

Basic Christian Life

Part 1: Your Life in Christ

Discipleship Training for Dynamic Believers

WorkBook



The cover symbol is based upon Psalm one. The tree represents a dynamic Christian firmly planted in the Word of God and thus rooted in Christ. Colossians 2:7 is the New Testament variant with the same ideas of rooted, built up, established and abounding with thanksgiving.

All Scripture verses in this course are taken
from the NIV unless otherwise noted.

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Note Exodus 20:15

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How This Series Came About

This course was originally called *The 2:7 Series*. Its purpose is to train church members in Christian discipleship. It is the product of much prayer, research, repeated field testing within the church environment, and rewriting based on this experience. The *Basic Christian Life* course is made up of a total of 3 parts taken from the original *2:7 Series*.

Why was it called *The 2:7 Series*? The name comes from the Scripture reference Colossians 2:7 — the statement of the Apostle Paul to a New Testament church: “Rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.”

What is the purpose of this course? What the Holy Spirit expresses through Paul in Colossians 2:7 clearly defines the specific goals of this training:

1. *For a Christian to become built up in Christ and established in his faith.* This series of courses includes instruction in practical Bible study techniques, Scripture memory skills, how to have an exciting devotional life, and how to be effective in evangelism.
2. *For a Christian to learn to overflow with gratitude in his everyday life.* The series will help an individual learn to experience and enjoy a stable and consistent Christian walk.

3. *For a Christian to be instructed.* This implies that training must take place before a person develops into the kind of Christian whose life will have an impact on his community.

What are some results of this course? Many who have been trained through this series have developed qualities enabling them to assume greater responsibilities and become more effective in their local churches. Marriages and families have been helped as individual members have grown spiritually and become firmly established in their walks with God. After graduating from this course, these maturing Christians have had additional tools to help others in their growth in Christ and in reaching out to non-Christians.

General Comments

1. Each of the three parts of *Basic Christian Life* has 12 sessions.
2. There should be a maximum of eight students in a group to enable them to have the best personal attention. This will also create a more informal atmosphere. (Some groups may have as many as 10 students.)
3. No one should join the group after Session 2.
4. You must complete certain requirements to graduate from this course. While not difficult, graduation will require purposeful effort. Each of you will either pass or fail. Plan to graduate.
5. Keep in mind that anything truly worthwhile will be costly in some way.
6. Most sessions will require you to spend about one hour of outside preparation. A few sessions will require between one and two hours of preparation time.
7. If you complete your assigned work on time, you will find the sessions more enjoyable. You will also derive more permanent benefit from the course.
8. You will not want to miss more than two of the twelve sessions. It is difficult to catch up once you get behind.
9. This is not a lecture series. You will have an opportunity to participate in every session.

10. When you see the STOP icon, do not proceed further until instructed to do so by your facilitator.



11. At the beginning of every lesson is an outline of the next session when your group will be getting together. It will help you be prepared for what will happen there.

Our prayer is that many local churches will find *Basic Christian Life* a useful tool for raising up a trained lay leadership for the cause of Jesus Christ.

“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few” (Matthew 9:37).

Completion Record

Ask others in your study group to check you on your completion of the requirements in this course and have them initial and date each section.

	Initial	Date
SCRIPTURE MEMORY		
“Beginning with Christ” memory verses:		
“Assurance of Salvation” — 1 John 5:11–12		
“Assurance of Answered Prayer” — John 16:24		
“Assurance of Victory” — 1 Corinthians 10:13		
“Assurance of Forgiveness” — 1 John 1:9		
“Assurance of Guidance” — Proverbs 3:5–6		
Quoted all of “Beginning with Christ”		
Reviewed “Beginning with Christ” for 14 consecutive days		
Completed the Quiz on pages 25–26		

QUIET TIME		
Completed “Bible Reading Highlights Record” for 14 consecutive days		
BIBLE STUDY — <i>Your Life in Christ</i>		
Topic 1 — God Cares for You, Parts A and B (pp. 26–30 and 39–40)		
Topic 2 — The Person of Jesus Christ, Parts A and B (pp. 46–48 and 60–63)		
Topic 3 — The Work of Christ, Parts A and B (pp. 69–71 and 74–75)		
Topic 4 — The Spirit within You, Parts A and B (pp. 86–89 and 92–94)		
BOOKLET STUDIED		
<i>Tyranny of the Urgent</i> (pp. 32–37)		
Completed pages 37–38		
MISCELLANEOUS		
Completed the Evaluation of the Wheel on page 86		
Completed “Why Memorize Scripture” on pages 96–97		
LEADER’S CHECK		
Five entries on the “Bible Reading Highlights Record”		
Graduated from <i>Basic Christian Life, Part 1</i>		

Lesson 1





OUTLINE OF SESSION 1

- A. Get acquainted with all the members of the class.
- B. Read the whole “How This Series Came About” section (pages 5–6).
- C. Read “General Comments” (pages 6–7).
- D. Learn how to make Bible reading exciting:
 - 1. Use a contemporary Bible translation.
 - 2. Study “How to Mark Your Bible as You Read” (pages 12–14).
 - 3. Study “Where to Read in Your Bible” (pages 14–15).
- E. Complete the “Reading and Marking Exercise” (pages 15–16) and share.
- F. Look over the five short passages you will be memorizing (in Lesson 2, pages 21–24).
- G. Read “How to Memorize a Verse Effectively” (pages 16–18).
- H. Read the Assignment for Session 2 (page 18).
- I. Close the session in prayer.

I. How to Mark Your Bible as You Read

Felt-tip pens *cannot* be used on the thin paper on which most Bibles are printed. Try to obtain an inexpensive paperback Bible with heavier paper for your reading and marking.

You can use a ballpoint pen, a colored pencil, or a fine felt-tip pen to mark your Bible with the following symbols:

1. Brackets — ()
2. Short diagonal lead-ins — \
3. Parallel diagonal lines in the margin — //
4. Circles — 
5. Vertical lines in the margin — |
6. Underlining — 

In addition, you may use a felt-tip “highlighter” (usually yellow) to mark *through* the words you want to draw attention to instead of underlining them. The “highlighter” will leave a background of color light enough to allow you to read the words. You can also use a colored pencil to do this.

You may choose to use all of these markings as you read, you may choose to use only one or two of your favorite ones, or you may choose to make up some of your own.

In the following four passages of Scripture from three different versions, marking is illustrated.

ISAIAH 11:1-7 (LIVING BIBLE)

The Royal Line of David will be cut off, chopped down like a tree; but from the stump will grow a Shoot —yes, a new Branch from the old root. ²And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, (the Spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel and might; the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord) ³His delight will be obedience to the Lord. He will not judge by appearance, false evidence, or hearsay, ⁴but will defend the poor and the exploited. He will rule against the wicked who oppress them. ⁵For he will be clothed with fairness and with truth.

⁶In that day the wolf and the lamb will lie down together, and the leopard and goats will be at peace. Calves and fat cattle will be

safe among lions, and a little child shall lead them all. ⁷The cows will graze among bears; cubs and calves will lie down together, and lions will eat grass like the cows.

LUKE 5:15–17 (LIVING BIBLE)

¹⁵Now the report of his power spread even faster and vast crowds came to hear him preach and to be healed of their diseases. ¹⁶But he often withdrew to the wilderness for prayer.

¹⁷One day while he was teaching, some Jewish religious leaders and teachers of the Law were sitting nearby. (It seemed that these men showed up from every village in all Galilee and Judea, as well as from Jerusalem.) And the Lord's healing power was upon him.

1 KINGS 12:3–13 (BERKELEY)

³When Jeroboam and all the assembly of Israel arrived, they addressed Rehoboam, saying, ⁴"Your father made our yoke unbearable. (Now lighten the unbearable service of your father and the heavy yoke he laid upon us, and we will serve you.)" ⁵He responded, "Give me three more days, then return to me."

When the people left, ⁶Rehoboam conferred with the elders who had stood by Solomon when he was still alive, saying, "How would you advise me to reply to the people?" ⁷They advised him, ("If you will be a servant to this people now and serve them and reply to them with kind words, they will always be your servants.") ⁸But he rejected the advice which the elders gave him. Then he conferred with the young men who grew up with him and who stood by him. ⁹"What do you advise us to say to this people who petitioned me, 'Make lighter the yoke your father laid upon us'?"

¹⁰The young men who grew up with him replied, "Thus you must say to this people who petitioned you, 'Your father made heavy our yoke, do make it lighter for us,' you must say to them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's loins. "Now my father has laid upon you a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke. My father flogged you with whips, I will flog you with scorpions.'"

¹²Jeroboam and all the people came back on the third day to Rehoboam as the king had directed, saying, "Return to me on the third day." ¹³The king spoke harshly to the people, disregarding the advice given him by the elders.

1 THESSALONIANS 1:1–7 (AMPLIFIED)

Paul, Silvanus (Silas) and Timothy to the assembly (church) of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, the Messiah: (Grace (spiritual blessing and divine favor) to you and heart peace.)

²We are ever giving thanks to God for all of you, continually mentioning [you when engaged] in our prayers, ³recalling unceasingly before our God and Father your work energized by faith and service motivated by love, and unwavering hope in (the return of) our Lord Jesus Christ, the Messiah.

⁴[O] brethren beloved by God, we recognize and know that He has selected (chosen) you; ⁵for our [preaching of the] glad tidings (the Gospel) came to you not only in word, but also (in its own inherent) power) and in the Holy Spirit, and with great conviction and absolute certainty (on our part). You know what kind of men we proved [ourselves] to be among you for your good. ⁶And you [set yourselves to] become imitators of us and [through us] of the Lord Himself, for you welcomed our message in [spite of the] much persecution, with joy [inspired] of the Holy Spirit; ⁷so that you [thus] became a pattern to all the believers — those who adhere to, trust in and rely on Christ Jesus — in Macedonia and Achaia [most of Greece].

II. Where to Read in Your Bible

If reading the Bible is fairly new to you, you might want to start with books in the New Testament. (Some, however, might find the Gospel of Matthew to be difficult reading, so begin with Mark or John.)

Finish reading all of one book before starting another.

Perhaps the two most difficult books in the Bible are Leviticus and Revelation. You may want to put off reading these two till after you have completed *BCL Part 1*.

Instead of reading the Gospels consecutively, intersperse them with other books for variety.

When you are ready to begin reading in the Old Testament, you might pick one of the following books: Joshua, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings,

2 Kings, Genesis, Daniel. Some of these books have difficult parts, so just skim through those sections.



Reading and Marking Exercise

For your reading and marking exercise, you will now work on Romans 12. The passage is printed here for you. As you do this exercise, you will want to (1) pray that God will speak to you from His Word, (2) think through the passage, and (3) mark the thoughts that impress you most. After you have read this passage, you will have an opportunity later to share one or two things that you marked.

ROMANS 12 (LIVING BIBLE)

And so, dear brothers, I plead with you to give your bodies to God. Let them be a living sacrifice, holy — the kind he can accept. When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask? ²Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but be a new and different person with a fresh newness in all you do and think. Then you will learn from your own experience how his way will really satisfy you.

³As God's messenger I give each of you God's warning: Be honest in your estimate of yourselves, measuring your value by how much faith God has given you. ^{4,5}Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with Christ's body. We are all parts of it, and it takes every one of us to make it complete, for we each have different work to do. So we belong to each other, and each needs all the others.

⁶God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy then prophesy whenever you can — as often as your faith is strong enough to receive a message from God. ⁷If your gift is that of serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, do a good job of teaching. ⁸If you are a preacher, see to it that your sermons are strong and helpful. If God has given you money be generous in helping others with it. If God has given you administrative ability and put you in charge of the work of others, take the responsibility seriously. Those who offer comfort to the sorrowing should do so with Christian cheer.

⁹Don't just pretend that you love others: really love them. Hate what is wrong. Stand on the side of good. ¹⁰Love each other with

brotherly affection and take delight in honoring each other.
¹¹Never be lazy in your work but serve the Lord enthusiastically.

¹²Be glad for all God is planning for you. Be patient in trouble, and prayerful always. ¹³When God's children are in need, you be the one to help them out. And get into the habit of inviting guests home for dinner or, if they need lodging, for the night.

¹⁴If someone mistreats you because you are a Christian, don't curse him; pray that God will bless him. ¹⁵When others are happy, be happy with them. If they are sad, share their sorrow. ¹⁶Work happily together. Don't try to act big. Don't try to get into the good graces of important people, but enjoy the company of ordinary folks. And don't think you know it all!

