

ETS 2/13

Date _____

Assignment Sheet

Name _____

Topic Follow-Up

Lesson Follow-Up Tools for Converts

Class _____

Lecture	Completed	
	Yes	No
Review "Follow-Up Tools for Converts"		
Bible Study		
Do "Knowing God's Will"		
PSMA		
Do 5 PSMA		
Reading		
Bible Reading Chart		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Pray for 1 person to win to Christ.		
Meet with your disciple.		
Transfer information on Follow-Up Sheet to Convert		
Guide.		
Scripture Memory		
I Corinthians 3:16		
I Corinthians 2:12		
Review previous verses		



FOLLOW-UP TOOLS FOR CONVERTS

Introduction

In the next two lessons we will translate follow-up philosophy into some practical tools and guides which will aid you as you help others grow to maturity in Christ. These tools and guides will aid you in the structured aspect of what to teach.

You will need to decide what you are going to do for the recreational aspect of the follow-up relationship. The new convert needs to see and experience how Christians can have fun without doing things that dishonor Christ or break His commandments.

A new convert who had lived a rather wild life prior to his conversion remarked; "The first time I went to a Christian function I thought, 'This isn't going to be much fun without liquor and dancing and making out with the girls.' At the end of the evening I was amazed at how much fun I had. Everything was clean and honoring to God, but I couldn't remember any function in recent years which had been more enjoyable. It was hard to believe that the Christians could have more fun than the non-Christians."

Ask God to give you a sanctified imagination as you work on the recreational aspect of follow-up.

Objectives for Converts

Every Person Born Again

The first objective is to ensure that the person is truly born again into the kingdom 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

Learn to Walk in Christ

NOTES

The second objective is to help this new babe in Christ walk with God and get to know Him.

As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him.

Colossians 2:6

These are two basic objectives for every person who receives Jesus into his life: to know for sure that he is born again, and to begin to walk with Jesus Christ. If we can help the convert achieve these two things, we are moving in the right direction.

Getting Started

When you meet with the convert, review the conversion experience of receiving Christ. Help the person to understand that, as a result of receiving Christ as Savior, he can now be sure that he has eternal life.

In our teaching we must start him on his Christian walk.

- Tell them why.
- Show them how.
- Get them started.
- Keep them going.
- Get them reproducing.

Go back over the Bridge and show how Jesus accomplished salvation by His death on the cross. Go over I John 5:11-13 phrase by phrase. Help him see why this is such an important verse, and help him memorize it. Show him how the first Bible Study lesson in "Lessons on Assurance" goes with the memory verse. Do the first few questions with him so he can see how to do the study and find the verses himself. Make a specific appointment with the person when you can discuss this Bible Study in detail in its completed form. Don't wait more than a week to keep this appointment. You might suggest turning the study into a Quiet Time project. Explain the "Seven Minutes with God" and show the person how the two can go together.

Remember: Satan is going to work overtime to make sure the verse never gets memorized or the study done. Explain to the person that Satan will try to

stop this and encourage him to make these things priorities. Tell him you will call to see how he is doing and ask him when is the best time to call.

When you call, you may invite him to your first recreational event. This will help him see that the Christian life is not all work.

Now that you have him started, keep him going. Work step by step through the guide. Each time you meet, end with prayer and some fun thing such as ice cream and coffee or popcorn and coke. Ask God to help you demonstrate love and appreciation for your new relationship in Christ. Remember you are setting the pace for how this new convert will one day follow through on his own spiritual children.

Tools Needed for Convert Guide

Follow-up is done by someone, not something. However, the person doing the follow-up will be aided if he has some tools to help him.

Most people need some kind of tools to do their work. The doctor needs his stethoscope. The accountant needs his calculator. The engineer needs his slide rule and the person doing follow-up needs his Bible and some materials which will help him do the task. It isn't that we can't function without materials, but without them our task would be more difficult. Basically, tools help us to do our job--

- Efficiently
- Effectively
- Systematically.

Through the years we have used a set of materials which have proven very effective. We therefore employ them in this program.

Beginning with Christ

This booklet explains five key assurances God gives the believer in His Word: assurance of salvation, assurance of answered prayer, assurance of victory, assurance of forgiveness, and assurance of guidance. It is accompanied with the verses printed out on small cards so they can be carried and memorized easily.

Lessons on Assurance

NOTES

This is the companion Bible study to "Beginning with Christ." The study concentrates on the five assurances God has promised to all believers. This study directs a person into the Bible for answers to questions about the assurances, and helps him claim and apply them in daily circumstances.

Seven Minutes with God

This motivational guide introduces the concept of the Quiet Time, or daily devotional, and includes a simple plan for having one. It is a good basic guide for new believers and for those who would like guidance for worship, prayer, and intake of the Word.

Objectives for Materials

To get the person started to grow in Christ he must--

- Memorize the five verses on assurance.
- Study what the Bible teaches about the five assurances.
- Have a daily devotional program.

Plan for Use of Materials

- Introduce the materials.
- Discuss why it is important for him to do the assignments.
- Motivate him to start today.
- Help him to get started.
- Make a specific appointment to go over his progress.
- Keep him going until you have completed the ETS convert guide.

ETS

Convert Follow-up Guide

Trainer - _____

Trainee - _____

Date Completed _____

1. I (the trainer) am currently praying for this individual. _____

2. He has assurance of salvation. _____

We have gone through the Bridge Illustration together. _____

He has memorized 1 John 5:11-13. _____

He has done "Assurance of Salvation" Bible Study. _____

He has expressed a real assurance of salvation. _____

3. He is having a Quiet Time. _____

We have discussed the importance of a Quiet Time. _____

He has read "Seven Minutes with God." _____

We have had or have shared our Quiet Times together at least twice. _____

4. He realizes the need for Christian fellowship. _____

We have discussed the principle of fellowship from Hebrews 10:24,25 and Matthew 18:20. _____

He meets and identifies with Christians. _____

He has a church home or is praying about one. _____

5. He has memorized the verses in "Beginning with Christ." _____

He has read the booklet, and we have discussed each verse and its meaning together. _____

At one sitting he has correctly quoted to me all five verses with the references.

6. He has finished "Lessons on Assurance" Bible Study.

We have discussed the five lessons together.

7. This person has evidenced new life in Christ and demonstrates a desire to mature in Christ. This has been demonstrated during the time I have worked with him in this guide by his:

- Owning and reading a New Testament.
- Having a Quiet Time regularly.
- Sharing his conversion with others.

8. His keenness to grow has been demonstrated by his:

- Starting "Going on with Christ."
- Starting "Lessons on Christian Living."

9. The two of us have spent time together in secular activities twice.

Name of activity: 1) _____
2) _____

10. My immediate leader knows this person and has gone through this guide with me and agrees that this person meets the requirements of an ETS convert.

Comments: _____

KNOWING GOD'S WILL

Sometimes it may seem to you that God's will is hidden in a buried treasure chest and you have only small portions of the map to find it. But is this true? Is God keeping His plans from you as some hidden secret? Or will He allow you to follow Him, and lead you step by step?

Proverbs 3:5-6 can clear up misconceptions about knowing God's will. Meditate on it carefully: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."

THE REVEALED WILL OF GOD

1. What should be one of your desires as a follower of Christ?
Ephesians 5:17

2. What does God promise you concerning His will for your life?
Psalm 32:8

3. What does God reveal about His will for you in the following verses?

I Thessalonians 4:3

I Thessalonians 5:18

I Peter 2:15

4. What was the psalmist's attitude toward God's will in Psalm 40:8?

What actions help produce this attitude?

5. Who is your source of strength to do God's will?

Philippians 2:13

John 15:5

The will of God is not like a magic package let down from heaven by a string...The will of God is far more like a scroll that unrolls every day...The will of God is something to be discerned and to be lived out every day of our lives. It is not something to be grasped as a package once for all. Our call, therefore, is basically not to follow a plan or a blueprint, or to go to a place or take up a work, but rather to follow the Lord Jesus Christ.

