of love you think are most important.

10. How should you love?

I John 3:18



Write out I John 4:11.

Application of I John 4:11:

To whom do you need to demonstrate love?

What action are you going to take to show love to this person?

Review I John 4:11 daily along with your other Scripture memory verses.