¹⁷Never pay back evil for evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honest clear through. ¹⁸Don't quarrel with anyone. Be at peace with everyone, just as much as possible.

¹⁹Dear friends, never avenge yourselves. Leave that to God, for he has said that he will repay those who deserve it. [Don't take the law into your own hands.]

²⁰Instead, feed your enemy if he is hungry. If he is thirsty give him something to drink and you will be "heaping coals of fire on his head." In other words, he will feel ashamed of himself for what he has done to you. ²¹ Don't let evil get the upper hand but conquer evil by doing good.

III. How to Memorize a Verse Effectively

During this course you will be required to memorize five scriptures: I John 5:11–12; John 16:24; I Corinthians 10:13; I John 1:9; Proverbs 3:5–6. This collection of verses is entitled "Beginning with Christ." You will learn more about these verses in Lesson 2.

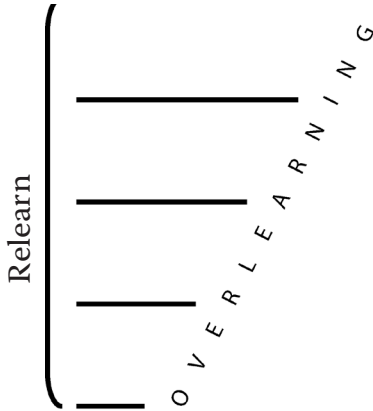
As you start to memorize each verse, read it aloud several times. Each time you read it, say the topic, the reference, and the verse; then repeat the reference. Try to understand what the verse means. (Note that in your "Beginning with Christ" explanation (pages 20–24) you will find the five verses you are memorizing explained.)

Guidelines for Memorizing a Verse of Scripture

1. Work on the verses audibly whenever possible.
2. Learn the topic and the reference first.
3. Add the first phrase to the topic and reference.
4. After you have reviewed the first phrase, reference, and topic a few times, add the second phrase. Gradually add phrases till you know the whole verse.
5. As you memorize and review the verse, think about how it applies to your own life.
6. Always review the verse in this sequence:
 - a. TOPIC: "Assurance of Salvation"
 - b. REFERENCE: "First John five, eleven and twelve"
 - c. VERSE(S): "And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life."
 - d. REFERENCE: "First John five, eleven and twelve"
7. The most important time to review a verse repeatedly is right after you can repeat the whole (topic, reference, verse, reference) without making a mistake. Review the verse a minimum of once daily after that, preferably several times a day for a few days. Some people say that they cannot memorize. In reality, most people tend to have short memories. God has given us a "forgetter," and there are some things we *should* forget. God has also given us the capacity to remember. But we must apply the basic principles of memory to do this. The primary principle is REVIEW. A verse is learned, partially forgotten, relearned, partially forgotten, and relearned again. The relearning process takes progressively less time till forgetting is replaced by knowing. The following diagram illustrates this:

TIME LINE

(For example, 10 minutes)



EXPLANATION

This is the length of time it takes you to memorize a specific verse perfectly.

Some hours later you cannot quote it and must relearn it but with less effort and time than before.

You forget some but require less relearn time.

You forget some but require even less relearn time.

You forget some but require much less relearn time.

You can confidently and comfortably quote the verse.



Assignment for Session 2

1. *Lesson 2:* Carefully read Lesson 2, answer the questions and work through the Bible study. Be prepared to share your answers at the next session.
2. *Scripture Memory:* Memorize the two verses on “Assurance of Salvation,” 1 John 5:11–12.
3. *Bible Reading:* If possible obtain a contemporary translation of the Bible. Read and mark in it each day.

Lesson 2



OUTLINE OF SESSION 2

- A. Get further acquainted with one another.
- B. Review Session 1
- C. Share with the rest of the group what you have read and marked in your Bible this week
- D. Break into small groups to review memory verses — 1 John 5:11–12
- E. Review memory methods:
 - 1. Practice aloud
 - 2. Spot and correct repeated errors
 - 3. Review is the key. Do it daily!
- F. Discuss the “Beginning with Christ Summary Quiz” (pages 25–26)
- G. Discuss questions in “God Cares for You, Part A” (pages 26–30)
- H. Read the Assignment for Session 3 (page 30)
- I. Close the session in prayer

I. “Beginning with Christ” Explanation

Jesus Christ said, “I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me” (Revelation 3:20). Coupled with this wonderful truth is the statement in His Word that “to all who received Him, He gave the right to become children of God” (John 1:12).

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

Altogether too many people make the mistake of measuring the certainty of their salvation by their feelings. Don’t make this tragic mistake. Believe God. Take Him at His word: “I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life” (1 John 5:13).

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

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

In 1 Peter 2:2 you will read, “Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.” In Acts 20:32 you will read, “Now I commit you to God and to the Word of His grace, which can build you up.” His Word will now serve as your spiritual food and will build you up in the faith. You probably have a Bible or New Testament. If not, get one and begin to read it faithfully every day. It is most important that you have time set aside, preferably in the morning, to read and study the Word of God and pray.

Now let's be more specific with regard to your intake of the Word of God. In Psalm 119 we read, "How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to Your Word" (verse 9), and then the psalmist speaks to the Lord saying, "I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You" (verse 11). So we challenge you to hide His Word in your heart — to memorize it. In this course we have included five key passages with which you may begin.

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

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

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

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

1. Assurance of Salvation

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

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

What will your answer be? Your only hope to withstand such an attack is to resort to God's Word. What does God say about the matter? That is the important thing. And so the first memory passage, 1 John 5:11–12 entitled Assurance of Salvation, says:

And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

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

2. Assurance of Answered Prayer

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

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

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

Until now you have not asked for anything in My Name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

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

3. Assurance of Victory

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

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

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

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

How will you answer him? Will you attempt to reason? Will you try to produce your own arguments? Will you run to see what this person or that one says, or will you resort to the invincible Word? The third verse, 1 Corinthians 10:13, is chosen especially to meet this attack of Satan:

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

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

4. Assurance of Forgiveness

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

“Now you’ve done it. Aren’t you supposed to be a Christian? Christians don’t do those things.”

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

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

To confess a sin means to uncover it by calling it exactly what God calls it. Implicit in honest confession is the willingness to forsake the sin (Prov-

erbs 28:13). God promises not only to forgive us, but also to cleanse us. What a gracious provision!

5. Assurance of Guidance

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

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

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



The verses you will memorize during Part 1 of this course are at the back of this workbook in Appendix C. Start with the first verse, 1 John 5:11–12. Read it over several times to help grasp the passage as a whole. Then break it into natural phrases. Memorize the topic and reference first. Then add the first phrase, then the second phrase, and so on. Each time you go over it state the reference, the verse and the reference again at the end. Repeating the reference “fore ‘n aft” will prevent future difficulty in remembering the location of the passage.

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

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

After you have memorized these verses and learned to apply them, you will be aware of the strength and blessing that comes from hiding God's Word in your heart.

II. “Beginning with Christ” Summary Quiz

Complete the following questions based on your reading *Beginning with Christ*. (Most of these questions are based on material on pages 12–15.)

1. The five topics and references of the verses you will be memorizing during *Basic Christian Life, Part 1* are:

TOPIC	REFERENCE
Assurance of _____	
Assurance of _____	
Assurance of _____	
Assurance of _____	
Assurance of _____	

2. What verse begins with “I stand at the door and knock”? (page 20)

3. Complete the following sentence (page 20): “Altogether too many people make the mistake of measuring the certainty of their salvation _____.”
4. Complete the following sentence (1 Peter 2:2; Acts 20:32; page 20):
“His Word will now serve as your _____
and will _____ in the faith.”
5. The psalmist said, “I have hidden Your word in my heart” (Psalm 119:11). What do you think that means? (page 21)

6. What effective weapon has God provided for use against Satan’s attacks? (Ephesians 6:17, page 21)

-
7. What did Jesus say to Satan in a time of temptation? (page 21)
-
-

III. Bible Study: God Cares for You, Part A

One-third of the world's people go to bed hungry. Yet it's far worse to be one of the many who go through life spiritually undernourished. The words Jesus spoke centuries ago are still true, "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4).

Because they recognize this hunger of heart that only God's Word can satisfy, more and more people are turning to serious study of the Bible. Both those new to the Christian faith and those who have known Christ for many years need this divinely appointed food for spiritual health and growth.

The Bible studies used in *Basic Christian Life* have been carefully worked out to help you:

- establish a program of personal study of God's Word.
- examine the great truths of the Bible.
- learn and practice the essentials of discipleship.

To get the full benefit of the course, it is important that you work consecutively from *Part 1* through *Part 3*. This series of studies builds progressively as you go along, so you will not want to miss any of them.

All you need to begin is a Bible. The questions will direct you to a passage of Scripture. After considering the Scripture, write the answer in your own words. Scripture references will give the book, chapter, and verse(s). For example, Revelation 3:20 refers to the Book of Revelation, chapter 3, verse 20.

The theme of the Bible study in this workbook is "Your Life in Christ."

Be sure to pray before you begin your study. Ask the Lord for understanding as you study. We will be covering the following topics:

1. God Cares for You
2. The Person of Jesus Christ

3. The Work of Christ
4. The Spirit within You

You are a special person!

You are special because God thinks you are special. God says you are valuable to Him. He genuinely cares about you and what happens to you. In the two parts of this Bible study, you will investigate four statements of God's concern for you:

1. God created you
2. God knows you
3. God loves you
4. God made you part of His family

A. God Created You

1. Genesis is the book of beginnings. Chapter 1 relates how God created the universe. Read Genesis 1:1–5. List below at least three facts concerning the creation.

2. How did God create the world? Hebrews 11:3

3. How did God create all things? Revelation 4:11

4. Why did God create you? Isaiah 43:7

(*Glory* may be defined as splendor or honor.)

5. The dignity that God gave man is shown by man's uniqueness, man's authority, man's purpose. List some facts from Genesis 1:26–28 that indicate:

- a. the uniqueness of man _____

- b. the position or authority of man _____

- c. the purpose of man _____

B. God Knows You

6. In Psalm 139:1–6 David mentions several areas of his life which God has “searched and known.” List at least four of them. Then put a check mark by the areas God knows about your life.

7. What was David’s response to the realization of God’s complete knowledge of him? Psalm 139:23–24

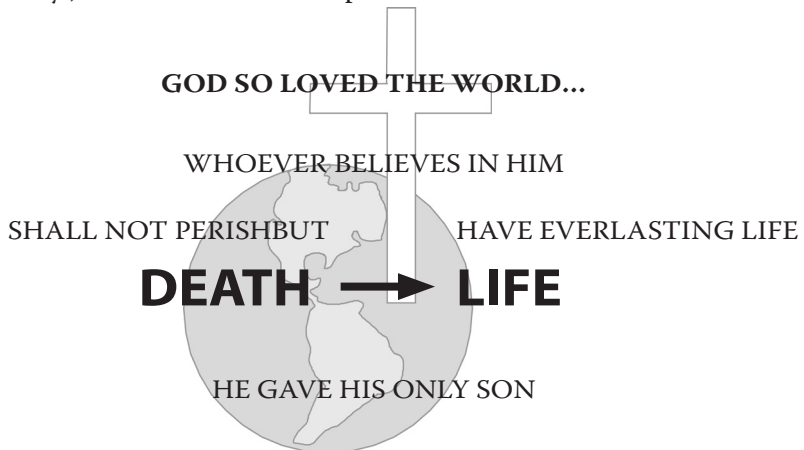
8. What does Jesus reveal about God's detailed interest in you? Matthew 10:29–31

C. God Loves You

9. What was God's greatest demonstration of His love? 1 John 4:9–10

(*Manifest* means to show or make apparent; *propitiation* or *expiation* means a payment that restores favor.)

10. Study John 3:16 in relationship to the illustration below.



- a. What did God's love cause Him to do?
- b. What does it mean that God "gave" His Son?

c. How can a person receive eternal life?

11. In John 10:9–16, Jesus compares His love and concern to the love and concern of a shepherd. According to this passage, what are some of the things He wants to give you?

VERSE

WHAT JESUS WANTS TO GIVE YOU

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

12. Which items listed above are most important to you?
- _____
- _____

Take a moment to pray. Thank God that all the things listed above are available to you. Specifically remember those which mean the most to you. Praise Him that these things are given to you because of Jesus, and that you do not earn them by your actions.