PAUL LITTLE*

We often face decisions on issues which the Scripture do not provide specific instructions for. In these cases, a Christian should apply the principles of decision-making which are contained in Scripture.

PRINCIPLES OF DECISION-MAKING

Objectives from Scripture

God has given particular commandments which can help you make decisions concerning your activities. If a particular course of action is inconsistent with the Bible, then you know it is not His will for you.

6. Using the following verses, state in your own words some of God's objectives for you. God wants you to...

Matthew 6:33

* From Affirming the Will of God (Downers Grove, Illinois: Inter-Varsity Press, 1971), page 8.

Matthew 22:37-39

Matthew 28:18-20

I Peter 1:15

II Peter 3:18

Ask yourself some questions based on these and similar verses to determine your course of actions:

- a. Am I putting God's desire ahead of my own?
- b. Will it help me to love God and others more?
- c. How does this action relate to my personal involvement in fulfilling Christ's Great Commission?
- d. Will this help me lead a more holy life?
- e. Will this course of action increase my personal knowledge of Christ?

Honestly answering these questions will help you make a decision in accordance with God's word.

7. Using the following verses, develop questions that will help you discern God's will.

I Corinthians 6:12

I Corinthians 6:19-20

I Corinthians 8:9

I Corinthians 10:31

Obedience to God

If you refuse to obey God in what He has already shown you, why should God give you further direction? Obedience to the known will of God is important in receiving further guidance.

8. How do you gain an understanding of God's will?

Psalms 37:31

James 1:5

9. What other action can you take to learn God's will?

Psalms 143:8

James 1:5

10. Psalm 25:4-5 is a prayer of David concerning God's direction for his life. Write this prayer in your own words, and use it now as a prayer of your own heart.

11. What conditions are given in Romans 12:1-2 for finding God's will?

12. Whose guidance have you been promised as you seek direction from God? John 16:13

13. Read Psalm 27:14 and Isaiah 30:18. How does "waiting on the Lord" relate to knowing God's will? How do you do it?

Satan rushes men--God guides them.

Openness to God's Leading

Many difficulties in determining the Lord's will are overcome when you are truly ready to do whatever His will may be.

14. You may not always know all of the possible alternatives in determining what to do. What is a means by which you can gather additional information? Proverbs 15:22

Counsel should be obtained from mature Christians who themselves are committed to the will of God and who know you well. It helps to talk with others who have previously made decisions in matters you are presently experiencing.

15. Explain the principle Jesus used in answering those who were questioning him. John 7:17

How does this apply to knowing God's will? _____

16. When you know what God wants you to do, how should you do it?
Ephesians 6:6

17. What are other factors that can help you discern God's leading?
Match the following verses with the appropriate phrase.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| _____ Careful and wise thinking | a. Colossians 3:15 |
| _____ Inner spiritual peace | b. Romans 13:1 |
| _____ Legal obligations | c. Ephesians 5:15-17 |

PRINCIPLES IN PRACTICE

18. Examine the following examples from the Bible and ask yourself these questions: What decision was made? What was the major issue in this decision?

PERSON	DECISION
Gideon	Judges 6:25-28
Moses	Hebrews 11:25-26
Demas	II Timothy 4:10

19. The following chart may be helpful in determining God's will for a particular decision you now face.

Decision I am facing: _____

SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES	YES	NO	NEUTRAL
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Am I putting God's desire ahead of my own? _____

SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES	YES	NO	NEUTRAL
----------------------	-----	----	---------

Will it help me love God and others more?

Will it help me to fulfill the Great Commission?

Will it help me lead a more holy life?

Will it help me further my Christian training?

Other questions:

OBEDIENCE TO GOD

Are there other areas in which I need to obey God before determining this decision?

What have I seen recently in the Scriptures that relates to this decision?

Have I prayed about this decision?

OPENNESS TO GOD'S LEADING

What are the various options I have in making this decision?

OPTIONS	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
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Am I truly willing to do whatever God wants me to? What counsel have I received from others?

With what decision do I feel inner spiritual peace?

What circumstances relate to this decision?

ETS 2/14

Date _____

Assignment Sheet

Name _____ Topic _____ Follow-Up _____

Lesson Follow-Up Tools for Disciples _____ Class _____

	Completed	
	Yes	No
Lecture		
Review "Follow-Up Tools for Disciples"		
Bible Study		
Do "Walking as a Servant"		
PSMA		
Do 5 PSMA		
Reading		
Bible Reading Chart		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Meet with your disciple.		
Transfer information on Follow-Up Sheet to Convert		
Guide.		
Scripture Memory		
Isaiah 41:10		
Philippians 4:13		
Review previous verses.		



FOLLOW-UP TOOLS FOR DISCIPLES

Objectives for Disciples

Making Jesus Lord

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

Luke 9:23

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 12:1-2

Established in Christ

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Matthew 28:19

Then said Jesus unto those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed...

John 8:31

Becoming a Fisher of Men

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

Matthew 4:19

That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

I John 1:3

Serving the Body

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men...

Philippians 2:5-7

Practical Suggestions

Now that you have the person started and have completed the "Convert Follow-Up Guide," keep him going by following the ETS "Disciple Follow-Up Guide." It will take nine or ten months to a year to successfully complete all the areas listed in the guide.

With this guide you will need to employ all four of the relationships: Recreational, Structured, Casual, and Partnership. Many of the activities can be done in a group, but as the person matures and develops, you will want to spend more casual man-to-man time with him, getting to know him as an individual and trying to help him with his areas of struggle and need. As he learns how to share his faith and develops his testimony, you will want to team up in some partnership evangelism. He will learn more by watching you and by being drawn into your ministry than by anything else.

The guide will help you in the structured aspect of the training, but you will need to develop the recreational aspect. Find out what he likes to do and enter into it if possible. Remember not to let the fun and games fall by the wayside. It is important that the person sees the fun and excitement of the Christian life.

Tools Needed for the Follow-up Guide

Going on with Christ

This helps new believers memorize eight more essential verses. Topics include:

- Abiding in Christ
- Obeying God's Word
- Living by the Spirit of God
- Walking by Faith
- Loving Others
- Sharing in Christian Fellowship
- Being Christ's Witness
- Giving with a Generous Heart

Lessons on Christian Living

These are the companion Bible studies for the eight verses in "Going on With Christ." These studies help a person to dig deeper into the eight Scripture verses, meditate on them and other related passages, and apply them to daily life.

Design for Discipleship

This contains six books which are best for people who already have a grasp of Christianity.

Studies in Christian Living

These also contain six books which are best for people who have little or no Christian background.

These two sets of Bible studies are designed to lead a person to a deeper commitment to discipleship through a personal, Scriptural examination of what discipleship involves. They help to--

- Establish the individual in his personal walk with God.
- Produce a broad understanding of Biblical Christian faith.
- Build an in-depth understanding of foundational discipleship principles.

- Assist the student in applying Biblical truths in daily life.

These two Bible Study series are question-answer studies which deal with various topics essential to the Christian life.

Topical Memory System

This Scripture memory course contains 60 key verses on the life of discipleship. The TMS teaches memory skills and encourages review, application, and lifelong Scripture memory habits. Verses relate to basic discipleship topics, so the student can always be prepared with Scripture to answer basic questions about Christianity, to fight off temptation, and to meditate on Scriptural principles.

How to Share Your Testimony Effectively

This is a step-by-step analysis of the Biblical example of Paul's testimony. It then takes the same principles and helps the individual analyze and develop his own personal testimony. The book helps the person understand, plan, write, deliver, and polish his personal testimony.

Equipping the Saints

This is a Lay Training Course which helps a person become a disciple of Jesus Christ. It equips the person with tools which will help him learn how to win and disciple others for the cause of Christ. It covers nine major areas of the Christian life.

