

ETS 1/14

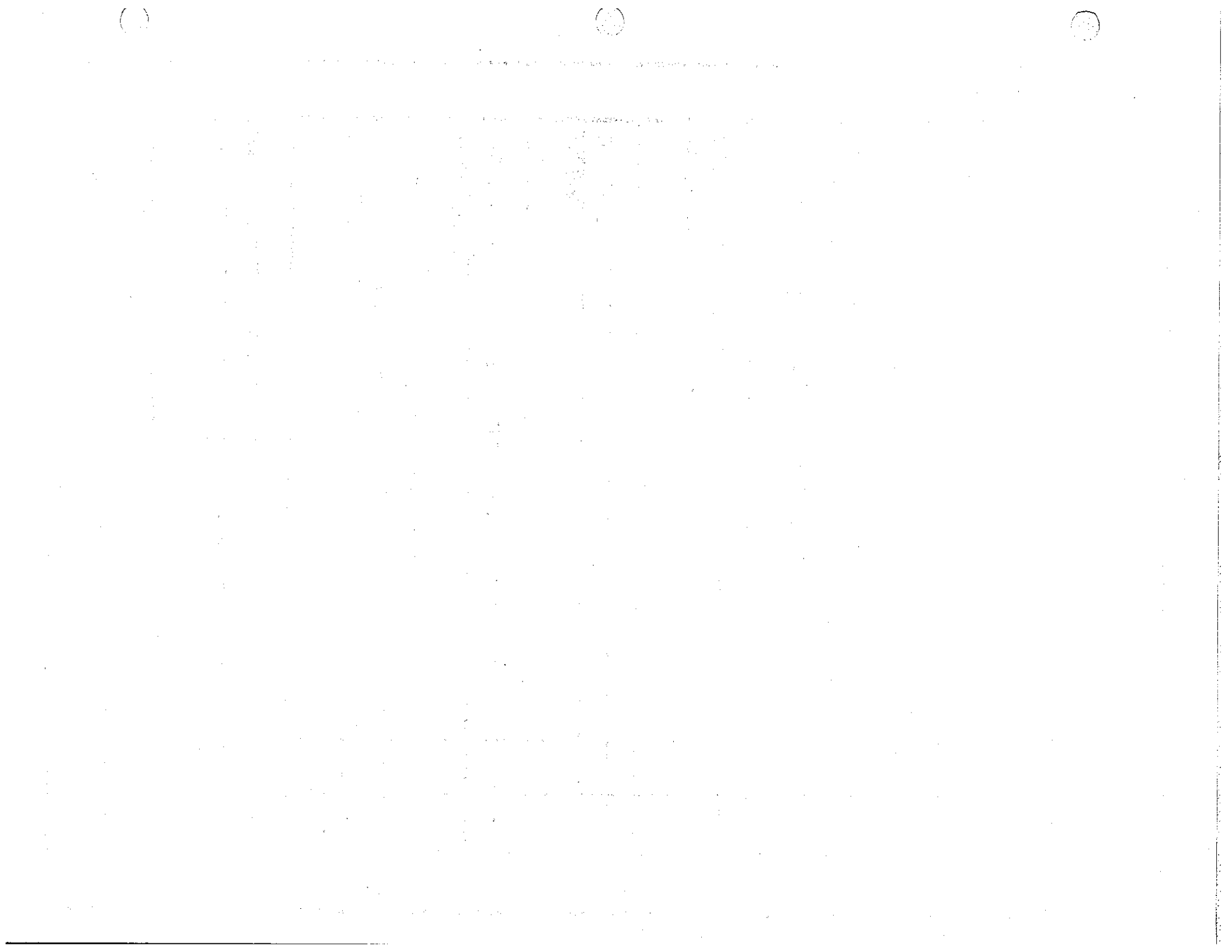
Date _____

Assignment Sheet

Name _____ Topic Basic Christian Living

Lesson The Obedient Life Class _____

Lecture	Completed	
	Yes	No
Review "The Obedient Life"		
Bible Study		
Do "Living in Christian Fellowship"		
PSMA		
Do 5 PSMA		
Reading		
Bible Reading Chart		
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		
Hebrews 5:8		
I John 1:7		



THE OBEDIENT LIFE

Introduction

At the very heart of the Christian's life and discipleship to Jesus is the matter of obedience. From the very beginning, when God first created man in His image with the power of choice, obedience has been a real issue.

When Eve disobeyed God, it was with the intent of becoming more like God. Satan said:

For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Genesis 3:5

Eve found out the hard way that when we disobey God, we don't become like Him. We just become disobedient children. In Eve's attempt to defend herself before God, she said:

And the Lord said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

Genesis 3:13

Satan certainly had deceived her with his lies. Thinking she would profit from her disobedience, she had disobeyed what she knew was God's command. The exact opposite had happened; there was no profit at all, only loss. Tragically, Satan is still deceiving Christians today into thinking that something can be gained from disobeying God. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Definition of Obedience

NOTES

Obedience is a willingness to be subject to the will of another. For the Christian this means being subject to the laws and commands of God.