Assignment for Session 3

1. *Scripture Memory:* Memorize the verse on “Assurance of Answered Prayer,” John 16:24.
2. *Bible Reading:* Continue reading and marking your Bible.
3. *Lesson 3:* Carefully read Lesson 3, answer the questions and work through the Bible study. When you see the Stop sign do not go any further in the lesson. Be prepared to share your answers at the next session.

Lesson 3



OUTLINE OF SESSION 3

- A. Study “How to Review Memory Verses Together” on page 41.
- B. Break into groups of two or three and review memory verses:
 - 1. “Assurance of Salvation” — 1 John 5:11–12
 - 2. “Assurance of Answered Prayer” — John 16:24
- C. Share with the rest of the group what you have read and marked in your Bible this week.
- D. Discuss the article *Tyranny of the Urgent* (pages 32–37).
- E. Go over “My Personal Reading Record” and how to use it (pages 41–44).
- F. Discuss questions for the Bible study and the “Summary of “God Cares for You” (pages 39–40).
- H. Read the Assignment for Session 4 (page 44).
- I. Close the session in prayer.

I. Tyranny of the Urgent

Charles E. Hummel

Have you ever wished for a thirty-hour day? Surely this extra time would relieve the tremendous pressure under which we live. Our lives leave a trail of unfinished tasks. Unanswered letters, unvisited friends, unwritten articles, and unread books haunt quiet moments when we stop to evaluate. We desperately need relief.

But would a thirty-hour day really solve the problem? Wouldn't we soon be just as frustrated as we are now with our twenty-four allotment? A mother's work is never finished, and neither is that of any student, teacher, minister, or anyone else we know. Nor will the passage of time help us catch up. Children grow in number and age to require more of our time. Greater experience in profession and church brings more exacting assignments. So we find ourselves working more and enjoying it less.

Jumbled Priorities...?

When we stop to evaluate, we realize that our dilemma goes deeper than shortage of time; it is basically the problem of priorities. Hard work does not hurt us. We all know what it is to go full speed for long hours, totally involved in an important task. The resulting weariness is matched by a sense of achievement and joy. Not hard work, but doubt and misgiving produce anxiety as we review a month or year and become oppressed by the pile of unfinished tasks. We sense uneasily that we may have failed to do the, important. The winds of other people's demands have driven us onto a reef of frustration. We confess, quite apart from our sins, "We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done."

Several years ago an experienced cotton mill manager said to me, "Your greatest danger is letting the urgent things crowd out the important." He didn't realize how hard his maxim hit. It often returns to haunt and rebuke me by raising the critical problem of priorities.

We live in constant tension between the urgent and the important. The problem is that the important task rarely must be done today or even this week. Extra hours of prayer and Bible study, a visit with that non-Christian friend, careful study of an important book: these projects can wait. But the urgent tasks call for instant action — endless demands pressure every hour and day.

A man's home is no longer his castle; it is no longer a place away from urgent tasks because the telephone breaches the walls with imperious demands. The momentary appeal of these tasks seems irresistible and important, and they devour our energy. But in the light of time's perspective their deceptive prominence fades; with a sense of loss we recall the important tasks pushed aside. We realize we've become slaves to the tyranny of the urgent.

Can You Escape...?

Is there any escape from this pattern of living? The answer lies in the life of our Lord. On the night before He died, Jesus made an astonishing claim. In the great prayer of John 17 He said, "I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do" (verse 4).

How could Jesus use the word "finished"? His three-year ministry seemed all too short. A prostitute at Simon's banquet had found forgiveness and a new life, but many others still walked the street without forgiveness and a new life. For every ten withered muscles that had flexed into health, a hundred remained impotent. Yet on that last night, with many useful tasks undone and urgent human needs unmet, the Lord had peace; He knew He had finished God's work.

The Gospel records show that Jesus worked hard. After describing a busy day Mark writes, "That evening, at sundown, they brought to Him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered about the door. And He healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons" (1:32–34).

On another occasion the demand of the ill and maimed caused Him to miss supper and to work so late that His disciples thought He was beside Himself (Mark 3:21). One day after a strenuous teaching session, Jesus and His disciples went out in a boat. Even a storm didn't awaken Him (Matthew 4:37–38). What a picture of exhaustion.

Yet His life was never feverish; He had time for people. He could spend hours talking to one person, such as the Samaritan woman at the well. His life showed a wonderful balance, a sense of timing. When His brothers wanted Him to go to Judea, He replied, "My time has not yet come" (John 7:6). Jesus did not ruin His gifts by haste. In *The Discipline and Culture of the Spiritual Life*, A. E. Whiteham observes: "Here in this Man is adequate purpose... inward rest, that gives an air of leisure to His crowded life: above all there is in this Man a secret and a power of dealing with the waste-products of life, the

waste of pain, disappointment, enmity, death — turning to divine uses the abuses of man, transforming arid places of pain to fruitfulness, triumphing at last in death, and making a short life of thirty years or so, abruptly cut off, to be a “finished” life. We cannot admire the poise and beauty of this human life, and then ignore the things that made it.”

Wait for Instructions...

What was the secret of Jesus’ work? We find a clue following Mark’s account of Jesus’ busy day. Mark observes that “... in the morning, a great while before day, He rose and went out to a lonely place, and there He prayed” (Mark 1:35). Here is the secret of Jesus’ life and work for God: He prayerfully waited for His Father’s instructions and for the strength to follow them. Jesus had no divinely-drawn blueprint; He discerned the Father’s will day by day in a life of prayer. By this means He warded off the urgent and accomplished the important.

Lazarus’ death illustrates this principle. What could have been more important than the urgent message from Mary and Martha, “Lord, he whom You love is ill” (John 11:3)? John records the Lord’s response in these paradoxical words: “Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when He heard that he was ill, He stayed two days longer in the place where He was” (verses 5–6). What was the urgent need? Obviously to prevent the death of this beloved brother. But the important thing from God’s point of view was to raise Lazarus from the dead. So Lazarus was allowed to die. Later Jesus revived him as a sign of His magnificent claim, “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me though he die, yet shall he live” (verse 25).

We may wonder why our Lord’s ministry was so short, why it could not have lasted another five or ten years, why so many wretched sufferers were left in their misery. Scripture gives no answer to these questions, and we leave them in the mystery of God’s purposes. But we do know that Jesus’ prayerful waiting for God’s instructions freed Him from the tyranny of the urgent. It gave Him a sense of direction, set a steady pace, and enabled Him to do every task God assigned. And on the last night He could say, “I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do.”

Dependence Makes You Free...

Freedom from the tyranny of the urgent is found in the example and promise of our Lord. At the end of a vigorous debate with the Pharisees

in Jerusalem, Jesus said to those who believed in Him: “If you continue in My Word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.... Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin... So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed” (John 8:31–36).

Many of us have experienced Christ’s deliverance from the penalty of sin. Are we letting Him free us from the tyranny of the urgent? He points the way: “If you continue in My Word.” This is the way to freedom. Through prayerful meditation on God’s Word we gain His perspective.

P. T. Forsyth once said, “The worst sin is prayerlessness.” We usually think of murder, adultery, or theft as among the worst. But the root of all sin is self-sufficiency — independence from God. When we fail to wait prayerfully for God’s guidance and strength we are saying, with our actions if not our lips, that we do not need Him. How much of our service is characterized by “going it alone”?

The opposite of such independence is prayer in which we acknowledge our need of God’s instruction and supply. Concerning a dependent relationship with God, Donald Baillie says: “Jesus lived His life in complete dependence upon God, as we all ought to live our lives. But such dependence does not destroy human personality. Man is never so truly and fully personal as when he is living in complete dependence upon God. This is how personality comes into its own. This is humanity at its most personal.”

Prayerful waiting on God is indispensable to effective service. Like the time-out in a football game, it enables us to catch our breath and fix new strategy. As we wait for directions the Lord frees us from the tyranny of the urgent. He shows us the truth about Himself, ourselves, and our tasks. He impresses on our minds the assignments He wants us to undertake. The need itself is not the call; the call must come from the God who knows our limitations. “The Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust” (Psalm 103:13–14). It is not God who loads us until we bend or crack with an ulcer, nervous breakdown, heart attack, or stroke. These come from our inner compulsions coupled with the pressure of circumstances.

Evaluate

The modern businessman recognizes this principle of taking time out for evaluation. When Greenwalt was president of DuPont, he said, “One minute spent in planning saves three or four minutes in execution.” Many

salesmen have revolutionized their business and multiplied their profits by setting aside Friday afternoon to plan carefully the major activities for the coming week. If an executive is too busy to stop and plan, he may find himself replaced by another man who takes time to plan. If the Christian is too busy to stop, take spiritual inventory, and receive his assignments from God, he becomes a slave to the tyranny of the urgent. He may work day and night to achieve much that seems significant to himself and others, but he will not finish the work God has for him to do.

A quiet time of meditation and prayer at the start of the day refocuses our relationship with God. Recommit yourself to His will as you think of the hours that follow. In these unhurried moments list in order of priority the tasks to be done, taking into account commitments already made. A competent general always draws up his battle plan before he engages the enemy; he does not postpone basic decisions until the firing starts. But he is also prepared to change his plans if an emergency demands it. So try to implement the plans you have made before the day's battle against the clock begins. But be open to any emergency interruption or unexpected person who may call.

You may also find it necessary to resist the temptation to accept an engagement when the invitation first comes over the telephone. No matter how clear the calendar may look at the moment, ask for a day or two to pray for guidance before committing yourself. Surprisingly the engagement often appears less imperative after the pleading voice has become silent. If you can withstand the urgency of the initial moment, you will be in a better position to weigh the cost and discern whether the task is God's will for you.

In addition to your daily quiet time, set aside one hour a week for spiritual inventory. Write an evaluation of the past, record anything God may be teaching you, and plan objectives for the future. Also try to reserve most of one day each month for a similar inventory of longer range. Often you will fail. Ironically, the busier you get the more you need this time of inventory, but the less you seem to be able to take it. You become like the fanatic, who, when unsure of his direction, doubles his speed. And frenetic service for God can become an escape from God. But when you prayerfully take inventory and plan your days, it provides fresh perspective on your work.

Continue the Effort...

Over the years the greatest continuing struggle in the Christian life is the effort to make adequate time for daily waiting on God, weekly inventory,

and monthly planning. Since this time for receiving marching orders is so important, Satan will do everything he can to squeeze it out. Yet we know from experience that only by this means can we escape the tyranny of the urgent. This is how Jesus succeeded. He did not finish all the urgent tasks in Palestine or all the things He would have liked to do, but He did finish the work which God gave Him to do. The only alternative to frustration is to be sure that we are doing what God wants. Nothing substitutes for knowing that this day, this hour, in this place we are doing the will of the Father. Then and only then can we think of all the other unfinished tasks with equanimity and leave them with God.

Sometime ago Simba bullets killed a young man, Dr. Paul Carlson. In the providence of God his life's work was finished. Most of us will live longer and die more quietly, but when the end comes, what could give us greater joy than being sure that we have finished the work God gave us to do? The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ makes this fulfillment possible. He has promised deliverance from sin and the power to serve God in the tasks of His choice. The way is clear. If we continue in the Word of our Lord, we are truly His disciples. And He will free us from the tyranny of the urgent, free us to do the important, which is the will of God.*

II. A Discussion of *Tyranny of the Urgent*

It seems to me that perfection of means and confusion of goals seem to characterize our age.

~Albert Einstein

The good is often the enemy of the best.

~Unknown

1. Define the word *urgent* as used in *Tyranny of the Urgent*.

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- Define the word *important* as used in *Tyranny of the Urgent*.
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- This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be a standard notebook page or a sheet of stationery.

III. *Bible Study*: God Cares for You, Part B

A. God Made You Part of His Family

1. How did Jesus teach His disciples to address God? Matthew 6:9

2. Is it true that God is everyone's Father? Why or why not? John 8:42–44

3. How is one born into God's family? John 1:12–13

The importance of the assurance of faith lies in the fact that, child-like, I cannot possibly love or serve God if I do not know whether He loves and acknowledges me as His child.

~Andrew Murray

4. List some of the advantages of being a true child of God from Romans 8:15–17.

5. State briefly how you know God is your Father.

(Abba is a personal name for father.)

It is important for you as a Christian to be assured that God is your Father and that you have eternal life. Since feelings change, this assurance must ultimately depend on the Word of God. “I write these things to you who believe... that you may know that you have eternal life” (1 John 5:13).