- Basics of the Christian Life
- Personal and Spiritual Management
- How to do Personal Evangelism
- Personal Discipleship
- Christian Leadership
- How to do Basic Follow-Up
- Character Development
- Survey of the Bible
- Advanced Follow-Up

ETS

Disciple Follow up Guide

Trainer - _____

Trainee - _____

Date Completed _____

1. I (the trainer) am currently praying daily _____
for this individual. _____

2. He has made a major Lordship of Christ decision for his life, either in a group meeting or after discussing appropriate Scriptures (Matthew 6:33, Luke 9:23) with me personally. _____

3. He is attempting to put Christ first in the following areas of his life: _____

● Reputation

--He has told his family he is a Christian. _____

-- He prays before meals in public places. _____

● Money and possessions

--I have shared with him the Scriptural teaching of stewardship and he is giving at least 10%. _____

● Self (personality, mind, body)

--He makes a real effort to overcome sin and weaknesses and is making progress. _____

● Friends

--He has told his non-Christian friends he is a Christian and is willing to separate from those who lead him back into sin. _____

● Education

--He seeks God's will through counsel. _____

--He doesn't let studies have priority over his daily walk with God. _____

● Dating

--He has considered the Scriptural teaching on this subject and sought counsel in the matter. _____

--He practices the Biblical standard of moral conduct with the opposite sex. _____

● Marriage

--He is working to have a scriptural home. _____

● Vocation

--He does not let his vocation hinder his spiritual development or personal responsibility to fulfilling the Great Commission. _____

● Plans

--He knows how to set objectives and is able to plan and schedule his priorities so he is able to meet his objective. _____

● Leisure time

--He knows the value of planning leisure time and does it with the Lord rather than without Him. _____

4. He has a consistent daily devotion time. _____

--We have discussed together the Bible concept of Quiet Time from SCL Book 2. _____

--I (the trainer) have had a minimum of two Quiet Times with this man. _____

--He has not missed more than five times in thirty days. _____

5. He is developing his prayer life. _____

--We have discussed the principle of prayer from SCL Book 3. _____

--We have discussed the use of a prayer list and he has one in use. _____

--He is presently experiencing answers to prayer. _____

6. He has demonstrated faithfulness and desire to learn and apply the Word of God through regular Bible Study and Scripture Memory. _____

--He has completed lessons on Christian living. _____

--He has completed SCL Books 1-6. _____

--He has completed "Going on With Christ." _____

--He has completed TMS. _____

7. He manifests a heart for witnessing, and gives his testimony and the Gospel regularly and with increasing skill. _____

--I have shared with him the Biblical concept of witnessing (SCL Book 2). _____

--He has completed "How to Share Your Testimony Effectively", and has shared his testimony in my presence. _____

--He can present the "Bridge" illustration with skill. _____

--He has once in my presence presented the Gospel and testimony to a non-Christian, and we have afterwards evaluated the presentation. _____

--He has witnessed on his own initiative (at least three times in the last six months.) _____

8. He demonstrates a servant's heart in his sincere interest in helping others. _____

--He understands the Scriptural injunction of serving and is trying to build this area into his life. _____

--He willingly serves as there is need. _____

9. He attends church regularly, displaying love and unity. _____

--He attended church three-fourths of the time during the use of this checklist. _____

10. I have gone through the ETS material on:

● Basics _____

● Personal Management _____

● Evangelism _____

11. He is a learner--open and teachable. _____

--He is not argumentative and defensive
when corrected by me. _____

--He is able to see the other man's point
of view, accepting and appreciating va-
lid contributions. _____

--He is willing to share his life with me,
not living behind a false veneer. _____

12. I (the trainer) am presently meeting with
this potential disciple once a month for
man-to-man time (not missing more than one
month in four). _____

13. My immediate supervisor knows this man,
has gone through this checklist with me
and agrees this man meets the require-
ments of an ETS disciple. _____

WALKING AS A SERVANT

Everyone enjoys being served, but few enjoy making the effort to serve others. People don't mind being called servants, but they do mind being treated as servants. The mature Christian is marked by what he will do for others without expecting anything in return.

CHRIST YOUR EXAMPLE

1. What was Christ's purpose in coming to this world?
Mark 10:45

2. What are some ways in which Jesus served people?

Matthew 9:25

John 13:3-5

3. Read Philippians 2:5-8.

a. Whose example are you to follow? Verse 5

b. What position did Christ take? Verse 7

- c. How did He demonstrate His servanthood? Verses 7-8

4. Consider the command in Philippians 2:3-4.

a. What are you told to do? _____

b. Can you think of any situation in which you are not practicing this attitude of living?

c. What can you do to correct this? _____

CHRIST'S DESIRE FOR YOU

5. Read Mark 1:31.

a. After Jesus had served Peter's mother-in-law by healing her, what was her immediate response?

b. In what ways has Christ helped you? _____

c. What should your response be? _____

6. Whom should you desire to serve?

John 12:26 _____

Galatians 5:13 _____

Galatians 6:10 _____

7. During Christ's last time with the disciples before his death, He demonstrated several things about a serving attitude. Read Luke 22:24-7.

a. What were the disciples arguing about? Verse 24

b. How did Jesus demonstrate his humility? Verse 27

c. How should Christ's followers conduct themselves? Verse 26

d. How is this contrary to the way the "world" operates? Verse 25

8. This incident in John 13:1-15 reveals much about Jesus' attitude in serving. List several lessons you can learn from this passage.

GIVING YOURSELF

Christians have been set free in Christ--not to do whatever they please but to serve. Believers have been set free from sin to serve righteousness (Romans 6:18-19), set free from Satan to serve God (I Peter 2:16), and set free from self to serve others (Galatians 5:13). Christians are no longer under obligation to serve the things of the old life, but free to serve voluntarily the things of the new life.

9. What did Paul call himself? II Corinthians 4:5
-
-

How did this basic attitude manifest itself? II Corinthians 12:15

10. List several qualities of a good servant.
-
-
-
-
-
-

This week ask someone for his definition of a Christian servant.
Record his answer here:

KEYS TO BECOMING A SERVANT

Being Humble

11. What must you continually keep in mind? John 13:13,16

12. As a servant you could develop pride in your serving. What can keep you from doing this? Luke 17:10

Observing and Meeting the Needs of Others

13. The servant is observant. "Ears that hear and eyes that see-- the Lord has made them both" (Proverbs 20:12). God intends for you to use what he has given you to listen and observe.

a. How could you become a better listener?

b. How could you become a better observer?

(Read Proverbs 24:30-34 for an example of a man who learned by observation.)

14. What needs of others are you aware of which you could help meet?

(Read Proverbs 3:27 and I John 3:17. What do these verses tell you to do?

Evaluating Your Serving

15. Stop for a moment and evaluate your serving.

a. Give an example of when you served another person.

b. Can you think of an example when you failed to serve another person although you were aware of a need?

c. In your opinion, why did you serve one time and not the other?

16. Why is it important to serve in the "little" things? Luke 16:10

A SERVANT GIVES

One of the most tangible ways to serve others is to meet their material and financial needs. If you are willing to give of that which is tangible, you will be better able to give of that which is intangible-- your time, your experience, your love, your life.

17. What principles provide a foundation for New Testament giving?

II Corinthians 8:9

II Corinthians 9:8

18. What promises does God make to those who give?

II Corinthians 9:6

Philippians 4:19

19. According to the verses in the following chart, to whom should you give? For each verse can you think of a specific person to whom you could give?

	TO WHOM I SHOULD GIVE	SPECIFIC PERSON TO WHOM I CAN GIVE
Proverbs 19:17		
I Corinthians 9:14		
Galatians 6:6		
James 2:15-16		

20. Evaluate your giving.

a. Do you have a plan? _____

b. To whom are you giving presently? _____

c. Do you need to change any of your giving practices?