Many times people mistakenly assume that because God has given them the freedom of choice, they may choose whether or not to obey. They think that if they are not in subjection to someone else, they are independent. This is not true. The choice we have is not whether or not we are going to obey someone--but whom we are going to obey. The Bible tells us that to whatever we yield ourselves or offer ourselves, to that we are a slave.

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

Just because God made us with the ability to choose does not mean that we are to be free moral agents. We have been created to obey. We will therefore obey someone or something--whether for evil or for good.

Jesus' Example

As we examine the life of the Lord Jesus, we can see that He obeyed God perfectly in everything He did.

He came to do 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

He did nothing of His own initiative

Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.

John 8:28

He was willing to pay any price to obey

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Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered...

Hebrews 5:8

His obedience had no limits

And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Philippians 2:8

In Jesus' lifetime He was tested to the limits, but He remained obedient to God. Because of this kind of commitment, Satan could not trick or deceive Him as he had Eve. In Jesus' encounter with Satan, God always delivered Him. Christ resisted:

- The world and its attractions
- The flesh and its appetites
- The devil and his lies.

If Christ had disobeyed JUST ONCE, He would have been guilty and would not have been the perfect sacrifice necessary for atonement. Christ's victory over sin and death is intricately dependent upon His absolute obedience to God's will.

Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him...

Hebrews 5:8-9

The Importance of Obedience

Obedience--The Expression of Faith

Trust and obey,
For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus
But to trust and obey.

These familiar lines to the old hymn have been sung by Christians for decades. They express a basic truth of the victorious Christian life; faith and obedience are two sides of the same coin. We can't have one without the other.

Genuine faith in Christ always expresses itself in obedience to His commands. Obedience puts legs on our faith--it takes faith out of the theoretical and puts it into the everyday fiber of life. Simple obedience to what God says proves that we believe what He says and are willing to act upon it--whether or not it makes us accepted in the eyes of the world.

In Hebrews 11, the great chapter on faith, we see a consistent pattern in each verse--by faith someone did something.

Examples:

- BY FAITH NOAH, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, PREPARED AN ARK to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Hebrews 11:7

- BY FAITH ABRAHAM, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, OBEYED; AND HE WENT OUT, not knowing whither he went.

Hebrews 11:8

- THROUGH FAITH ALSO SARAH herself received strength to CONCEIVE seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

Hebrews 11:11

- BY FAITH ABRAHAM, when he was tried, OFFERED UP ISAAC; and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son.

Hebrews 11:17

- THROUGH FAITH (men) subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Hebrews 11:33-34

Obedience--Very Important to God

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Obedience is of supreme importance to God. It is far more important to Him than our words or our religion.

And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

I Samuel 15:22-23

Because our obedience is so important to God, He conditions many of His promises and blessings upon it. It is therefore very expedient for us to obey because God's hand of blessing is upon us when we do. Jesus said that those who hear and obey God's Word are like a wise man who builds his house upon a rock. He is blessed with security, stability and safety. However, the man who does not obey ends in calamity.

Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like; he is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.

Luke 6:47-49

For they that hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord: they would none of my counsel; they despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

Proverbs 1:29-31,33

When the children of Israel got ready to enter the Promised Land, God had Moses draw them into what is often referred to as the Mosaic Covenant. Possession of the Promised Land was contingent upon their obedience to God. If they were disobedient, they would be driven out of the land and their enemies would possess it. This is a picture for us of what the victorious Christian life is like. We are brought into the Christian life through rebirth, but we can only enjoy the blessing of God through obedience to His commands. Many Christians, though assured of eternal life, are failing to see God's reality and blessing because of disobedience.

Obedience--Vital to Abiding in Christ

We often hear sermons about abiding in Christ, but far too often we go home wondering how a person goes about abiding. One of the most important aspects of abiding is simple obedience to Christ.

If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

John 15:10

Abiding through obedience is extremely important because:

- You can't bear fruit without abiding.

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

John 15:4

- You bear much fruit through abiding.

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing.

John 15:5

- You wither up without abiding obedience.

If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

John 15:6

- You are assured of answered prayer through abiding.

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

John 15:7

Obedience--Makes You a Blessing to Others

And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, and said, by myself have I sworn saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Genesis 22:15-18

Abraham's obedience in this situation touched the heart of God in a significant way. God not only blessed him for it, but made him a blessing to the entire world.

It is always an encouragement to others to see an obedient Christian living the life. It is a challenge and gives hope that victory in daily living can be a reality. Think of people you know who have really been a blessing to you personally. Chances are that one of the key ingredients in that person's life is obedience to God. God wants to do the same with you. Will you obey him?

Attitudes Toward Obedience

Our attitudes greatly determine the outcome of our obedience. The Pharisees were masters of obedience to the law, but their attitudes and motives were wrong. The result was that they created God in their own image rather than allowing God to mold and create them into His image. Following are some important attitudes we should have in obedience.