Following are three verses that have helped some Christians gain assurance. Choose the one that helps you most in this area. You may want to memorize the verse you choose.

I tell you the truth, whoever hears My Word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.

(John 5:24)

And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

(1 John 5:11–12)

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will go in and eat with him, and he with Me.

(Revelation 3:20)

B. Summary of “God Cares for You”

God created you for His own purpose and His glory. He gave you dignity by shaping you after His own likeness. God considers you to be of great value. He takes personal interest in knowing you completely. He loves you so intensely that He sent His Son to die on the cross. This demonstration of His love shows He wants to give you an eternal and abundant life. When God gave you this life in Jesus Christ, you were spiritually born into God’s family. He is your Father. You are His child.



STOP: Do not proceed any further in this lesson until directed to do so by your facilitator. You will cover this material together in your next session.

IV. How to Review Memory Verses Together

1. Review the memory verses you know best first.
2. Maintain an attitude of helpfulness, encouragement, and praise. Do all you can to insure each other's success.

Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up.

(Ecclesiastes 4:9–10)

3. Your minimum goal is to have each verse word perfect.
 - a. Often your ability to quote a verse perfectly will give another person confidence in you, so that you can help him.
 - b. It is mentally easier to retain a verse that has been learned perfectly.
 - c. If you only know the content vaguely, you won't know the location of the verse and what you say will have less authority.
 - d. Anything worth doing is worth doing well. "Whatever you do, put your whole heart and soul into it, as into work done for the Lord, and not merely for men" (Colossians 3:23, PH).
4. When listening, signal the quoter when he makes a mistake, but give him verbal help only when asked.
5. After the quoter has corrected his mistake, have him repeat the verse word-perfect before going on to another verse. Speak your verses clearly so you can easily understand each other.

V. How to Use "My Personal Reading Record"

"My Personal Reading Record" is a method for keeping track of where you are in reading the Bible. You will find it helpful and encouraging to use.

The books of the Bible are listed in the order in which they appear in Scripture. The Old and New Testaments are listed separately. The numbers which follow each book title are a list of the chapters in the book.

For example, the Book of Romans has 16 chapters, so there are 16 numerals printed after it.

NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28											
Mark	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16										
Luke	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
John	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21					
Acts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28											
Romans	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16										
1 Corinthians	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16										
2 Corinthians	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Galatians	1	2	3	4	5	6							
Ephesians	1	2	3	4	5	6							
Philippians	1	2	3	4									

Let’s say you spend some time today reading the first two chapters of Romans. After you have completed your reading, draw a diagonal line or an **X** through numerals 1 and 2:

Acts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28											
Romans	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16										
1 Corinthians	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16										
2 Corinthians	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

or

Acts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28											
Romans	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16										
1 Corinthians	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16										

When you finish reading the book, you may want to record the date on which you completed it:

John	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21					
Acts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28											
Romans	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	May 25									

1 Corinthians	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16										
2 Corinthians	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Galatians	1	2	3	4	5	6							

You will nearly always read one book all the way through before going on to another.

It is helpful to keep “My Personal Reading Record” in the Bible in which you are doing your reading. Be sure to fill in the record right after you finish your daily reading.

Keeping this record should motivate you as you see progress in your Bible reading.



Preparation for Session 4

1. *Scripture Memory:* Memorize the verse on “Assurance of Victory,” 1 Corinthians 10:13.
2. *Bible Reading:* Continue your Bible reading and marking. Begin using “My Personal Reading Record” in conjunction with your Bible reading. Keep it up to date as you use it.
3. *Lesson 4:* Work through the Bible study. When you reach the Stop sign do not go any further. Be prepared to share your answers at the next session.

Lesson 4



OUTLINE OF SESSION 4

- A. Break into groups of two or three and review memory verses:
 - 1. “Assurance of Salvation” — 1 John 5:11–12
 - 2. “Assurance of Answered Prayer” — John 16:24
 - 3. “Assurance of Victory” — 1 Corinthians 10:13
- B. Share with the rest of the group what you have read and marked in your Bible this week.
- C. Discuss questions on “The Person of Jesus Christ” (pages 46–48).
- D. Study “Practical Suggestions on Prayer” (pages 48–51).
- E. Read the Assignment for Session 5 (page 51).
- F. Close the session in prayer.

I. Bible Study: The Person of Jesus Christ, Part A

Jesus is “the exact likeness of the unseen God” (Colossians 1:15, LB). Man is incapable of fully understanding God. God is holy and man is sinful. To bridge the gap between God and man, God took the form of a man, Jesus Christ. To be the complete expression of God, He had to be God. To communicate and empathize with man, He had to be human. Jesus Christ has a dual nature — He is the God-man.

In order to begin understanding the person of Jesus Christ, it is necessary to explore His Deity and His Humanity.

The Deity of Jesus Christ

Some speak of Jesus Christ as a great man. To some He was the founder of a new religion. Others consider Him a prophet. But Jesus Himself claimed that He was God. If this were not true, He could not be called even a good man, but would be an imposter and a deceiver.

The writer of Hebrews discusses Christ’s deity in chapter 1. Read this chapter and answer Questions 1–4.

1. Jesus’ superiority to the angels is shown by:

Verses 4–5 _____

Verse 6 _____

Verses 13–14 _____

2. Read verses 8 through 12. In the blank next to each statement below, write the number of the verse that brings out the truth stated.

- Jesus is the Creator _____
- Jesus is unchangeable _____
- Jesus is eternal _____
- Jesus is righteous _____

(A *scepter* is a rod or baton of royalty.)

3. What is one fact about Jesus that enables Him to reveal God? (verse 3)
There is more than one fact given in this verse.

4. How does God address Jesus in verse 8? _____
in verse 10? _____

5. What did Jesus claim for Himself? John 10:28–30

If Socrates should enter the room, we would all rise and do him honor. But if Jesus Christ came into the room, we would all fall down and worship Him.

~Napoleon

While on earth, Jesus performed many miracles which clearly demonstrated His divine power.

6. From the following verses in Matthew 8, list the ways Jesus showed supernatural power.

Verse 3 _____

Verses 6, 13 _____

Verses 16–17 _____

Verses 23–27 _____

7. What did Jesus do in John 11:39–44 that revealed His unique power?

-
-
8. After observing Jesus' life, power, and preaching, what did Peter conclude about Him? Matthew 16:13–16

9. The chart on pages 62–63 illustrates how Jesus fulfilled prophecy. How do the verses in this chart influence your concept of who Jesus is?

10. Review the section on the deity of Christ. Give three reasons why you believe Jesus Christ is God.



STOP: Do not proceed any further in this lesson until directed to do so by your facilitator.

II. Practical Suggestions on Prayer

1. Prayer is fellowship with God.
- a. Look up and summarize the following verses on fellowship with God.
- 1 Corinthians 1:9 _____

1 John 1:3 _____

- b. What are the fewest elements you can have and still have fellowship with someone?

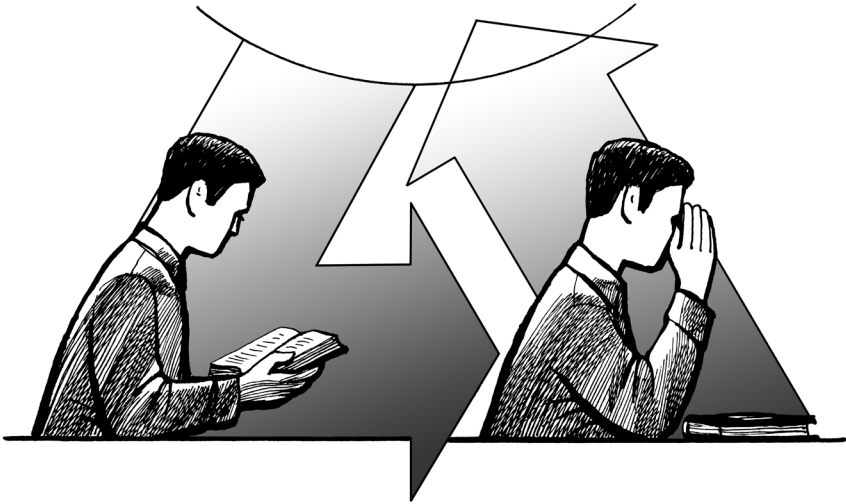
- c. In our communication with God, there must be time for both listening and speaking. Just as we respond to another person when he speaks to us, so we should respond to God verbally when He speaks to us. The following diagrams show the difference between poor and effective communication with God.

POOR COMMUNICATION



On the left, we see the Christian listening as God speaks to him through the Bible. After reading, he prays (on the right). But the topics of his prayer are unrelated to what God has just said to him. We would not be so rude as to ignore the statements of a human friend to pursue our own subjects of conversation. Yet we sometimes inadvertently do this to God. This is poor communication.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION



This diagram illustrates effective communication. As God impresses a truth on the Christian's heart, he responds to God in prayer. For example, praying for understanding, or asking for grace to apply a truth, or simply giving thanks or praise in response to a specific verse or passage. He responds to God in prayer as he reads as well as after completing his reading. He may then proceed to pray about various things not related to his reading.

2. A suggested prayer format: A-C-T-S

A — **Adoration:** Acknowledging God's character and attributes

1 Chronicles 29:11 _____

Psalms 145:1–6 _____

C — **Confession:** Confessing your sins to God (some prefer to do this first)

1 John 1:9 _____

Psalms 32:5 _____

T — **Thanksgiving:** Expressing thanks for things for which you are grateful

Ephesians 5:20 _____

Psalm 100:4 _____

S — **Supplication:** Asking God for things

Matthew 7:7–8 _____

James 4:2 _____

3. How the Trinity is involved in prayer: We pray to the Father, in the name of Christ, and through the Holy Spirit.

a. The Father _____

(Matthew 6:9; John 16:23; Ephesians 3:14)

b. The Son, Jesus Christ _____

That is, in His name, Christ is our access to the Father.
(John 14:13–14; John 15:16; John 16:23–24).

c. The Holy Spirit _____

and interprets for the Father what is on our hearts even when our words are poorly framed (Romans 8:26).



Assignment for Session 5

1. *Scripture Memory:* No new verses are assigned for next session. Polish up the three passages you know and review them **at least** once daily.
2. *Bible Reading:* Continue your Bible reading and marking, including keeping up to date on “My Personal Reading Record.” Fill in “The Quiet Time” section (pages 56–57) by writing in a summary for each of the eight verses.
3. *Lesson 5:* Carefully read Lesson 5. When you read the Stop sign do not go any further.

Lesson 5



OUTLINE OF SESSION 5

- A. Break into groups of two or three and review your memory verses:
 - 1. “Assurance of Salvation” — 1 John 5:11–12
 - 2. “Assurance of Answered Prayer” — John 16:24
 - 3. “Assurance of Victory” — 1 Corinthians 10:13
- B. Share with the rest of the group what you have read and marked in your Bible this week.
- C. Read and discuss the “How” and “Why” of using the “Bible Reading Highlights Record” (pages 54–56).
- D. Discuss “The Quiet Time” (pages 56–57).
- E. Read “Distinctives of Reading, Scripture Memory, and Bible Study” (pages 57–58).
- F. Discuss how to use the “Completion Record” (pages 9–10).
- G. Read the Assignment for Session 6 (page 58).
- H. Close the session in prayer.

I. How to Use Your “Bible Reading Highlights Record”

Each day...

1. Do your daily Bible reading and marking.
2. Leaf back through what you have read and pick the one thought that is most interesting or helpful. It does not have to be an outstanding thought, just one that interests or helps you.
3. Fill in your “Bible Reading Highlights Record” this way:

○ — refers to a checkpoint for recording Scripture memory review or anything else which you want to keep track of.

Date — record the current date of your reading.

All I read today — record the reference for the day’s reading, for example, Joshua 2–5, Acts 8, John 5, 2 Corinthians 1–2.

Best thing I marked today — record the thought which you decide is the most interesting or helpful from the reading that day.

Reference — put down the verse containing this thought.

Thought — paraphrase or quote it verbatim.

How it impressed me — elaborate on what the phrase, sentence, or passage meant to you. For example:

Bible Reading Highlights Record Sample

○ **Sunday** Date Oct. 10, 2004 All I read today Josh. 2–5; Jn. 3–4

Best thing I marked today: Reference John 3:16

Thought God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son to die for our sins.

How it impressed me: I am struck with the idea that love isn't saying that you love some one, but love is giving up some of your own rights and conveniences. This, then, is a true expression of love!