If so, what will you do? _____

Remember These Points:

- Jesus Christ was not obligated to become a servant, but He did so voluntarily, giving of Himself to meet people's needs.
- Christ has helped all believers, and their response should be to serve Him and to serve other Christians.
- Believers must "die to self" in order to live for others. Then we are free to be servants.
- A servant must be humble and observant in little things as well as bigger ones.
- A server is a giver--not only of himself, but also of his material and financial possessions. Each Christian should have a personal plan for financial giving based on scriptural principles.

FIFTH MONTH

DATE	FIRST YEAR		NEW TESTAMENT		SECOND YEAR	
	OLD TESTAMENT				OLD TESTAMENT	
MAY						
1	NUMBERS 11		MARK 15:1-15		PSALMS 97-99	
2	12		15:16-47		100,101	
3	13		16		102	
4	14		ROMANS 1:1-17		103	
5	15		1:18-32		104	
6	16:1-24		2		105	
7	16:25-50		3		106	
8	17,18		4		107	
9	19		5		108,109	
10	20		6		110-112	
11	21		7		113,114	
12	22		8:1-17		115-117	
13	23		8:18-39		118	
14	24		9		119:1-32	
15	25		10		119:33-64	
16	26		11:1-6		119:65-120	
17	27		11:7-36		119:121-144	
18	28		12		119:145-176	
19	29		13		120-124	
20	30		14		125-128	
21	31		15:1-6		129-133	
22	32		15:7-21		134,135	
23	33		15:22-33		136,137	
24	34		16		138,139	
25	35		I COR. 1:1-9		140-142	
26	36		1:10-31		143,144	
27	DEUTERONOMY 1		2		145,146	
28	2		3		147	
29	3		4		148-150	
30	4		5		PROVERBS 1	
31	5		6		2	

SIXTH MONTH

DATE	FIRST YEAR		NEW TESTAMENT		SECOND YEAR	
	JUN	OLD TESTAMENT			OLD TESTAMENT	
1		DEUTERONOMY 6	I COR. 7		PROVERBS 3	
2		7	8		4	
3		8	9		5	
4		9	10		6	
5		10	11		7	
6		11	12		8	
7		12	13		9	
8		13	14		10	
9		14	15:1-19		11	
10		15	15:20-58		12	
11		16	16		13	
12		17	II COR. 1		14	
13		18	2		15	
14		19,20	3		16	
15		21	4		17	
16		22	5		18	
17		23	6		19	
18		24	7		20	
19		25,26	8		21	
20		27	9		22	
21		28	10		23	
22		29	11		24	
23		30	12		25	
24		31	13		26	
25		32	LUKE 1:1-17		27	
26		33,34	1:18-38		28	
27		JOSHUA 1	1:39-80		29	
28		2	2:1-21		30	
29		3	2:22-52		31	
30		4	3		ECCL. 1	

ETS 2/15

Date _____

Assignment Sheet

Name _____ Topic PSMA

Lesson Management of Financial Resources Class _____

Lecture	Completed	
	Yes	No
Review "Management of Financial Resources"		
Bible Study		
Do "The Call to Fruitful Living"		
PSMA		
Do 5 PSMA		
Reading		
Bible Reading Chart		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Share Bridge with non-Christian.		
Meet with your disciple.		
Pray for your disciple.		
Scripture Memory		
Lamentations 3:22-23		
Numbers 23:19		
Review previous verses.		



MANAGEMENT OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Introduction

God has not only made men stewards in the management of time; he has also made us stewards in the management of material resources. From the beginning God has delighted in bestowing rich gifts upon His children. He placed Adam and Eve in a garden filled with delightful resources, and He placed them in authority over all the rest of creation. Before sin entered into the world, Adam and Eve had no problem being good stewards of God's resources. However, Satan deceived the woman into thinking that God really did not want to give the best to her. He convinced her that God was withholding something from her. In an attempt to gain something she thought would satisfy her, she took of the forbidden fruit and plunged mankind into a hopeless dilemma where the very things God wanted to give as gifts to man took God's place in their hearts.

Dr. A. W. Tozer, in dealing with this problem in his book, Pursuit of God, says that this is the "Heart of the Problem."

The Heart of the Problem

In his book, A. W. Tozer says that possessions and things are the source of sin and rebellion.

Before the Lord God made man upon the earth, He first prepared for Him by creating a world of useful and pleasant things for his subsistence and delight. In the Genesis account of creation they were simply called "things." They were made for

man's use but they were meant to be external to man and subservient to Him. In the deep heart of man was a shrine where none but God was worthy to come. Within him was God; without, a thousand gifts which God had showered upon him.

But sin introduced complications and made those very gifts of God a potential source of ruin to the soul. Our woes began when God was forced out of His central shrine and things were allowed to enter. Within the human heart things had taken over. God's gifts now take the place of God and the whole course of nature is upset by the monstrous substitution. Now the heart covets things and not God. This is what sin is all about. We rebel against God and worship what He has created rather than Him.

The Heart of the Solution

Our attitude reveals the condition of our heart and tells us who is really in control of our life. The very nature of sinful man is possessive; he wants to possess and get.

Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is not satisfied with his income...

Ecclesiastes 5:10 (NIV)

And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee; then whose shall those things be, which thou has provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

Luke 12:16-21

When the Spirit of God invades our lives, He begins to control and change us. Our entire value system is changed to reflect the nature of God, which is to give.

For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

He who did not spare his own Son, but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things.

Romans 8:32

Example of Christ

As long as Christ is Lord of our lives, His giving character can flow through us. He wants us to be living examples to the materialistic world that there is a better value system to employ.

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break through and steal, but store up for yourselves treasure in heaven where moth and rust do not destroy and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Matthew 6:19-20 (NIV)

Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Luke 6:38 (NIV)

Commenting on the widow's offering, Jesus said:

...I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth, but she, out of her poverty put in everything--all she had to live on.

Mark 12:43-44 (NIV)

Jesus revolutionizes a person's value system when He is on the throne of the heart. He says:

- Money and material things are temporal.
- Treasure should be stored in heaven.
- God tells us how to accumulate treasure in heaven.
- God will bless the one who gives generously to God.

Jesus can free you from bondage to materialism!

Principles for Maintaining God's Perspective

If we really desire Christ to be Lord of our lives and to give us His perspective on material resources, we then need to look to the Scriptures for guidance. The Bible gives us several basic principles regarding possessions and things which can be of immense help to us in looking at material resources from God's point of view.

God owns everything

Many people fall into the mistaken notion that material and natural resources are theirs. This is untrue. They all belong to God. He was the One who was there when there was nothing else, and it was through His power and authority that everything else came into existence. Simply because He is the Creator God, all things belong to Him--including people themselves.

In the beginning God created...

Genesis 1:1

The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Psalms 24:1

The silver is mine and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of Host.

Haggai 2:8

For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine.

Psalms 50:10-11

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

I Corinthians 6:19-20

God gave us what we have

We are not self-made. Because God created us, He is the One who gave us the abilities and gifts that we have, and the strength and health to use them profitably. Without His generosity and help, we should be incapable of acquiring anything.

...And what do you have that you did not receive? But if you did receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?

I Corinthians 4:7 (NASV)

God warns us to avoid the fallacy of thinking that WE have accomplished or attained something independently of Him.

Lest thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers as it is this day...

Deuteronomy 8:17-18

God provides if we will serve Him

When God created man, He placed him in a paradise where every provision was made for him.

And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat.

Genesis 2:15-16

When sin entered into the world, however, man was forced to provide for himself by the sweat of his own toil.

And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life.

Genesis 3:17-19

Material and Physical Needs

When Jesus entered into the world, He said that if men would again put God first in their lives, submitting to His Lordship, God would assume the responsibility for providing their every need.

But seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and ALL THESE THINGS (material and physical needs) shall be added unto you.

Matthew 6:33

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.

II Corinthians 9:8

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

Philippians 4:19

We don't HAVE to serve two masters because God has promised to provide.