Willingness

I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

Psalms 40:8

Wholeheartedness

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This day the Lord thy God hath commanded thee to do these statutes and judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and do them with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.

Deuteronomy 26:16

Courage

Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

Joshua 1:7

Promptness

I made haste and delayed not to keep thy commandments.

Psalms 119:60

Humility

Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud but giveth grace to the humble.

I Peter 5:5-6

Promises and Blessings of Obedience

The Bible is a story of the promises and blessings of obedience and of the tragedies of disobedience. A few of the promises are as follows. You will discover many more each day as you read the Word of God.

And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the Lord your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, that I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter

rain, and thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle that thou mayest eat and be full.

Deuteronomy 11:13-15

Answered Prayer

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

John 16:24

Stability and Peace

But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

Proverbs 1:33

Growth in Godliness

Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.

I Peter 1:22

Whom we are to obey

In Scripture we are instructed to be subject to other people whom God has placed in an authority structure over us. We cannot obey God without obeying those He has placed over us for our protection and welfare. Some of these authorities are listed below.

Spiritual Leaders

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

Hebrews 13:7

Governmental Leaders

Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: The powers that be are ordained of God.

Romans 13:1

Parents

Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

Ephesians 6:1

Masters (Employers)

Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; not with eyeservice, as men pleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; with good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men.

Ephesians 6:5-8

Wives to Husbands

Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

Ephesians 5:22-24

NOTES

Week Four

Date: _____

God's Word is important to you. Jesus said, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). God's truth is life itself in the Person of Jesus Christ. Make sure you are getting to know Him. Allow Him to make the Word operative in your life. Take time as you read the Bible for thoughts of God to penetrate your innermost being. Consider your own character and life in the light of God's Word.

During the fourth week of your appointments with God you will be concentrating each day on one of the ways in which to spend your appointment. These are:

Worship

Prayer

God's Word

Meditation

Application

Familiarize yourself with this week's schedule and pray that God will give you a better understanding of these essentials.

Commit the new week before you in prayer and ask God to give you an expectant heart for what He is going to do this week.

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?
by taking heed thereto according to thy word.
With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let
me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word
have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin
against thee.

Psalms 119:9-11

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Select one of the Psalms between 145 and 150.

TOPIC: Worship--Recognizing and acknowledging who God is and what He has done.

In the course of a busy life, it is easy to neglect the worship of God. Take time to select your psalm for today and read it aloud. Something happens that is unexplainable when you hear yourself worshipping God. Psalms 145 through 150 are primarily praise. Give praise to God who is the only One worthy to be praised.

Ask God in prayer to
give you a heart to
know and worship Him.

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read Matthew 6:9-13.

TOPIC: Man's method of
communicating
with God.

You have already become familiar with the different aspects of prayer (ACTS). This morning you will concentrate on the subject of prayer during your appointment with God. Read the passage for today and begin to meditate on this prayer of Jesus Christ.

Pray using the new insights you have learned from this prayer of Christ's.

What different aspects of prayer do you recognize? _____

How can you incorporate some of the aspects into your prayer life? _____

In your opinion, is this prayer an example to follow or a prayer to pray verbatim or both? _____

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read Psalms 119:9-16.

God's Word--His
written revelation
to you
The Holy Bible.

TOPIC: _____

How important is the Bible to you? What will you do as a result of what it means to you? Answer the following questions on the passage above.

What does it say about using God's Word? _____

How can you know God's commandments? _____

What does it mean to hide God's Word in your heart? _____

Why is it important to meditate on God's Word? _____

How can you keep from forgetting God's Word? _____

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read Romans 4:20-21.

Meditation--The process by which you appropriate the very life of the Lord Jesus into your spiritual bloodstream.

TOPIC: _____

There are different approaches to meditation in which recurring thoughts are key to analysis and meditation. These thoughts may be illuminated by words or phrases that are similar or opposite. They may be communicated by words that sound or begin with the same letter. Look for any type of pattern.

Let God direct you to these recurring thoughts to help the passage become more meaningful to you. Pray through the passage--read it several times--underline anything that stands out to you.

Example: "And being fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He was able also to perform." (v. 21)

Ask yourself in prayer,

Are you persuaded that what God says in His Word is true?

Have you claimed any promises from God?

Do you believe God will do (perform) what He says He will do in your life?

Date: _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read Psalm 139:23-24.

Application--What God wants
 TOPIC: you to do about the new truth
 He has revealed to you.

In the permissive society of today, it is sometimes difficult to determine what is sin and what is not. People have become so brainwashed with the world's approach to life that often truth becomes obscure. Perhaps during the past four weeks you have wondered about sin. What is it and how do you recognize it in your life? Meditate on the Bible reading for today looking for answers.

You can pray this prayer and ask God to apply His Word to your life. The Holy Spirit will be faithful to bring up unconfessed sin. Look closely at what you are asking. Are you willing to change once God reveals sin to you specifically?