4. If you are rushed, jot the following down on a piece of paper:
 - a. The date.
 - b. What chapters you read that day.
 - c. The reference of the best thought you marked that day.
 - d. Briefly how it impressed you.
5. You may keep a running record like this for several days, and then go back and neatly make your entries on your “Bible Reading Highlights Record.” However, it is preferred that you read and record on a daily basis.

II. Why Use the “Bible Reading Highlights Record”

1. *It gives you one thought to reflect on each day.* Let’s say you are impressed with an average of five things in your reading each day. If you isolate the best of the five, it gives you one thing to think about between readings. This allows God to use what He has been impressing on your mind to change your life. If you carry a vague assortment of ideas in your mind, God has less opportunity to change and enrich your life as a result of your reading.
2. *It may help you see trends in God’s dealing with you.* If you have a record of the major things which God has been saying to you over a period of days or weeks, it is often possible to see a pattern. This may help you either with decision-making about the future, understanding the past and present, or both.
3. *It gives you something specific to share with others.* Often, if you are asked to give a devotional, teach a class, or deliver a message, this material which has already been so meaningful to you can be amplified or combined. It will be something about which God has spoken to you personally, not something from a book or manual that is from the life of another person (though some of these other materials can be helpful). Also, you will find other occasions to use these devotional thoughts to encourage and help other Christians.
4. *It helps to sharpen and organize your mind.* Learning to sift through your reading to determine what is most important will sharpen your mind to do the same thing in other areas such as Bible study, family decisions, and counseling.

5. *It stimulates consistency in your reading.* You may find, as others have, that having a definite form on which to write a thought each day will increase your consistency in reading. You will be less likely to miss a day when you realize there will be a blank space left on your record. This is not the best motive, perhaps, but it increases your consistency till you are properly motivated more often.

Final Comment: Don't spend much time being extremely careful to write neat little packages of words that are perfect in their choice of vocabulary and meticulous in grammar. Do be sure that your writing is neat and legible. Do not use a pencil, for you will want to keep these records for years.

III. The Quiet Time

The men who have most fully illustrated Christ in their characters, and have most powerfully affected the world for Him, have been men who spend so much time with God as to make it a notable feature in their lives. ...To be little with God is to be little for God.

~E. M. Bounds

1. What is a quiet time?
 - a. It is an unhurried time of Bible reading and prayer.
 - b. It is the heart of your fellowship with God.
2. There are two major reasons for having a quiet time. (Fill in the blanks with a summary of each verse or passage.)
 - a. **For growth and nourishment.** Food and proper nutrition are essential to healthy physical growth. In the same way, consistent intake of God's Word causes spiritual growth and good health.

1 Peter 2:2 _____

Psalms 119:103 _____

Jeremiah 15:16 _____

Hebrews 5:12-14 _____

b. **For vital companionship with Jesus Christ.**

That we might accustom ourselves to a continual conversation with Him, with freedom and in simplicity. That we need only to recognize God intimately present with us.

~Brother Lawrence

1 Corinthians 1:9 _____

John 15:4 _____

Micah 6:8 _____

Psalms 16:11 _____



STOP: Do not proceed any further in this lesson until directed to do so by your facilitator.

IV. Distinctives of Reading, Scripture Memory, and Bible Study

- **Reading.** Reading should be fun and refreshing. It should be uplifting. In reading, we do not get involved in the details of what is being said as much as in the overall theme or picture of a chapter or book of the Bible. Personal edification is a major benefit of reading. As we read with an open heart to God, our thoughts, desires, and motivations are purified. Bible reading helps accomplish Paul's advice to us: "Be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind [your thinking process]" (Romans 12:2). Reading God's Word is the foundation of our quiet time.
- **Scripture Memory.** Jesus quoted freely from the Old Testament in the Gospels, and His followers did the same in the Book of Acts. Just as large firms have information at their fingertips through computers, so we as God's children should have verses to use in witnessing, encouraging other Christians, victory over temptations, and for resource material during Bible study preparation. There is no substitute for having the written Word in our hearts. "These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart" (Deuteronomy 6:6, NASB). David said, "How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your Word ... Your Word I have treasured in

my heart that I may not sin against You” (Psalm 119:9, 11, NASB). If we are to be soldiers of Christ, we need to be prepared for battle and be fully equipped.

- **Bible Study.** Whereas reading can give us an overview, Bible study opens up the details of a passage and how it relates to the whole teaching of Scripture. Reading can be compared to flying over a city in an airplane or helicopter. We see the general layout of the city: major buildings, rivers, parks, and other landmarks; but Bible study is like driving through the city, learning street names and locating the supermarket, bank, and the post office. We learn to be “at home” in the city — we know our way around. Bible study puts the teachings of Scripture together for us so we get a clear picture of specific truths. And Bible study develops convictions. Bible study is more thorough than devotional reading, where we often lift out only one thought from a passage for meditation, prayer, and application to our lives.



Assignment for Session 6

1. *Scripture Memory:* Memorize the verse on “Assurance of Forgiveness,” 1 John 1:9. Sharpen your review so all your verses will be initialed on your “Completion Record” next week.
2. *Quiet Time:* Continue your Bible reading and marking. Pick a highlight from your reading each day and record it on your “Bible Reading Highlights Record.” Be sure to have your record with you next week so you can share something from it.
3. *Lesson 6:* Carefully work through the Bible study. Be prepared to share your answers at the next session.

Lesson 6



OUTLINE OF SESSION 6

- A. Break into groups of two or three and review memory verses:
 - 1. “Assurance of Salvation” — 1 John 5:11–12
 - 2. “Assurance of Answered Prayer” — John 16:24
 - 3. “Assurance of Victory” — 1 Corinthians 10:13
 - 4. “Assurance of Forgiveness” — 1 John 1:9
- B. Share with the rest of the class what you have read and marked in your Bible this week.
- C. Discuss Bible study questions and the “Summary of “The Person of Jesus Christ, Part B” (pages 60–63).
- D. Read the Assignment for Session 7 (page. 63).
- E. Close the session in prayer.

Bible Study: The Person of Jesus Christ, Part B

A. The Humanity of Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ has trod the world. The trace of Divine footsteps will never be obliterated. And the Divine footsteps were the footsteps of a Man... not an angel, not a disembodied spirit, not an abstract ideal, but THE MAN JESUS CHRIST.

~Peter Bayne

1. How is Jesus' humanity seen in the following situations?

John 4:6 _____

John 4:7 _____

John 11:35 _____

2. Matthew 4:1–11 is the account of a series of temptations Jesus faced.

- a. In each of His three answers to Satan, Jesus used the same phrase.

What is it? _____

What does it mean? _____

- b. Draw lines to connect the verses in Matthew 4 with the corresponding verses in Deuteronomy.

Matthew 4:4

Deuteronomy 6:13

Matthew 4:7

Deuteronomy 6:16

Matthew 4:10

Deuteronomy 8:3

- c. What is one temptation you often face?

- d. How can you follow Jesus' example and arm yourself against the temptations of Satan?

You can take advantage of spare moments by carrying the “Beginning with Christ” pack of verses with you in your purse or pocket. It is part of your Scripture memory program in this course.



Take time right now to pray:

- Thank God that He understands what it is to be tempted.
- Ask Him for help to overcome this temptation.
- When you fail, be sure to claim His promise: “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).
- Thank Him for His mercy.

3. Hebrews 2 includes additional valuable information about the humanity of Jesus Christ. Read verses 10–15 to answer the following questions.

a. What has Jesus experienced that is common to man? Verse 10

b. How does Jesus address believers? Why isn’t He ashamed to address them this way? Verse 11

(*Sanctify* means to make clean or holy, set apart for God’s use.)

c. What are some results of Jesus becoming a man? Verses 14–15

B. Prophecies about Jesus Christ

Fulfilled prophecy helps verify the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Looking at prophecies which preceded Jesus by hundreds of years and seeing how Jesus fulfilled them in every detail reveals the authenticity of His claims. The following chart is a brief list of some of the prophecies made concerning the Christ and how Jesus fulfilled them.

Topic	Prophecy	Fulfillment
Place of birth	“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for Me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times” (Micah 5:2), 700 BC.	“Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea” (Matthew 2:1).
Born of a virgin	“Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son” (Isaiah 7:14, KJV), 700 BC.	“His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 1:18).
His triumphal entry	“Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, daughter of Jerusalem! See, your King comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey” (Zechariah 9:9), 500 BC.	“They took palm branches and went out to meet Him, shouting, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the King of Israel!’ Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it” (John 12:13–14).
Betrayed by a friend	“Even My close friend, whom I trusted, he who shared My bread, has lifted up his heel against Me” (Psalm 41:9), 1000 BC.	“Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them” (Mark 14:10).

His rejection	“He was despised and rejected by men... Like one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not” (Isaiah 53:3), 700 BC.	“He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him” (John 1:11).
Crucified with sinners	“He... was numbered with the transgressors” (Isaiah 53:12), 700 BC.	“Two robbers were crucified with Him, one on His right and one on His left” (Matthew 27:38).
Hands and feet pierced	“They have pierced My hands and My feet” (Psalm 22:16). 1000 BC.	“Put your finger here; see My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side” (John 20:27).
His resurrection	“You will not abandon Me to the grave, nor will You let Your Holy One see decay” (Psalm 16:10), 1000 BC.	“You killed the Author of life, but God raised Him from the dead” (Acts 3:15).
His ascension	“Thou hast ascended on high” (Psalm 68:18, KJV), 1000 BC.	“He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid Him from their sight” (Acts 1:9).

C. Summary of “The Person of Jesus Christ”

Jesus Christ is the perfect image of God. He has divine characteristics and is superior to angels. On earth, Jesus used divine power to heal and perform miracles. This led His disciples to accept His deity and messianic position. As God, He has authority over the earth.

Jesus was human, too. Many of His experiences were similar to those you have today. He suffered and was tempted. Though He never yielded, this allows Him to understand when you are tempted. When you fail, He forgives as you confess your sins to Him.

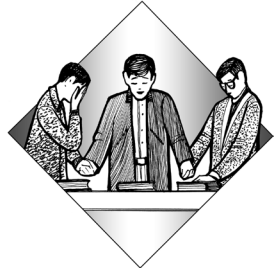
Jesus’ unity with believers is shown by His willingness to consider them His brothers.



Assignment for Session 7

1. *Scripture Memory:* Memorize the verses on “Assurance of Guidance,” Proverbs 3:5–6.
2. *Quiet Time:* Continue your Bible reading and marking. Pick a highlight from your reading each day and record it on your “Bible Reading Highlights Record.”
3. *Lesson 7:* Carefully read Lesson 7. Be prepared to discuss this material at the next session.
4. *Other:* Review all previous material if you have not yet done so. Work on getting everything you can completed and ready to be signed on your “Completion Record” at the next session.

Lesson 7



OUTLINE OF SESSION 7

- A. Break into groups of two or three and review all five “Beginning with Christ” verses.
- B. Share highlights from your reading — particularly those which have been recorded in the “Highlights Record.”
- C. Share what has impressed, helped, or challenged you during the first half of the course.
- D. Discuss “Guide to Conversational Prayer” (pages 66–68).
- E. Have some brief conversational prayer on two or three topics.
- F. Read the Assignment for Session 8 (page 68).

Guide to Conversational Prayer

Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by My Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in My name, there am I with them.

Matthew 18:19–20

God desires your fellowship, and you can participate in a new dimension of fellowship and communication with Him through conversational prayer. Conversational prayer is a format that can be used in a group. It is informal prayer where the objective is to speak conversationally with God from our hearts. In conversational prayer, pray briefly aloud several times. Don't worry about impressing those who hear you. And be less concerned with the form of your prayer or with the specific words than with simply communicating with God.

Here are several guidelines:

1. *Start praying rather than sharing requests.* Much of your valuable prayer time can be taken up in sharing requests rather than praying. Usually the one with the burden for someone or something will be the one to initiate prayer about that person or thing.
2. *Pray about one topic at a time.* It is important to pray topically as much as possible. One person may pray about a sick friend, and the second person can stay on that topic by asking for strength for the family while the sick one recuperates. Then another may pray that the family's financial needs will be met during this lengthy illness. When there is a pause, someone may change the topic. For example, after a pause, a person may pray for help in having a consistent quiet time. Another may request that his quiet time be more meaningful. Another may pray that he will have the time to meditate on the Scriptures he reads during his quiet time.