These very promises are some of the most exciting ones in the Bible to experience. Many Christians forfeit the joy of seeing God supply their needs because they are constantly and frantically trying to supply them all themselves.

We are to be Stewards of God's resources

Definition: A steward is one who has been entrusted with the responsibility of caring for the resources of another.

God's intention is that we use His resources and gifts for the building of His Kingdom.

As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

I Peter 4:10

Qualities of a Steward:

Faithful

Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

I Corinthians 4:2

Wise

And the Lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely...

Luke 16:8

Blameless

For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God, not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre...

Titus 1:7

Accountable

And he said also unto his disciples, There was a certain rich man, which had a steward; and the same was accused unto him that he had wasted his goods. And he called him, and said unto him, How is it

that I hear this of thee? give an account of thy stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer steward.

Luke 16:1-2

God's Instructions to Stewards

Just as God gave specific instructions to Adam and Eve in the garden to keep them from sin, so God has also given us specific instructions to keep us from becoming ensnared financially. These instructions concern:

Earning-Spending/Saving-Hoarding-Giving

Earning

- Man is to work and provide for his family by the sweat of his labor.

In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Genesis 3:19

- We are commanded to work six days of each week.

Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work...

Exodus 20:9

- Idle men suffer hunger.

Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.

Proverbs 19:15

- If any man would not work, neither should he eat.

For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

II Thessalonians 3:10

In some countries governments have helped men to violate this by welfare programs that are too easy and do not require people to work. One of the ways God provides for man is by giving him the ability to work. By not requiring able-bodied persons to do what they can, governments are not exercising charity, but are destroying people's self image and dignity.

- We are to earn honestly.

He who profits illicitly troubles his own house. But he who hates bribes will live.

Proverbs 15:27 (NASV)

- We are to work for our needs and not steal.

Thou shalt not steal.

Exodus 20:15

A man is to provide for his own--the wife is not to be the provider. The wife must learn to be happy with the husband's provision.

But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

I Timothy 5:8

Spending/Saving

● Tithe first

The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first.

You must tithe all of your crops every year. Bring this tithe to eat before the Lord your God at the place He shall choose as His sanctuary; this applies to your tithe of grain, new wine, olive oil, and the firstborn of your flocks and herds. The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives.

Deuteronomy 14:22-23 (LB)

Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Proverbs 3:9-10

● Stay out of debt

It is poor judgment to counter-sign another's note---to become responsible for his debts.

Proverbs 17:18 (LB)

Just as the rich rule the poor, so the borrower is slave to the lender.

Proverbs 22:7 (LB)

Pay all your debts except the debt of love for others--never finish paying that! For if you love them, you will be obeying all of God's laws, fulfilling all His requirements.

Romans 13:8 (LB)

Stay away from credit buying! Develop a habit of paying cash for most of your shopping. When you are paying with cash, it is easier to keep track of how much you are spending.

The man in debt is enslaved to his creditors and is unavailable to God in mobility and flexibility.

● Save systematically and invest wisely

The wise saves for the future but the foolish spends whatever he gets.

Proverbs 21:20 (LB)

Take a lesson from the ants, you lazy fellow. Learn from their ways and be wise. For though they have no king to make them work, yet they labor hard all summer, gathering food for the winter.

Proverbs 6:6-8 (LB)

Practical advice on Saving

NOTES

Pay yourself first or you will find yourself supporting only the grocer, doctor, utility company, etc.

Make wise investments

Example: If a man saves \$1,000 per year for 5 years at 12% interest, he will have at the end of that period--not \$5,000 --but \$7,114.00. If he continues this program for a total of 20 years he would have \$72,052. He could then withdraw \$9,520 per year for the next 20 years. At the end of 17 years he will still have more on deposit than he invested originally.

Save because

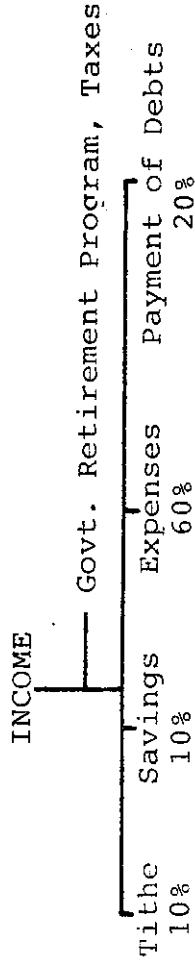
- You need a margin to replace necessary items, to pay cash for needs,
- For emergencies,
- To help others in need,
- To be available to God for ministry opportunities which cost money.

Have a budget and live within it

We should make plans counting on God to direct us.

Proverbs 16:9 (LB)

A good budget might look something like this



If you are not in debt, the portion designated for payment of debts could be put into your giving or savings program.

It is important to have a budget because in our lifetimes we will all handle a small fortune.

If my income per month is:	\$500	\$1000	\$1500	\$2000	\$2500
In forty years I will handle	\$240,000	\$480,000	\$720,000	\$960,000	\$1200,000

Hoarding

God has blessed us with His resources. These resources were not only to provide for our needs, but also to help others in need and to build the kingdom of God. It was never God's plan for us to hoard.

James warns that those who have hoarded their wealth will find misery coming upon them.

Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

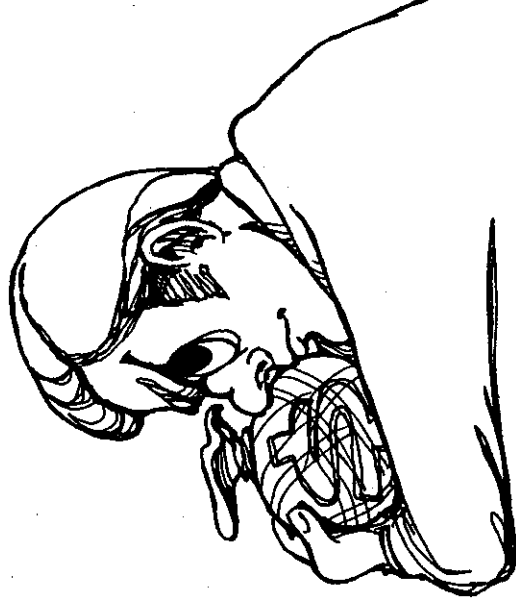
James 5:1-4

The book of Proverbs tells us that hoarding does not necessarily guarantee wealth--in fact, it may accomplish the exact opposite.

There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Proverbs 11:24-25



Jesus also spoke about the issue of hoarding and warned of God's judgment against it.

● Rich Young Ruler (Mark 10:17-22)

Jesus found this young man's weakness in the first commandment. The young man's possessions had become his god.

● The Rich Fool (Luke 12:16-21)

This man was not rich toward God--had no treasure in heaven. He did not realize that his life would be required of him so soon.

● Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31)

Jesus said that if the rich men would not listen to the prophets and Moses, they would be closed also to one who rose from the dead.

These men all served two masters: God and possession. Their money was hoarded and not used to build God's kingdom or to help those in need. Not only did they miss one of life's great blessings by refusing to give to others, but they also paid dearly for their greed.

Giving

The Bible teaches us that God is ever working to conform us to the image of His Son. Since the nature of God is giving and generosity, these attributes must become part of our nature as well. We must understand that:

- God is able to provide us with resources so that we are able to give.

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.

II Corinthians 9:8

God requires at least a tithe

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it., And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts.

Malachi 3:8-12

From this passage note the following:

- Men often try to rob God by keeping the 10% that is God's.
- People come to worship God in clothes and cars bought with money they have stolen from God.
- If people will give God His due portion, God will prove faithful to pour out blessings in far greater proportion than the tithe.

If God gives you \$10, one dollar belongs to Him. He will make your remaining \$9 go farther than the original \$10 if you faithfully return to Him His portion.

How to Give

Give the firstfruits

Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Proverbs 3:9-10

Start with 10%

Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year.