Why not memorize these two verses for your own use?

Date: _____

How was your week? Have you been giving God the praise and honor that He deserves during your appointments with Him? Have you found that it is easier to praise Him with your lips during your appointment than it is to bring Him honor and praise by the way you live your life during the remainder of the day? Remember He is with you continually, "...I will never leave thee or forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5).

Take time now to look back over your appointment record. Did you notice that each topic you concentrated on during this week was actually incorporated in every other appointment you have had with God for the last four weeks?

Choose one of the topics from the week and ask God in prayer to give you diligence and wisdom in incorporating this into your life.

What can you do to ensure that you continue to grow into maturity in the areas of worship, prayer, God's Word, meditation, and application?

A ONE YEAR BIBLE READING PROGRAM

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BIBLE READING PROGRAM

Introduction

The Bible is God's revealed Word to men. Therefore, it is of utmost importance to discover what it says and obey it!

Many Christians confine their Bible reading to certain favorite portions and only when they feel the need. But the Scriptures declare, "The whole Bible was given by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right. It is God's way of making us well-prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone" (II Timothy 3:16, 17, Living Bible).

Want to know a secret of the Apostle Paul's dynamic, fruitful life? Listen to his testimony, "This is why we never collapse. The outward man does indeed suffer wear and tear, but everyday the inward man receives fresh strength" (II Corinthians 4:16, Phillips). To keep spiritually fit we need the whole Bible and we need to feed our souls from it daily.

Bible reading helps us know Jesus Christ better. We learn most about Jesus in the New Testament, particularly the Gospels, but He is actually the theme of the entire Book. After His resurrection Jesus astounded two of His disciples by beginning at Moses and all the prophets (the Old Testament) and interpreting to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself (see Luke 24:27). Look for Jesus Christ throughout the Bible.

People are groping for purpose and meaning to life. But we have undermined the very foundation for purposeful living by substituting God's truth with humanistic speculations. The result is more and more people confused, frustrated and in despair. How assuring are the words of Jesus to His Father, "Thy Word is truth!" Yes, the Book is true. And it is absolutely trustworthy. Men's theories undergo constant change, but the Bible needs no alteration. It is the most up-to-date Book there is. It is anchored in historical events and invites honest investigation. You can unreservedly place your confidence in it.

Develop the habit of regular, consecutive Bible reading and meditation and mark your growth in spiritual vitality, joy, stability and usefulness.

The Plan

1. You will read the New Testament in one year, and you can read the Old Testament either in one or two years.
2. Check the appropriate squares when you have read the specified portions. If you follow the one-year plan you will check both outside columns for the Old Testament, but only the left column in the shaded New Testament area.
3. Don't fall behind in your reading. If you miss a day continue to read according to date and as soon as possible make up the missed passages.
4. The Old Testament books are read in the order in which they appear in the Bible. If you follow the one-year plan, you will read in two sections of the Old Testament each day, beginning with Genesis and Ezra.
5. In keeping with the object of knowing Christ, the reading of the four Gospels is spaced throughout the year.
6. You will read an average of 54 verses a day for the one-year plan and 86 verses for the two-year plan.

FIRST MONTH

		FIRST YEAR		NEW TESTAMENT		SECOND YEAR	
DATE		OLD TESTAMENT		NEW TESTAMENT		OLD TESTAMENT	
1		GENESIS 1		MATTHEW 1		EZRA 1	
2		2		2			2:1-35
3		3		3			2:36-70
4		4,5		4			3
5		6		5:1-26			4
6		7		5:27-48			5
7		8		6:1-18			6
8		9		6:19-34			7
9		10,11		7			8
10		12		8:1-22			9
11		13,14		8:23-34			10
12		15,16		9:1-17		NEHEMIAH 1,2	
13		17		9:18-38			3
14		18		10:1-23			4
15		19		10:24-42			5,6
16		20		11			7:1-38
17		21		12:1-21			7:39-73
18		22,23		12:22-50			8
19		24:1-33		13:1-30			9:1-15
20		24:34-67		13:31-58			9:16-38
21		25		14			10:1-27
22		26		15:1-28			10:28-39
23		27		15:29-39			11
24		28		16			12:1-21
25		29		17			12:22-47
26		30		18:1-14			13
27		31		18:15-35		ESTHER 1	
28		32		19			2
29		33		20			3
30		34		21:1-22			4,5
31		35		21:23-46			6,7