You want to keep from skipping around from topic to topic. You don't want a disjointed time, but a time when you can join in meaningful prayer in which you agree together concerning the requests at hand. From your heart you want to be praying along with the person who is praying aloud. He will then in turn be inaudibly praying along with you as you pray.

3. *Pray briefly.* You will pray briefly if you pray about only one aspect of a subject. You may wish to leave other aspects of the subject to other people. By each person praying briefly, you each get to pray again sooner than if each person were to pray longer. This keeps each one alert, awake, and involved in what is being prayed.
4. *Pray spontaneously, not in sequence.* Don't pray around the circle, but let each person pray for that which interests him. For example, if six subjects are prayed over in the conversational prayer time, you may have a vital interest in only three of them. Don't pray for something about which you are uninformed or not motivated. In conversational prayer there is freedom to pray when you are ready and to pray about items that you believe you should pray for.

Praying spontaneously does not mean praying thoughtlessly. While another is praying on the subject at hand, you have time for the Holy Spirit to confirm in your own heart what you would like to pray.

Summary:

1. **Don't share — pray.**
2. **One topic at a time.**
3. **Be brief.**
4. **Be spontaneous.**

As you start praying as a group, there will often be a few moments of silence while people quiet their hearts and focus their attention on the business at hand — that of praying effectively.

Normally the focus of prayer should start with God and move toward requests. Usually in a group it is best to start with praise and thanksgiving. Someone may start praising the Lord for His greatness, and another will praise His power. Still another might praise God for His faithfulness. Another may thank Him for a neighbor who has trusted Christ recently. Another may thank Him for the abundant life he has in Christ.

You may then pray for needs within the group. You will find that your relationships with others in the group will grow more personal as you pray for each other. You will also find that you have an added burden to pray for each other during the week.

Next you might pray for needs outside the group. The number of needs is limitless. But it is more important to do a thorough job of praying for a few items than to scatter the prayers ineffectually over too wide a range.

By praying conversationally, you will experience a new excitement about praying in a group. You will find that the time goes much more quickly than you might want. You will also find that it leads to more praying — both in the group and when you are alone.



Assignment for Session 8

1. *Scripture Memory:* Be sure to complete the memory requirements for the course by next class. (Be able to check off the line marked “Quoted all of “Beginning with Christ” in your “Completion Record.”)
2. *Quiet Time:* Continue reading and marking in your Bible, using your “Bible Reading Highlights Record.”
3. *Lesson 8:* Carefully read Lesson 8 and answer the questions to the Bible study. Be prepared to share your answers at the next session.

Lesson 8



OUTLINE OF SESSION 8

- A. Break into groups of two or three, review all five memory verses, and work on getting all memory items initialed on the “Completion Record.”
- B. Share at least one item from your “Highlights Record” with the rest of the group.
- C. Discuss questions in “The Work of Christ, Part A” (pages 69–71).
- D. Read the Assignment for Session 9 (page 71).
- E. Have a time of brief conversational prayer.

Bible Study: The Work of Christ, Part A

Many have heard the events of Jesus’ sinless life. He was condemned as a common criminal, hung from a cross until dead, and three days later He rose from the dead. But few people understand the meaning of these events.

In this section, you will explore some of the reasons for His life, His death, and His resurrection.

A. The Life of Jesus Christ

Almost 2,000 years ago, Jesus Christ was born in the obscure town of Bethlehem. While Jesus was an infant, Joseph and Mary took Him into

Egypt to escape the wrath of an irate king, Herod the Great. Then, while He was still a young child, they moved to Nazareth of Galilee.

1. When the angel announced His birth, what purpose did he give for Jesus coming into the world? Matthew 1:21

2. In what ways did Jesus develop as a youth? Luke 2:52

3. What are some characteristic activities of Jesus' public ministry? Matthew 4:23

4. What was His purpose in selecting the twelve apostles? Mark 3:14

5. What characterized Jesus' leadership? Luke 22:25–27

How can you follow Jesus' example? _____

This study merely touches on the events of Jesus' life. John declared, "Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written" (John 21:25). Some of the more familiar events of Jesus' life are presented in the illustration on page 72.

B. The Death of Jesus Christ

6. What did Jesus predict would happen to Him? Matthew 16:21

7. What kind of death did Jesus suffer? Matthew 27:35

With what kind of men did He die? Matthew 27:38

8. Did Jesus go to the cross voluntarily? Explain your answer. John 10:17–18

9. What is man's condition apart from Christ? John 3:18

10. Look up 1 Peter 3:18. What did Jesus do to bring condemned men to God?



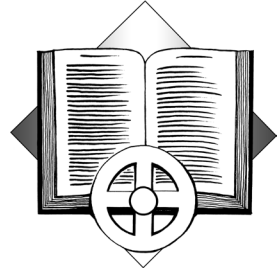
Assignment for Session 9

1. *Scripture Memory:* Continue to review the “Beginning with Christ” verses daily.
2. *Quiet Time:* Continue reading and marking your Bible and using your “Bible Reading Highlights Record.”
3. *Lesson 9:* Carefully read Lesson 9 answering the questions to the Bible study. When you reach the Stop sign do not go any further. Be prepared to share your answers at the next session.

SURVEY OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST

BIRTH	2	12	30	33
	DEVELOPING YEARS		CARPENTER	PUBLIC MINISTRY
Birth in Bethlehem Flight to Egypt Move to Galilee		Visit to the Temple Discussion with Rabbis		
THREE YEARS OF PUBLIC MINISTRY				
Baptized by John Tempted in the Wilderness First Miracle: Water to Wine First Passover: Cast out Moneychangers Woman at the Well		Second Passover Calling of the 12 Sermon on the Mount Parable of the Sower Gadarene Demoniac Healed	12 Apostles Commissioned Feeding the 5,000 Jesus Walks on Water Transfiguration 70 Sent out on Evangelism Raising Lazarus from the Dead	LAST WEEK
30		31	32	33
THE LAST WEEK				
Arrival at Jerusalem	Final Days of Ministry		Crucified	Risen
Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem Casting Moneychangers out of Temple	Great Commandment: Love Signs of Coming Events Plot of Jews and Judas	Passover Meal, Wash Disciples Feet Lord's Supper True Vine Intercessory Prayer Betrayal	Trial before High Priest, Council, Pilate, and Herod Death: Crucifixion, Burial	Resurrection Appear to Disciples Appear to 500 Ascension

Lesson 9



OUTLINE OF SESSION 9

- A. Share at least one item from your “Bible Reading Highlights Record” with the rest of the group.
- B. Break into groups of two or three, review all five memory verses, and work on getting all memory items initialed on the “Completion Record.”
- C. Discuss “The Wheel Illustration” (pages 76–83).
- D. Discuss Bible study questions and the “Summary of “The Work of Christ” (pages 74–75).
- E. Read the Assignment for Session 10 (page 84).
- F. Have a time of brief conversational prayer.

I. Bible Study: The Work of Christ, Part B

1. Can anything be added to Christ's death to make you more acceptable to God? Why or why not? Hebrews 10:12–14

A. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

2. After Jesus died and was buried, what was done to secure His tomb? Matthew 27:62–66

3. Read Matthew 28:1–7. What was discovered at the tomb on the first day of the week?

What did the angel say about Jesus?

4. What were the soldiers bribed to say? Matthew 28:11–15

As a lawyer I have made a prolonged study of the evidences for the resurrection of Jesus Christ. To me the evidence is conclusive, and over and over again in the High Court I have secured the verdict on evidence not nearly so compelling... The Gospel evidence

for the resurrection... I accept unreservedly as the testimony of truthful men to facts they were able to substantiate.

~Sir Edward Clarke*

5. After His resurrection, Christ appeared to His disciples.
 - a. What was their first impression? Luke 24:36–37

 - b. What things did He do to show them He had a body? Luke 24:39–43

 - c. Is His body like yours? Explain your answer. Luke 24:29–31

6. What is the essence of the Gospel message? 1 Corinthians 15:1–5

B. Summary of “The Work of Christ”

Relatively little is known about the early life of Jesus Christ. He was born in Bethlehem, raised in Galilee, and became a carpenter. He spent three years ministering to thousands and declaring that He was the Christ. Then He was condemned to die on a cross to bear the penalty for your sin. After three days, Jesus rose bodily from the dead. His resurrection is a historical reality.

*From *Basic Christianity* by John R. W. Stott. © 1958 Inter-Varsity Press, Downers Grove, Illinois. Used by permission.



STOP: Do not proceed any further in this lesson until directed to do so by your facilitator.

II. The Wheel Illustration

“The Wheel Illustration” visually depicts the critically important components of a vital Christian life. All your memory work for Part Two of Basic Christian Life will be related to “The Wheel Illustration.” You should find it interesting and helpful in making your memory work for Part Two more meaningful.

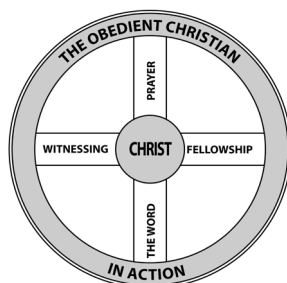
Three important dimensions of the Wheel are:

1. THE VOLITIONAL DIMENSION

(Relationship to the Will)

THE HUB: CHRIST THE CENTER

THE RIM: OBEDIENCE TO CHRIST

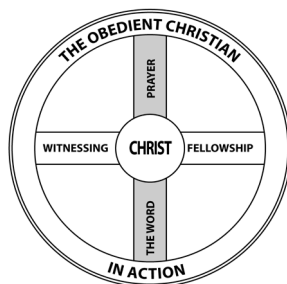


2. THE VERTICAL DIMENSION

(Relationship to God)

THE WORD SPOKE

THE PRAYER SPOKE

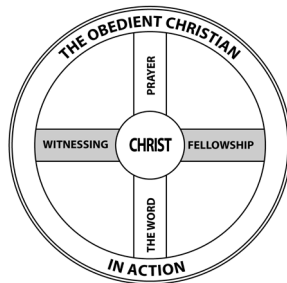


3. THE HORIZONTAL DIMENSION

(Relationship to Others)

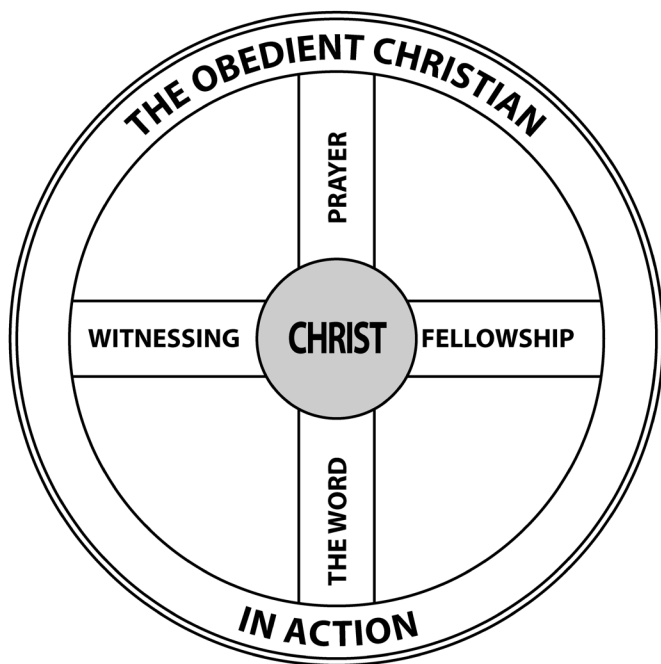
THE FELLOWSHIP SPOKE

THE WITNESSING SPOKE



THE VOLITIONAL DIMENSION (Relationship to the Will)

The Hub: Christ The Center



Memory verses:

2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20

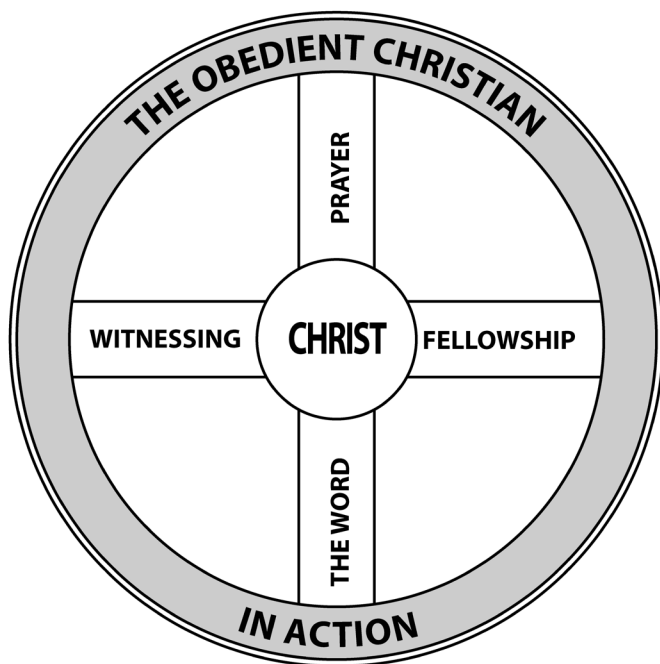
The act of making Christ central in your life, that is, giving Him the place of true lordship in your life, is really an act of your will. There should be a time in your life when you are willing to surrender totally to Christ's authority and lordship. This may be at conversion or after some months or even years.