Deuteronomy 14:22

Systematically as God prospers us

Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

I Corinthians 16:1-2

Characteristics of the Giver

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give, not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

II Corinthians 9:7

- Every man to give as he purposes--decides
- Not grudgingly or of necessity
- Cheerfully

...that thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

Matthew 6:4

- In humility
- In secret

Blessings of Giving

God can give you more than you can ever need, so that you may always have sufficient for yourselves and enough left over to give to every good cause.

As the Scripture says:

He hath scattered abroad, he hath given to the poor, His righteousness abideth for ever.

He who gives the seed to the sower and bread to eat, will give you the seed of generosity to sow and will make it grow into a harvest of good deeds done.

The more you are enriched the more scope will there be for generous giving, and your gifts, administered through us, will mean that many will thank God. For your giving does not end in meeting the wants of your fellow-Christians. It also results in an overflowing tide of thanksgiving to God.

Moreover, your very giving proves the reality of your faith, and that means that men thank God that you practice the gospel of Christ that you profess to believe in, as well as for the actual gifts your fellowship makes to them and to others.

And yet further, men will pray for you and feel drawn to you because you have obviously received a generous measure of the grace of God.

Thank God, then, for his indescribable generosity to you!

II Corinthians 9:8-15 (JBP)

Who gets the blessings when gifts are given?

NOTES

God	Receiver	Giver
● Many thank God--v.11	● Needs supplied --v.12	● Grace--v.8
● A flood of thanks to God--v.12		● All needs supplied-- v.8
● Men thank God--v.13		● Increase and enlarge the harvest--v.9
● Men thank God for your gen- erosity-- v.15		● Rich in every way--v.11
		● Men will pray for you--v.14
		● Your faith is verified by your giving-- v.13



THE CALL TO FRUITFUL LIVING

Many people measure the fruitfulness of their lives by the quantity of their activities. But this does not give a true picture. What you are is more important than what you do.

The Bible emphasizes being and character.

GOD'S DESIRE FOR YOUR FRUITFULNESS

1. Read John 15:4-5. Here Jesus gives insight into the matter of spiritual fruitbearing.

a. In this analogy who is the vine and who are the branches?

b. What is necessary for the branch to bear fruit?

c. Why does the branch need the vine?

d. Explain what "abiding in Christ" means to you.

2. How can what you are draw attention to God? Matthew 5:16

3. Read about the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23. List the qualities God wants to produce in your life, and briefly define each one.

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT	BRIEF DEFINITION OF THE FRUIT
----------------------------	----------------------------------

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	

4. Contrast the two types of men in Jeremiah 17:5-8.

THE MAN WHO
TRUSTS IN MAN

THE MAN WHO
TRUSTS IN THE LORD

5. As you examine your own fruitfulness in light of these passages, what application do you need to make?

GROWING IN CHARACTER

6. What is God's desire for you as he continues to change your life? I Peter 1:15

7. Scripture reveals several important areas of life in which character will be displayed. What are they?

Philippians 4:8

Colossians 4:6

I Peter 2:12

What is the relationship between these three areas?

8. Is one of the areas of life mentioned in question 7 more important than the others? If so, which one and why? (Compare Luke 6:45.)

9. What will happen to your thoughts as you grow in character? Ephesians 4:23-24

How do you think Scripture memory can contribute to this process of growth?

10. Carefully examine II Peter 1:1-8. This portion of Scripture deals with the subject of growth in Christian character.

a. How has God equipped you to grow in character? Verses 2-4

b. What does verse 8 say about fruitfulness?

c. List the qualities mentioned in verse 5-7.

d. Which one of these qualities can you begin to strengthen?

e. With God's help, what step could you take to become more Christ-like in displaying the quality you mentioned?

In what you think: _____

In what you say: _____

In how you act: _____

Sow a thought, reap an act;
Sow an act, reap a habit;
Sow a habit, reap a character;
Sow a character, reap a destiny.*

11. What types of thought honor Jesus Christ? II Corinthians 10:5

GODLY WISDOM

12. One of the purposes of the Book of Proverbs is that people might attain wisdom--"for attaining wisdom and discipline; for understanding words of insight" (Proverbs 1:2).

What do the following verses teach about wisdom?

Proverbs 3:13-14 _____

Proverbs 9-10 _____

* From Knight's Book of Illustrations (Chicago: Moody Press, 1970).

Proverbs 19-20

When you next read the Book of Proverbs, make a list of the characteristics of a wise and godly man.

13. Read James 3:13-18.

a. How is godly wisdom displayed? Verse 13

b. Contrast godly wisdom with ungodly wisdom. Verse 15-17

GODLY WISDOM

UNGODLY WISDOM

14. What did James write about obtaining wisdom for decisions in difficult circumstances? James 1:5-6

Wisdom is more than knowledge, which is the accumulation of facts...It is the right application of knowledge in moral and spiritual matters.

J. OSWALD SANDERS*

15. Compare the value of wisdom and the value of riches.
I Kings 3:5-13.

THE JOY OF HOLY LIVING

16. What consistent teaching of Jesus is found in these verses-
John 15:11, 16:24, and 17:13?

17. What did Jesus promise to those who had "given up" much to
follow him? Luke 18:29-30

A preoccupation with "What's in it for me?" or "What do I have to give up?" reveals an immature understanding of the relationship God has with believers. God wants us to experience the best quality of life possible. And He has given specific directions on how we can live life in this way.

18. How can you maintain an attitude of joy? Psalm 16:11

19. Read Philippians 3:4-14.

a. List several of Paul's new attitudes and patterns which differed from his former ones.

FORMER ATTITUDES AND PATTERNS (verses 4-7)	NEW ATTITUDES PATTERNS (verses 7-14)
1. Put confidence in the flesh	
2. Religious leader	
3. Persecuted the church	
4. Blameless in the law	
5. Counted all as gain for self	

b. Why do you feel Paul had such a positive attitude about the future?

20. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gives eight basic ingredients for living a holy, happy life. From Matthew 5:3-12, list the blessing of life that Jesus promised to the person with each quality.

THE BLESSED MAN

JESUS' PROMISE

- | | | |
|--|----|---|
| 1. Poor in spirit--recognizing poverty in spiritual things (Verse 3) | 1. | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| 2. He who mourns (Verse 4) | 2. | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| 3. Meek (Verse 5) | 3. | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| 4. He who hungers and thirsts for righteousness (Verse 6) | 4. | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| 5. Merciful (Verse 5) | 5. | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| 6. Pure in heart (Verse 8) | 6. | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| 7. A peacemaker (Verse 9) | 7. | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| 8. He who is persecuted because of righteousness (Verse 10-11) | 8. | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |

Remember These Points:

Add a sentence or two to the following statements to summarize the most important things you learned from each section of this chapter.

God's Desire for Your Fruitfulness

God desires to produce fruit in our lives as a result of our relationship to him.

Growing in Character

Character growth involves thoughts, speech, and actions.

Godly Wisdom

Godly wisdom is more than knowledge.

The Joy of Holy Living

Joy will be characteristic of our lives as we live a Christ-centered life.

ETS 2/16

Date _____

Assignment Sheet

Name _____ Topic _____ PSMA _____

Lesson Evaluation and Appraisal _____ Class _____

Lecture	Completed	
	Yes	No
Review " Evaluation and Appraisal "		
Bible Study		
Do "Genuine Love in Action"		
PSMA		
Do 5 PSMA		
Fill out evaluation of your four objectives from 2/2		
Reading		
Bible Reading Chart		
Evangelism/Follow-Up/Discipleship		
Pray for 2 people to win to Christ.		
Pray for your disciple.		
Meet with your disciple.		
Scripture Memory		
Isaiah 26:3		
I Peter 5:7		
Review all verses.		



EVALUATION AND APPRAISAL

Introduction

Definition of Evaluation:

The examining of oneself to see that every part of the predetermined plan is functioning according to the performance standard necessary for accomplishing the goal.