SECOND MONTH

DATE	FIRST YEAR		NEW TESTAMENT		SECOND YEAR	
	OLD TESTAMENT				OLD TESTAMENT	
FEB						
1	GENESIS 36		MATTHEW 22:1-22		ESTHER 8	
2		37	22:23-46		9,10	
3		38	23		JOB 1	
4		39	24:1-28		2	
5		40	24:29-51		3	
6		41	25:1-13		4,5	
7		42	25:14-46		6	
8		43	26:1-13		7,8	
9		44	26:14-35		9	
10		45	26:36-56		10	
11		46	26:57-75		11	
12		47	27:1-14		12	
13		48	27:15-26		13	
14		49	27:27-44		14	
15		50	27:45-66		15	
16	EXODUS 1		28		16	
17	2		ACTS 1		17	
18	3		2:1-36		18	
19	4		2:37-47		19	
20	5		3		20	
21	6		4:1-22		21	
22	7		4:23-37		22	
23	8		5:1-26		23	
24	9		5:27-42		24	
25	10,11		6		25,26	
26	12		7:1-22		27	
27	13		7:23-60		28	
28	14		8:1-25		29	



Living in Christian Fellowship

Begin memorizing I John 1:7

Meditation on I John 1:7

What do you think it means to walk in the light?

What results from walking in the light?

What does it mean to have fellowship with others?

"...if we walk in the Light..."

1. What must you do to walk in the light?

John 8:12

2. What is true of a person who is not walking in the light?

I John 1:6

3. Why does a person choose to stay in the darkness?

John 3:19,20

4. What is true of someone who is walking in the light?

I John 2:10

"...we have fellowship with one another..."

5. With whom should you have fellowship?

Hebrews 10:24,25

7. What should characterize fellowship?

Romans 15:5,6

8. What were some things the Christians in Acts 2:42 did together?

9. Who should you choose for your companions?

Psalm 119:63

"...the blood of Jesus Christ...cleanseth..."

10. What does the blood of Christ accomplish in you?

Hebrews 9:14

11. What is a practical step to take for cleansing and fellowship?

I John 1:9

Write out I John 1:7.

Application of I John 1:7:

With whom do you have Christian fellowship?

What are some things you can do to improve the quality of your fellowship?

Review I John 1:7 daily along with your other Scripture memory verses.

ETS 1/15

Assignment Sheet

Date _____

Name _____

Topic Basic Christian Living

Lesson The Lordship of Christ

Class _____

	Completed	
	Yes	No
Lecture		
Review "The Lordship of Christ"		
Review all class notes for first semester.		
Bible Study		
Do "Living as a Witness"		
PSMA		
Do 5 PSMA		
Reading		
Bible Reading Chart		
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		
Acts 2:36		
I Peter 3:15		



THE LORDSHIP OF CHRIST

Introduction

When a person receives Jesus Christ, he is born again into the family of God.

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.

John 3:3

(It is interesting to note that when John wrote his epistle, he referred to the recipients of his letter as "little children"--children in Christ.)

Coming to Christ simply as a little child is an exciting privilege. God does not expect us to achieve a certain degree of spiritual knowledge or skill in the Scripture before we come to Him. He receives us just as we are and loves us as His babes. However, God does expect that we will not remain babes forever, but will grow to full maturity. Any parent can understand God's concern for us, His children. We all love our helpless newborn babies with all our heart, but we also hope and pray that they will grow normally to full maturity. Just as it grieves our hearts to see a child who does not grow, so it grieves God's heart to see us remain spiritual infants all our lives.

Growth in Christ can only take place as we learn to know Him and as we make Jesus not only our Savior, but also the Lord of every part of our lives.

Definition of Lordship

Lordship is giving back to God the controls of my life so that He may use me to accomplish and fulfill His will through me.

This Lordship issue is what the apostle Paul was speaking of in Galatians 2:20. Lordship is ceasing to live for myself and beginning to live by God's power for God's purpose.

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

The same idea is found in Romans 12:1 where Paul says that our bodies (or our earthly lives) are to be presented to Christ as a living sacrifice.

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

Paul's life itself was a living example of what he preached.

But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Acts 20:24

Jesus has a plan for you! Just as Paul yielded his life to God so that he could live out that plan, you also can discover God's unique plan for your life as you yield your life to Him.

Because the Lordship of Christ is probably the most important aspect of the Christian life, we will be dealing with it at various points throughout this course. In this lesson, however, we will deal with basic personal Lordship. We must begin with our own person in making Christ, Lord before we can submit to Him in other areas of our lives.

Satan's Syllogism

We have learned about syllogisms and syllogistic reasoning earlier in the course. Here we are going to examine the most evil syllogism of all time--Satan's

deceptive syllogism which led Eve astray and which continues to cause people to rebel against Christ's Lordship.

As we have already discovered, God created man in His image with a WILL, an INTELLECT and EMOTIONS. These attributes--which are key ingredients in choice or decision-making--require that God provide man with an environment where he could use them. God knew when He did this that men might disobey, but His great love and desire to give man His nature caused Him to provide that environment.

When Satan tempted Eve, he appealed to these three attributes. He played upon her emotions by causing her to desire what God had forbidden. He appealed to her intellect with his deceptive reasoning. And he at last caused her to use her will to break God's law.

In appealing to her intellect or power to reason, Satan used a syllogism which he still uses successfully today.