It is true that lordship is a volitional matter, that is, a matter of your choice or your will. But as you pray and as others pray for you, God creates within you the desire to do what He wants you to do in order to express His lordship in your life.

For God is at work within you, helping you want to obey Him, and then helping you do what He wants. (Philippians 2:13, LB)

THE VOLITIONAL DIMENSION (Relationship to the Will)

The Rim: Obedience To Christ



Memory verses:

Romans 12:1; John 14:21

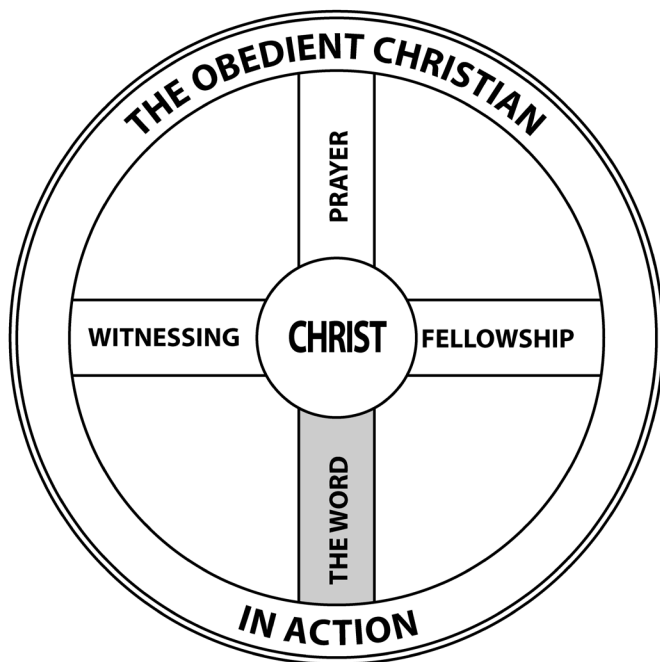
When you are obedient to Christ and actively following God's leading, it shows in your outward life. People can see the evidences of your Christianity.

Some acts of obedience to God are more internal. They have to do with attitudes, habits, motives, sense of values, and day-to-day thoughts. These internal acts of obedience eventually surface in relationships with other people. The proof of your love for God is your demonstrated obedience to Him.

Obey Me and I will be your God and you shall be My people; only do as I say and all shall be well. (Jeremiah 7:23, LB)

THE VERTICAL DIMENSION (Relationship to God)

The Word Spoke



Memory verses:

2 Timothy 3:16; Joshua 1:8

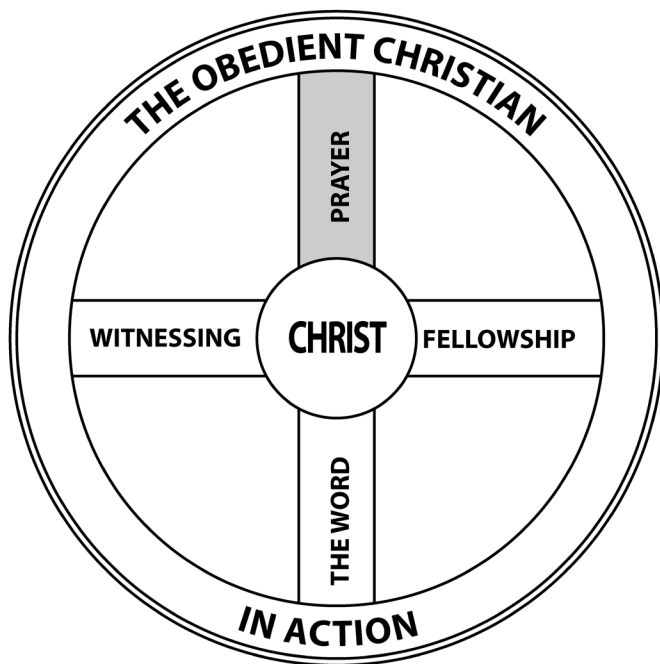
In this illustration, the Word is the foundational spoke. In practice, this spoke is perhaps the most critical element in a balanced Christian life. As God speaks to you through the Scriptures, you can see His principles for life and ministry, learn how to obey, and see Christ as worthy of your unqualified allegiance.

When a Christian has a vital personal intake of the Word of God, he is healthy and growing.

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the faith and correcting error, for resetting the direction of a man's life and training him in good living. The Scriptures are the comprehensive equipment of the man of God, and fit him fully for all branches of his work. (2 Timothy 3:16–17, PH)

THE VERTICAL DIMENSION (Relationship to God)

The Prayer Spoke



Memory verses:

John 15:7; Philippians 4:6–7

Prayer should be the natural overflow of meaningful time in the Scriptures. The act of prayer to God completes the fellowship and companionship element in your relationship with Him. Respond back to God in prayer after He speaks to you through His Word. In this manner, you share your heart with the One who longs for your companionship.

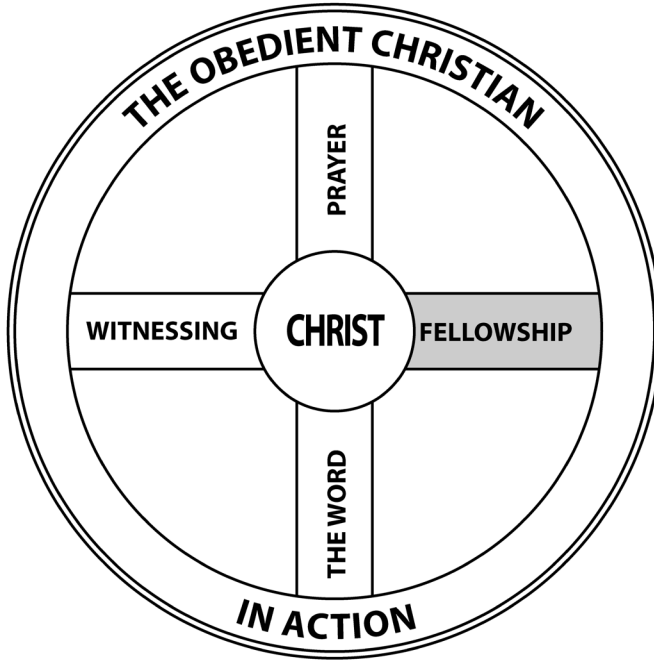
Prayer is how the power of God is unleashed. Personal battles and battles for others are won in prayer, and the cause of Christ is thus furthered.

Call to Me and I will answer you and reveal to you great and mighty things which you do not know. (Jeremiah 33:3, BERK)

You do not have, because you do not ask God. (James 4:2b)

THE HORIZONTAL DIMENSION (Relationship to Others)

The Fellowship Spoke



Memory verses:

Matthew 18:20; Hebrews 10:24–25

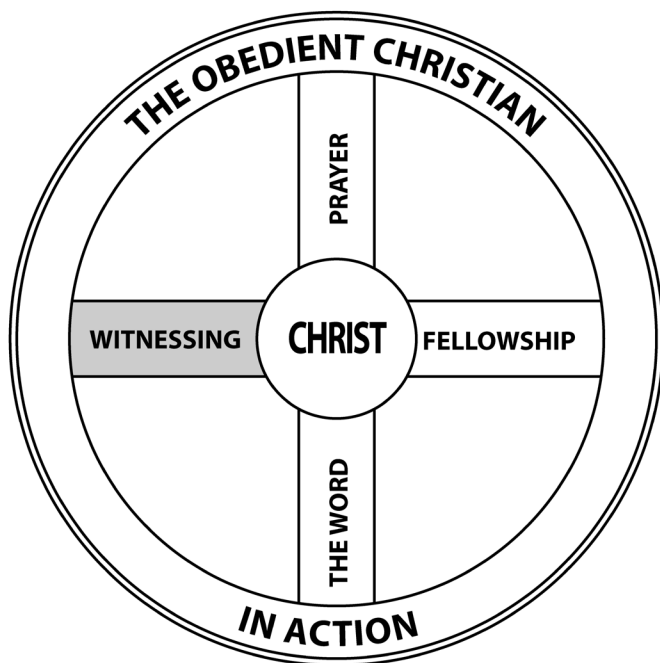
Christians are neither higher nor lower than other people. Someone has said that “the ground is level at the foot of the cross.” And all Christians have the wonderful privilege of being intimate members of God’s family.

God has directed Christians to fellowship with other Christians. You are to learn from others and to encourage one another. There is a certain chemistry that takes place as Christians get together to build each other up. This cannot be accomplished if you operate independently and are isolated from other Christians.

Under His direction the whole body is fitted together perfectly, and each part in its own special way helps the other parts, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. (Ephesians 4:16, LB)

THE HORIZONTAL DIMENSION (Relationship to Others)

The Witnessing Spoke



Memory verses:

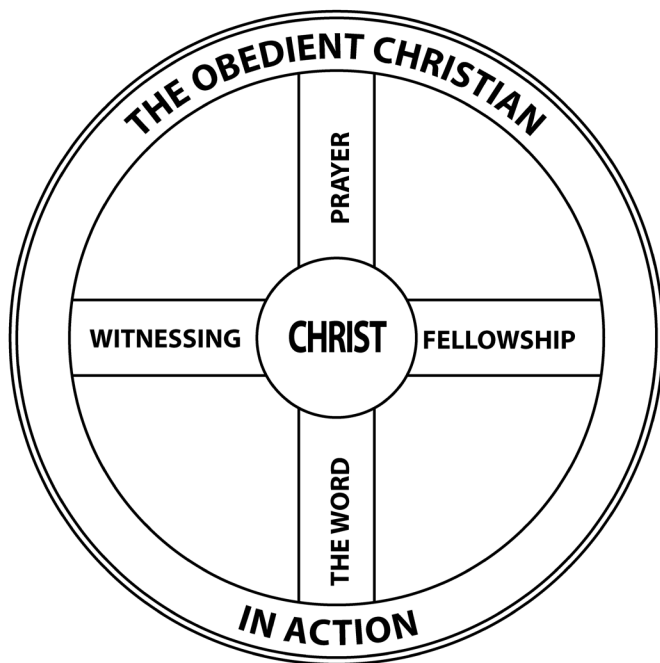
Matthew 4:19; Romans 1:16

The natural overflow of a rich and vibrant life in Christ should be sharing with others how they too can have this life. Your devotional life, extended times of prayer, and prompt obedience to God will give your life an attractiveness which adds credibility to your words.

Effective witnessing also involves skills. Skills can be learned and sharpened. You will become a sharpened instrument in God's hand as you receive training and gain experience in witnessing.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

THE COMPOSITE (The Wheel as a Whole)



Usually “either/or” thinking is not reliable. Usually life is “both/and.” It is not either fellowship or witnessing; it is not either prayer or an intake of the Word. A balanced Christian life should be all of these. This balance should be the desire of every Christian.

Develop your strengths and trust God to use them to the fullest extent. Also work on your deficiencies and inadequacies, trusting the Holy Spirit to continue to renovate you.

The Wheel is a good checklist for evaluating growth and balance in your spiritual life. Over the months and years you should see a continual development and strengthening of your spiritual life in all these areas.

And they persevered in the apostles' teaching and in fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in prayer. ...praising God with happy and sincere hearts, and enjoying the good will of all the people, while daily the Lord added to the group those who were being saved. (Acts 2:42–47, BERK)



Assignment for Session 10

1. *Quiet Time:* Continue reading and marking in your Bible and using your “Bible Reading Highlights Record.”
2. *Lesson 10:* Thoughtfully answer the questions in Lesson 10 and work through the Bible study. Be prepared to share your answers at the next session.