It is interesting to note that God has been involved in the process of evaluating since the beginning of creation. The Genesis account records five times that the Lord evaluated the works of His hands--Gen. 1:4,12,19,21,26--and saw, "that it was good." In verse 31, it is recorded:

And God saw every thing that he had made, and beheld, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Genesis 1:31

So each day God evaluated His work and was pleased with what He saw; then on the sixth day He saw that it was very good.

Since the Psalmist knew this aspect about God, he encouraged the Lord to evaluate him in an effort to make himself the kind of man God wanted him to be.

The Bible says:

Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there

be any wicked way in me, and lead me in
the way everlasting!

Psalms 139:23-24

Most people dislike evaluation; they see it as a negative rather than a positive contribution to their lives. When students are tested on their ability to grasp the material taught in the course, they groan in apprehension.

Some have even left the course to escape testing or evaluation. Evaluation, however, is not to be a negative process. It is constructive and designed to help us.

Evaluation helps us:

- To measure where we are in relationship to where we would be in reaching our goals.

If evaluation is to be a constructive process it is helpful to be able to see the following:

Where I came from,
Where I am going,
Where I am now.

- To provide a basis and stimulus for needed correction.

If I have drifted off course or am not keeping pace with my stated progress, evaluation will stimulate me to corrective action.

- To provide a base for future planning.

Knowing where we are at any given time will give us a basis on which to do our planning for the future. Evaluation is the way we find out where we are.

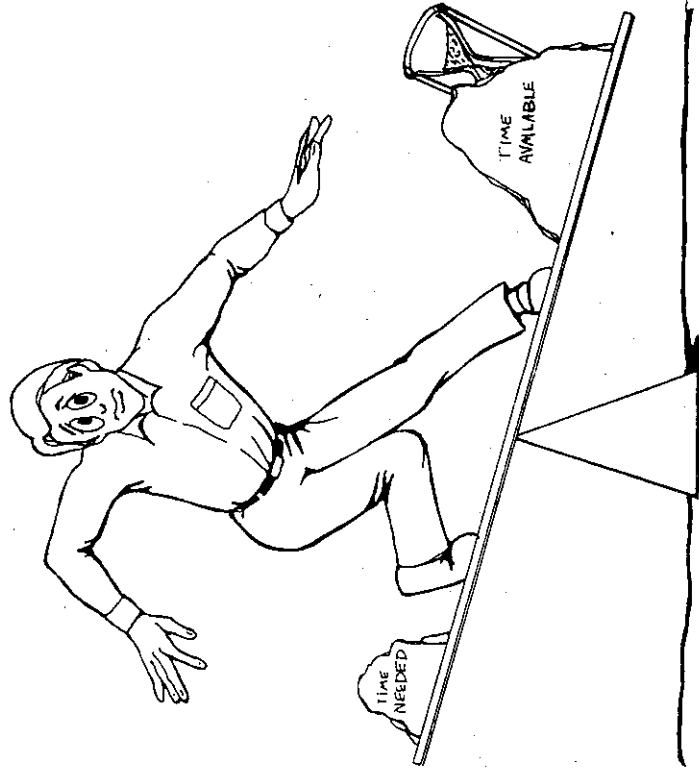
- To keep us moving toward the goals.

Evaluation reveals deviation and keeps us moving in the right direction.

- To help us have a sane estimate of our abilities.

When we set unrealistic goals for ourselves, evaluation will reveal it. If we find that

we are under pressure or overworked or just barely meeting our goals, our evaluation will help us to find a better balance or to set more realistic objectives.



Objective vs. Subjective Evaluation

Evaluation should always be made on the basis of the stated goal or objective. If there is no clear goal stated, you are forced to evaluate SUBJECTIVELY and not OBJECTIVELY. In other words, you base your evaluation on your emotional impression of how you are doing in relation to the unmeasurable and nebulous goal. If the objective has been well-written, however, it will contain within itself a clear, concise measurable basis for evaluation.

Good objectives are not easy to write--they require some careful thought. But once they are written they are easy to implement and measure because they state:

- The intent,
- The activity required to accomplish the objective,
- The plan for accomplishing the objective,
- The basis for evaluation.

Unfortunately, most Christians live by subjectives; they have no clear goals or objectives for their lives. They live from day to day, not sure where they are going. They are like a ship without rudders on the sea of life. They are driven by the winds and currents and do not understand that their lives are being dissipated by the temporal things of the world rather than being invested in eternal things of God. To suggest that they spend a half day alone with God for evaluation would be of little value because they lack the direction necessary to evaluate.

How to Evaluate

Evaluation consists of asking a series of questions. These questions help you determine where you are going and how you are doing. The series of questions should be something like this.

What is my objective?

Review each objective for the following areas:

- My walk with God,
- My family,
- My vocation or studies,
- My ministry,
- My use of resources (time, money, talents),
- My overall life objective.

Are these objectives written in a clear, concise manner so that your

 INTENT

 ACTIVITY

 PLAN

 PROGRESS can be measured?

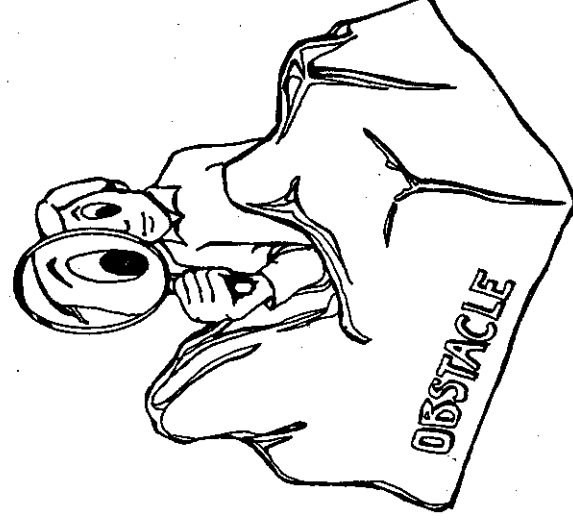
What is my present position in relation to my goal?

- Where am I?
- Where should I be?
- Am I on schedule?

The PLAN section of my stated objective should help me at this point. It should spell out what I am doing and the amount of time necessary to keep me on target on a daily or weekly basis. If this part is well written, it will be easy for me to figure out where I am and if I am ahead, behind, or on schedule.

What obstacles are keeping me from my goal?

- What specific hindrances are keeping me from being where the plans call for?



- Be honest at this point.
- Make sure you identify the REAL problem-- not just a symptom or surface problem.

Oftentimes people will say, "This is my problem," when a large percentage of the time it really is not. It may only be a symptom. Unless you discover the root cause and remove it, you will never solve the problem.

Suppose I hate roses, but had a rose bush in my garden. Would I ever get rid of the problem by cutting off every rose that appeared? By doing this I would only be pruning the bush and making it healthier. If I want to get rid of the bush, I need to get the shovel and remove it once and for all by attacking the root. The rose is the symptom, the problem is the root. Unfortunately many Christians are just pulling the roses off the bushes.

What corrections can I make to overcome the obstacles?

There may be several things that could be done to overcome a particular problem. List them and then choose the best one for conquering the obstacle in a realistic way.

Sometimes we think there is only one solution to a problem. This is not always true. We ought to be able to find three to five possible solutions for every problem. If we can't, we probably are not really thinking. If we are going to overcome obstacles, we need to carefully think through the possibilities, or we may find that a so-called solution has solved one problem but has now created two new ones!

What is my plan of action over the next three days/weeks/months?

Consider carefully this new corrective plan. Make sure it is REALISTIC, REASONABLE and will INSURE SUCCESS in getting me back on target.

Determine some method of enforced discipline on yourself since you have not been holding this item in proper priority.

Make this a matter of special prayer. If I really want to be successful in accomplishing these worthwhile objectives, I MUST live by my plans and structured activities. If I do, rather than constantly being under the pressure and burden of unfulfilled goals, I will experience greater freedom and flexibility.