Major Premise

GOD'S PLAN IS RESTRICTIVE. (This is correct. God has placed restrictions upon man as He did with Adam and Eve.)

Minor Premise

RESTRICTIONS ARE BAD. (This is incorrect. God's restrictions are for our good and are for the purpose of allowing us to use our will, intellect and emotions to choose for Him. He could have created robots which needed no restrictions because they were programmed to do only what He desired. But He didn't. He created people made in His image.)

Conclusion

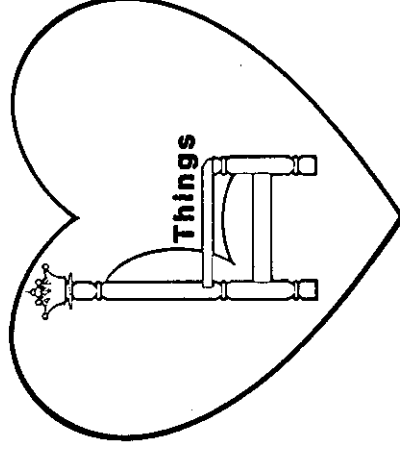
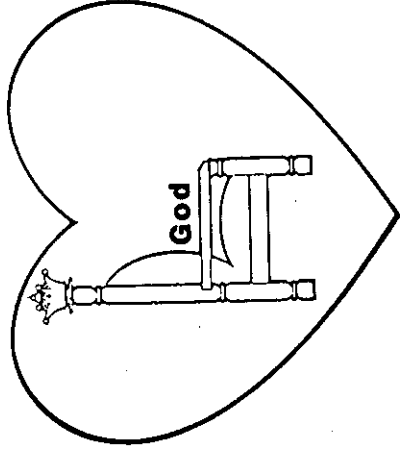
GOD'S PLAN IS BAD. (If one premise is incorrect, the conclusion will always be incorrect. But Eve bought the conclusion that God must be holding out on them and that disobedience to God's plan would profit them.)

The Consequences

When man chose to disobey God and to become independent of God's will, sin entered the human race.

THE VERY SIMPLEST DEFINITION OF SIN IS INDEPENDENCE
FROM GOD.

Since that terrible day of disobedience and independence, God has been forced from His rightful throne in the human heart. Things which God created and self have taken over the rulership of our lives. Men are constantly saying NO to God's will to pursue their own ambitions of material gain.



The Solution

The only way to escape Satan's logic and begin to grow in the Christian life is by again crowning Christ Lord of our lives--turning the controls of our lives back to Him.

How to make Christ Lord Recognize His Universal Lordship

The entire message of the Bible is that Jesus is--in fact--Lord of all.

Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

Acts 2:36

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth.

Philippians 2:9-10

Who is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of every creature: For by him all things were 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.

Colossians 1:15-17

Jesus is the sovereign ruler of the universe and His will is being carried out according to the exact prophecies of God. History is unfolding according to God's will, with or without man's approval and cooperation.

Recognize His Personal Lordship

This ownership of Christ is true on at least three counts.

By creation

I was created by Him.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Genesis 1:27

By redemption

I was purchased by Christ's blood.

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

By re-birth

I am His son or daughter.

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.

John 1:12

Recognize I cannot be independent

NOTES

True independence is not one of the options given to man. We can be independent from something, but that will automatically make us dependent upon or enslaved to something else. The moment we depart from God, we become slaves of sin and Satan.

Many times people think that they will not follow either God or Satan, but this is not possible. We are created to be dependent, and independence from one master means enslavement to the other. This is what Paul is trying to communicate in Romans, where he says:

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

Surrender bodily members back to God

This is a volitional act on the part of every believer. He alone can make that decision. He may make an initial surrender at the time he receives Christ, but as he grows in the Christian life he must yield each aspect of his life to God. We must each start with our own personal body and its members. As we yield them to the Lordship of Christ, we become free or independent from sin's control.

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. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

Romans 6:13-14,18

When a person donates his body to science, he is saying that when he is dead, science has the right to do whatever they want with his body. They may experiment with it, dissect it, study it or use it for transplants. God also wants us to give our bodies to Him--not for the gory purposes for which science wants it--but for His perfect will to be accomplished through it.

Each of us needs to take some time with God and to surrender, one by one, our members to God.

Let us think for a moment about what this means.

Eyes

Sin always begins here--either with our physical eye or our mind's eye. Some stimulus causes us to have a picture in our minds which leads to temptation. If we deal with the problem here, we can overcome and have victory.

I made a covenant with mine eyes: why then should I think upon a maid?

Job 31:1

As we come to God, we will need to commit our eyes to Him--make a covenant with Him and ask His help to keep that covenant.

Ears

If Satan cannot gain entrance to our minds and hearts through the physical eye, he will try to enter via the ear gate. What we hear can, in turn, produce the mental picture which leads to sin. Coarse jokes and stories, suggestive song lyrics, or simply listening to bad reports or gossip can give Satan the inroad he desires. The Bible tells us not to entertain a critical report unless there are two or three others present to witness it.

Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.

I Timothy 5:19

Let us give our ears to God's Lordship and listen to that which will edify.

Nose

Usually we will not be led into sin through the sense of smell. But many people seem to have a "nose" for trouble. They seem constantly to have this member into areas where they have no business interfering. Both Peter and Solomon warn us about this.

But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

I Peter 4:15

He that passeth by, and meddleth with strife belonging not to him, is like one that taketh a dog by the ears.

Proverbs 26:17

If we are having a battle in this area, we must commit this member to God and seek His help in winning the victory.

Mouth/Tongue

It is a rare Christian who is not tempted in this area. The opportunities to sin with this two-sided member are legion. We can be tempted here in what goes into the mouth through eating or drinking, or we may sin by what comes out of the mouth in our words.

James tells us that although the tongue is one of the smallest members, it can get us into big trouble.

Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

James 3:5-6

If our mouths and tongues are submitted to Christ's Lordship, He can change and transform them into instruments of good for the edification of others.

The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.

Isaiah 50:4

The godly wife of Proverbs 31 was one who had evidently given this member to God.

She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.

Proverbs 31:26

If we are struggling in this area of the use of our mouth and tongue, perhaps we can commit this member to God in the words of the Psalmist.

Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.

Psalms 141:3

Arms/Hands

God gave us hands for the purpose of doing good and for providing our needs through work.

She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.

Proverbs 31:20

And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you.

I Thessalonians 4:11

They are not to be idle, for when they are, they become the target for Satan's temptations. IDLE HANDS ARE THE DEVIL'S WORKSHOP.

When our hands are not occupied as God intended, they can become occupied with evil. They may become involved in all manner of sin--from theft, murder and sexual misconduct to simply using them for selfish purposes rather than for helping others. Jesus was so aware of the power of the hands for evil that He dramatically illustrated His teaching as follows:

And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Matthew 5:30

As we make Christ Lord of our person, we will certainly need to dedicate our hands to Him.

Stomach

By the stomach we refer to all the bodily appetites of the human body. Sensual pleasure of all kinds can so take over our lives that we can become actual enemies of Christ--living only for temporal and physical gratification.

For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the ene-

mies of the cross of Christ: Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.

NOTES

Philippians 3:18-19

Many Christians may feel self righteous because they don't seem to be tempted by things like alcohol and illicit sex, but they may be very undisciplined--even gluttonous--in their eating habits.

Each of us needs to honestly and carefully examine our bodily appetites and drives before God to make sure He is in control.

Feet/Legs

Satan loves to control our feet and legs so that we will walk into things that drag us down and cause us to compromise our relationship to Christ. He loves to take us window shopping at the department store of sin. We may not intend to buy anything, but more frequently than not we fall victim to the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes as we stroll with our enemy.

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

Psalms 1:1-2

Are you walking with Jesus, or do your feet and legs need to be committed to Him?

How to Surrender

- In a special act of dedication, yield each member specifically to God for His control.
- Ask God to cleanse and accept ownership for the member.
- Ask God to set a watch over the member, and by His Holy Spirit, to warn you when you are under attack.
- Ask God to give the desire to walk in victory and to strengthen the will to resist temptation.
- Pray for victory and take active measures to defend yourself from attack (i.e. Scripture memory).

Living as a Witness

Begin memorizing I Peter 3:15

Meditation on I Peter 3:15

What precedes telling others about Christ? _____

What is the "hope that is in you"? _____

What would stimulate someone to ask you about the hope that is in you? _____

What should be your attitude when witnessing? _____

"...sanctify the Lord God in your hearts..."

1. What must you do before leading others to Christ?
Matthew 4:19

2. What did God want Paul to do since he was to be His witness?
Acts 22:14,15

3. How does a person acknowledge Christ as Lord in his life?
Romans 12:1

"...be ready always to give an answer..."

4. What may cause people to ask you about your relationship to Christ?
Matthew 5:16

5. What else is necessary in witnessing?
Psalm 107:2

6. What should you tell others?
Acts 4:20

7. How can you follow Paul's example in Romans 10:1?

8. How has God empowered you for witnessing?
Acts 1:8

"...with meekness and fear."

9. Read 2 Timothy 2:24,25. To effectively communicate with non-Christians:

You should not _____

You should _____

10. What should characterize your conversation?

Colossians 4:5,6 _____

Write out I Peter 3:15.

Application of I Peter 3:15:

List at least one person you can witness to.

How do you plan to do this? _____

Review I Peter 3:15 daily along with your other Scripture memory verses.