I suggest that if we are already experiencing victory in our objectives, evaluation once every three months should be sufficient. If we are struggling, we should increase the frequency of our evaluations to every three weeks. However, if we are simply defeated, we should not put off evaluation for more than three days. Not to take this corrective measure will insure defeat and may cause us to lose hope and give up. Of course, this is exactly what Satan hopes will happen.

Remember that the successful man is willing to do what the unsuccessful man is NOT willing to do; namely, evaluating and enacting the necessary correction into his life.

Dangers in Evaluation Measure against yourself

- Make sure you measure yourself against your own objectives and abilities and not against other people or their objectives and abilities.

The Bible reminds us that:

For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

II Corinthians 10:12

The Scriptures tell us that we are very unwise if we do this. If you take a person with an IQ of 130 (or a five-talent man as the Bible puts it) and ask him to perform at the same standard as the two-talent man with an IQ of 100, something is drastically wrong. Clearly, one man is far more capable than the other. One may be giving the job all he has while the other is only performing at a 70% capacity. Both men certainly do not deserve the same evaluation.

Do it now

- Don't postpone or avoid it.

Many wait too long to do their evaluating or even until it is too late. If you have a

regular schedule, it will help you detect errors while they can still be corrected.

Remember: EVALUATION IS A CONSTRUCTIVE
PROCESS DESIGNED TO HELP YOU ACCOMPLISH
YOUR DESIRED GOAL.

Nothing motivates people like success.

Evaluate objectively

If you don't have measurable objectives, don't waste your time trying to evaluate. Redeem the time by setting some measurable objectives so there will be something realistic to measure yourself by later.

NOTES

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS PERSONAL EVALUATION FORM

FOLLOW-UP		Objectives	
		Present Position	
		Obstacles	
		Activities to Overcome Obstacles	
		Plan to Implement	

EXERCISE & SLEEP		Objectives	
		Present Position	
		Obstacles	
		Activities to Overcome Obstacles	
		Plan to Implement	

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP		Objectives	
		Present Position	
		Obstacles	
		Activities to Overcome Obstacles	
		Plan to Implement	

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS PERSONAL EVALUATION FORM

CAREER/STUDIES	Objectives	
	Present Position	
	Obstacles	
	Activities to Overcome Obstacles	
	Plan to Implement	

USE OF RESOURCES	Objectives	
	Present Position	
	Obstacles	
	Activities to Overcome Obstacles	
	Plan to Implement	

	Objectives	
	Present Position	
	Obstacles	
	Activities to Overcome Obstacles	
	Plan to Implement	

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

PERSONAL EVALUATION FORM

LIFE OBJECTIVE		Objectives	
		Present Position	
		Obstacles	
		Activities to Overcome Obstacles	
		Plan to Implement	

SCRIPTURE MEMORY		Objectives	
		Present Position	
		Obstacles	
		Activities to Overcome Obstacles	
		Plan to Implement	

BIBLE READING		Objectives	
		Present Position	
		Obstacles	
		Activities to Overcome Obstacles	
		Plan to Implement	

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

PERSONAL EVALUATION FORM

BIBLE STUDY		Objectives	
		Present Position	
		Obstacles	
		Activities to Overcome Obstacles	
		Plan to Implement	

PRAYER		Objectives	
		Present Position	
		Obstacles	
		Activities to Overcome Obstacles	
		Plan to Implement	

WITNESSING		Objectives	
		Present Position	
		Obstacles	
		Activities to Overcome Obstacles	
		Plan to Implement	

GENUINE LOVE IN ACTION

People have many different ideas about love. But usually these ideas fall far short of the deep, rich qualities of love we learn about in Scripture.

WHAT IS GENUINE LOVE?

1. What are some characteristics of genuine love? I Corinthians 13:4-8

WHAT LOVE IS

WHAT LOVE ISN'T

2. Carefully read I John 4:8-12.

- a. What important fact about God do you see in verse 8?

- b. What is the difference between saying "God is love" and "love is God"?

c. What has God done to demonstrate his love for us? Verses 9-10

d. Why should we love? Verses 11, 19

e. Can love and fear exist together? Why or why not? Verse 18

3. From your study thus far, summarize what love is like.

THE DIRECTION OF YOUR LOVE

4. Who should Christians love?

Deuteronomy 6:5

Luke 6:27

I Peter 4:8

5. Read John 13:34-35. Why do you think Jesus placed such emphasis on demonstrating love?

6. Read I John 3:16-18. Summarize in your own words how genuine love should be demonstrated.

Many people have learned only to exist with others: "If you do your part," they say, "I'll do mine." This conditional type of giving is not love. God wants us to say, "I will love you even if I receive nothing in return." God forms this selfless giving and loving in our attitudes and actions.

LOVE IN HUMILITY

7. Humility comes from having the right perspective toward God and toward yourself. What do the following verses tell you about this?

Jeremiah 9:23-24 _____

II Corinthians 10:18 _____

Philippians 2:3 _____

8. Read I Peter 5:5-6. Consider what God thinks about the humble person. Why do you think God places such a high value on humility in a person's life?

9. Consider Romans 12:3.

a. What error must you be careful to avoid? _____

b. What do you think are the results of overestimating yourself? _____

c. What do you think of underestimating yourself?

Any preoccupation with self is pride.

PRIDE

Thinking too highly of self:
"God's work can't
get along without me!"

Thinking too lowly of self:
"God can't do anything
through me!"

10. What do the following verses warn about?

II Corinthians 10:12

James 3:16

11. Read Proverbs 8:13.

a. What is God's attitude toward pride?

b. What are some common ways pride is revealed in your life?

c. What specific thing do you feel God would want you to do about one of these areas?

12. Summarize the relationship you see between love and humility.

LOVE IN SPEECH

13. What can the right words do?

Proverbs 12:25 _____

Proverbs 16:24 _____

Proverbs 22:11 _____

14. What sins are you warned to avoid?

Proverbs 10:19 _____

Proverbs 17:9 _____

Proverbs 27:2 _____

15. Read I Thessalonians 2:1-2. Paul has great love for the Thessalonians (verse 8) and displayed it in his speech. How did Paul speak to the Thessalonians?

Verse 3 _____

Verse 4 _____

Verse 5 _____

Verse 11 _____

LOVE IN GOOD WORKS

Love is not an inner feeling but an act of the will. Love can be known only by the action it produces.

16. What is the relationship between salvation and good works?
Ephesians 2:8-10

Why do you think a Christian should practice good works?

17. What should be the primary motivation behind your actions?
I Corinthians 10:31

18. Consider I John 3:17. Would you be willing to take off your coat and give it to a needy Christian? Perhaps you can think of an instance where you could have met another's need but did not. What could you do when there is another opportunity like this?

19. What should you remember in doing good works?

Galatians 6:9-10

Titus 3:8

This love of which I speak is slow to lose
patience--it looks for a way of being
constructive.

It is not possessive: It is neither anxious to impress
nor does it cherish inflated ideas
of its own importance.

Love has good manners and does not pursue
selfish advantage;

It is not touchy.

It does not keep account of evil or gloat over the
wickedness of other people. On the contrary, it
shares the joy of those who live by the truth.

Love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to
its trust, no fading of its hope; it can outlast
anything."

I CORINTHIANS 13:4-8,
PHILLIPS*

Remember These Points:

Add a sentence or two to the following statements to summarize the
most important things you learned from each section of this chapter.

What Is Genuine Love?

The Scriptures reveal and demonstrate God's love.

* From The New Testament in Modern English, Revised Edition, copy-
right, 1960, 1972 by J. B. Phillips.

The Direction of Your Love

Scripture teaches that love should mark us as Christians.

Love in Humility

Humility is the starting point for love.

Love in Speech

Love is demonstrated by our speech.

Love in Good Works

Actions will show the reality of our love.