ETS 1/16

Assignment Sheet

Date _____

Name _____

Topic _____

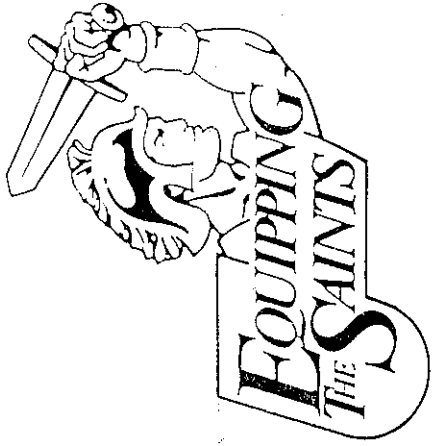
Lesson _____

Test _____

Class _____

	Completed	
	Yes	No
Lecture		
Bible Study		
Do "Live a Life of Generosity"		
PSMA		
Do 5 PSMA		
Reading		
Bible Reading Chart		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Share Christ over break.		
Scripture Memory		
II Corinthians 9:7		





Name _____
Group# _____

FIRST SEMESTER EXAM

ORAL EXAM

BRIDGE ILLUSTRATION

Accuracy	(5)
Clarity	(5)
Using the Bible	(5)
Use of Stevens' Law	(5)
Confidence	(5)
Use of Opening Question	(5)
Total: _____	

NAME _____

GROUP # _____

WRITTEN EXAM

MEMORY VERSES

VERSION _____

Write out the following verses in FULL. Also state the version you intend to quote.

Ephesians 4:11-12

Matthew 28:19-20

I John 5:11-12

Matthew 4:19

II Timothy 1:7

Mark 1:35

Romans 8:14

Romans 6:23

John 5:24

Revelation 3:20

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

1/1

In the lesson on perspective, James is trying to communicate a very important truth about the length of our life. To what does he liken our lives, and why is this important?

What two important issues are we deciding during this life?

God does not give Heaven to Christians in reward for their faithfulness. State briefly why this is so, and give a verse of Scripture to support your answer.

1/2

What is the imperative of the Great Commission and why is this so vital to the fulfilling of it?

Whose responsibility is the Great Commission? Explain your answer.

1/3

Why has the Church of Jesus Christ failed to gain ground on the fulfilling of the Great Commission?

1/4

"It's easy for a pastor or missionary to give 2.4 hours of each day to God; but as a layman, I just cannot afford to give the Lord that much time out of my already busy schedule." In 25 words or less, how would you respond to a person who made this statement.

1/5

God has given us a test by which we can measure our real objective in life. Within this test, there are two things which will not lie to us as we seek to discover where our priorities in life are. Name these two things and tell why they are such an accurate indicator of our objectives.

1/6

In the process of evangelism, we have a two-fold responsibility. We are to help a person:

A)

B)

Name the three types of relationships which we develop with people and tell what our evangelistic responsibility is to each.

1/8

You are speaking with a person and you want to guide the conversation to the subject of spiritual matters. Name some things you could do (as suggested in the chapter) to accomplish this.

1/9

God wants us to know for certain that we have eternal life. Obviously God considers it very important that we have this assurance, and rightly so. Why do you think God considers it so important?

Our feelings are definitely not the basis for our assurance of salvation. Name four truths which help form the foundation or basis on which our assurance of salvation rests.

1/10

In 25 words or less, how would you tell someone what a Quiet Time was and how would you convince him that he should be having one?

1/11

Jesus gave us the Lord's Prayer as a pattern to follow when we pray. Name five things which we can learn from this prayer, thus making our prayer life more effective.

In order for a Christian to have a balanced prayer life, there are five essential ingredients which must be present in his prayers. Name them and give a very brief description of each.

1/12

What are the stages which lead us deeper into sin and what steps can we take in order to have victory over it? (Keep your answer brief.)

1/13

Name some things which the Word of God can do for our lives. What are five means by which we can take it in?

1/14

God places a premium on obedience. Why is it so essential that we are obedient children of God?

1/15

What is the Lordship of Christ, and what do you have to do in order to make Him Lord of your life?



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Living a Life of Generosity

Begin memorizing II Corinthians 9:7

Meditation on II Corinthians 9:7

What positive attitude should you have toward giving? _____

What attitudes should you avoid? _____

"...as he purposeth...so let him give..."

1. What can you use your possessions for?

Proverbs 3:9 _____

2. What did Jesus say about giving?

Acts 20:35 _____

3. State the principle of II Corinthians 9:6 in your own words.

4. Why is it better to invest in spiritual treasures than material wealth?

Matthew 6:19-21 _____

"...not grudgingly, or of necessity..."

5. What example did Christ set for Christians to follow?

II Corinthians 8:9 _____

6. What does God desire in the life of one who gives?

Exodus 35:5 _____

7. What was the people's response in I Chronicles 29:9 after they gave to God?

"...God loveth a cheerful giver."

8. What do you receive when you give?

Luke 6:38 _____

9. What is promised to those who give cheerfully?

II Corinthians 9:8 _____

10. Read Philipians 4:18-19. List some results of giving to others:

Write out II Corinthians 9:7.

Application of II Corinthians 9:7:

What has God given you that you can share with others?

What is one specific way you plan to give?

Review II Corinthians 9:7 daily along with your other Scripture memory verses.