Lesson 10



OUTLINE OF SESSION 10

- A. Break into groups of two or three, review all five memory verses, and work on getting all memory items initialed on the “Completion Record.”
- B. Share at least one item from your “Bible Reading Highlights Record” with the rest of the group.
- C. Discuss “A Personal Evaluation of the Wheel in My Life” (page 86).
- D. Discuss questions in “The Spirit within You, Part A” (pages 86–89).
- E. Read the Assignment for Session 11 (page 89).
- F. Have a time of brief conversational prayer.

I. A Personal Evaluation of the Wheel in My Life

1. I feel I am strongest in _____

2. I feel I am weakest in _____

3. Other comments (make sure that you have at least one point under this section): _____

In *Basic Christian Life, Part 2* you will be memorizing verses and doing Bible study on the six topics incorporated in “The Wheel Illustration.”

II. Bible Study: The Spirit within You, Part A

Jesus arose! Jesus lives! When He ascended, Jesus did not leave His followers alone. He sent them the Holy Spirit so that all Christians might live under the Holy Spirit’s control.

A. Jesus Christ’s Ascension

1. Read the account of Jesus’ ascension in Acts 1:9–11 carefully.
 - a. In your own words, briefly describe the events recorded in verses 9–10.

b. Where is Jesus now? Verse 11 _____

c. What did the two men clothed in white predict? Verse 11

2. What is one reason Jesus has gone to heaven? John 14:1–3

3. Read Ephesians 1:20–23. To what place of authority has Christ ascended?

Verse 20 _____

From this position, over what does He reign? Verses 21–23

B. Jesus Christ's Work of Intercession

4. What is Christ doing now? Romans 8:34

(Intercession means to plead on behalf of another.)

5. In Jesus' great prayer recorded in John 17, what were some of the things He asked for His followers?

Verse 13 _____

Verse 15 _____

Verse 17 _____

Verse 21 _____

Verse 24 _____

6. Do you think Jesus is praying the same things for you today? Explain your answer. Hebrews 7:24–25

C. The Indwelling Holy Spirit

Jesus Christ is not only interceding in the presence of God, He has sent the Holy Spirit to be with believers.

7. What did Jesus promise His disciples that the Father would do? John 14:16, 26

8. What can be said of a person who genuinely acknowledges that Jesus is his Lord? 1 Corinthians 12:3

9. What is true of every believer?

Romans 8:9 _____

1 Corinthians 2:12 _____

1 Corinthians 3:16 _____

10. Why does God send His Spirit to indwell the believer? Underline the correct answer. Galatians 4:6
- a. Because the believer has been baptized.
 - b. Because the believer is His child.
 - c. Because the believer has dedicated his life to Him.
 - d. Because the believer has had a special experience.
11. What are some results of the Holy Spirit's presence in the life of the believer? 2 Timothy 1:7

12. Review Questions 7–11. How do you personally know the Holy Spirit lives in you?



Assignment for Session 11

1. *Scripture Memory:* Continue to review the “Beginning with Christ” verses daily.
2. *Quiet Time:* Continue reading and marking your Bible and using your “Bible Reading Highlights Record.”
3. *Lesson 11:* Carefully read Lesson 11 answering the questions to the Bible study. Be prepared to share your answers at the next session.

Lesson 11



OUTLINE OF SESSION 11

- A. Break into groups of two or three, review all five memory verses, and work on getting all memory items initialed on the “Completion Record.”
- B. Share at least one item from your “Bible Reading Highlights Record” with the rest of the group.
- C. Discuss Bible study questions and “Summary of “The Spirit within You” (pages 92–94).
- D. Read the Assignment for Session 12 (page 94).
- E. Have a time of brief conversational prayer.

Bible Study: The Spirit within You, Part B

A. Living under the Holy Spirit's Control

1. What are two conflicting natures in your life? Galatians 5:16–17

Who should control your life? _____

(*Flesh* means human nature or passions.)

Here is one illustration of the power which results from the union of the Holy Spirit with the believer:

I have in my hand a piece of lead. I hold it over a pool of water, and relax my grip. The lead is drawn irresistibly earthwards and sinks to the bottom of the pool. It has been mastered by the law of gravitation. I take the same piece of lead, attach it to a piece of wood and drop it into the pool. Now it floats. No change has taken place in the nature or tendency of the lead, nor has the law of gravitation ceased to function, but through its union with the wood, it has been mastered by a stronger law, the law governing floating bodies, and has been emancipated from the downward pull of gravitation.

~ J. Oswald Sanders*

2. Whom does the Holy Spirit glorify? John 16:13–14

3. What is the “sword” of the Spirit? Ephesians 6:17

4. What effect does the Word have in the believer? Hebrews 4:12

*From *The Holy Spirit and His Gifts* by J. Oswald Sanders. © 1940 Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Used by permission.

He who has the Holy Spirit in his heart and the Scripture in his hands has all he needs.

~ Alexander MacLaren

5. What is one activity in which the Holy Spirit helps you? How? Romans 8:26

6. What were some of the disciples' activities after being filled with the Holy Spirit? Acts 2:42

7. In Acts 1:8, Jesus used the expression "you will" twice. He made both of these statements in conjunction with the Holy Spirit coming on the disciples. What two statements did He make?

How does the Holy Spirit help you in witnessing?

The Spirit-filled life is:

- a life of obedience to the Holy Spirit (Question 1)
- a life centered on the person of Jesus Christ (Question 2)
- a life founded on God's Word (Question 4)
- a life of prayer (Question 5)
- a life of fellowship (Question 6)
- a life that witnesses (Question 7)

"The Wheel Illustration" is a helpful way to remember these basic truths about the Spirit-filled life (see pages 76–83). It is a Christ-centered life.

The Holy Spirit focuses your attention on *Christ* and empowers you to live a life of *obedience* to Him. *God's Word* and *prayer* build you up in a vertical relationship to Christ so that He can live through you and reach others through *fellowship* and *witnessing*. Without drawing attention to Himself, the Holy Spirit shapes each activity into an avenue of spiritual blessing.

8. Read Acts 4:31–33. List examples of the principles from the Wheel which are demonstrated by the disciples in this passage

B. Summary of “The Spirit Within You”

Jesus promised that after He left He would prepare a place for believers. The apostles watched as Jesus ascended out of their sight to heaven. Sitting on the right hand of God, He reigns over all creation and in particular the church for which He is constantly praying.

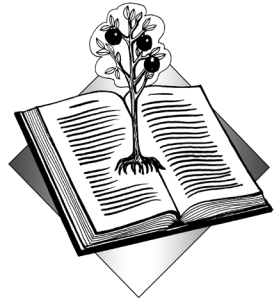
Jesus also promised to send the Holy Spirit after He left. Today He comes to live in every believer. And He gives power to lead an obedient, Christ-centered life.



Assignment for Session 12

1. *Scripture Memory*: Continue to review your verses and be prepared to say them during the next session.
2. *Quiet Time*: Continue reading and marking your Bible and using your “Bible Reading Highlights Record.”
3. *Other*: Work on getting anything remaining completed so that you can get it signed off on your “Completion Record.”
4. *Lesson 12*: Answer the questions. Be prepared to share your answers at the next session.

Lesson 12



OUTLINE OF THIS SESSION

- A. Break into groups of two or three, review all five memory verses, and help get all memory items initialed on your “Completion Record.”
- B. Share at least one item from your “Bible Reading Highlights Record” with the rest of the group.
- C. Discuss “Why Memorize Scripture, Part 1” (page 96).
- D. Discuss “Why Memorize Scripture, Part 2” (page 96–97).
- E. Have your “Graduate from *Part 1*” blank on the “Completion Record” signed by your group leader.
- F. Have a time of brief conversational prayer.

I. Why Memorize Scripture

Part 1 —

List at least five reasons why a person would memorize Scripture, number each one and be prepared to add to your list as others share during the discussion:

[illegible]

Part 2 —

1. The primary personal benefit I expect from Scripture memory is (you may list two or three other benefits that strongly motivate you to continue Scripture memory):

2. One or two attitudes or influences which could hinder my success in meaningful Scripture memory are:

II. Conclusion

In this first part of the *Basic Christian Life* series you have taken significant steps toward firmly establishing your walk with Christ. Your Christian life has been built up by:

- Learning to enjoy Bible reading;
- Memorizing five key Scripture passages for beginning your life with Christ, and developing deeper convictions about the reasons for memorizing Scripture;
- Experiencing a consistent and meaningful quiet time with the Lord, and recording daily quiet time thoughts; and

- Discovering in Bible study the reasons for the centrality of Jesus Christ in your life.

In *Part Two*, you will have opportunity to further develop your walk with Christ, that it might be more meaningful, fruitful, and effective. This you will do by:

- Learning how to prepare and present your personal testimony of Christ's work in your life;
- Learning how to spend extended periods of time alone with God, and spending a half-day in prayer;
- Reading about and discussing how Christ must be the Lord of our lives;
- Memorizing 12 key verses on the critically important aspects of a balanced Christian life;
- Studying scriptural principles for living a Spirit-filled life.

Our prayer is that “you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good” (1 Peter 2:2–3).

Bible Reading Highlights Record



“Happy are those who keep My ways. Hear instruction and be wise, and do not refuse it. Happy is the man listening to Me, watching daily at My gates, keeping watch at My doorposts.”

Proverbs 8:32–34, BERK

On the following pages you will find enough “Bible Reading Highlights Records” to last you from Session 5 through Session 12, plus extra copies. For an extra supply you may want to take out one of the “Bible Reading Highlights Records” before writing on it and reproduce several copies on a copier machine.

BIBLE READING HIGHLIGHTS RECORD

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Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Thursday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Friday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Saturday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

BIBLE READING HIGHLIGHTS RECORD

Translation _____ Year _____

☐ **Sunday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: *Reference* _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Monday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: *Reference* _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Tuesday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: *Reference* _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Wednesday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Thursday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Friday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: *Reference* _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Saturday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: *Reference* _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

BIBLE READING HIGHLIGHTS RECORD

Translation _____ *Year* _____

☐ **Sunday** *Date* _____ *All I read today* _____

Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Monday** *Date* _____ *All I read today* _____

Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Tuesday** *Date* _____ *All I read today* _____

Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Wednesday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Thursday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Friday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

☐ **Saturday** Date _____ All I read today _____

Best thing I marked today: Reference _____

Thought _____

How it impressed me: _____

My Personal Reading Record

A large, light gray letter 'B' is positioned on the right side of the title. To its left, the word 'APPENDIX' is written vertically in a smaller, light gray font.

See pages 41–44 on “How to Use My Personal Reading Record.” (For an extra supply of “My Personal Reading Records” you may want to reproduce several copies on a photocopier before writing on the sheet in this book.)

MY PERSONAL READING RECORD

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50		
Exodus	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
	40												
Leviticus	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27												
Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36			
Deuteronomy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34					
Joshua	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
Judges	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21					
Ruth	1	2	3	4									
1 Samuel	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31								

2 Samuel	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
1 Kings	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22				
2 Kings	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
1 Chronicles	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29										
2 Chronicles	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36			
Ezra	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
Nehemiah	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Esther	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
Job	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
	40	41	42										
Psalms	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65
	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104

	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117
	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130
	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143
	144	145	146	147	148	149	150						
Proverbs	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31								
Ecclesiastes	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Song of Solomon	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8					
Isaiah	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65
	66												
Jeremiah	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
Lamentations	1	2	3	4	5								
Ezekiel	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48				
Daniel	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Hosea	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14												

Joel	1	2	3										
Amos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
Obadiah	1												
Jonah	1	2	3	4									
Micah	1	2	3	4	5	6	7						
Nahum	1	2	3										
Habakkuk	1	2	3										
Zephaniah	1	2	3										
Haggai	1	2											
Zachariah	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14												
Malachi	1	2	3	4									

NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28											
Mark	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16										
Luke	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
John	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21					
Acts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28											

Romans	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16										
1 Corinthians	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16										
2 Corinthians	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Galatians	1	2	3	4	5	6							
Ephesians	1	2	3	4	5	6							
Philippians	1	2	3	4									
Colossians	1	2	3	4									
1 Thessalo- nians	1	2	3	4	5								
2 Thessalo- nians	1	2	3										
1 Timothy	1	2	3	4	5	6							
2 Timothy	1	2	3	4									
Titus	1	2	3										
Philemon	1												
Hebrews	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
James	1	2	3	4	5								
1 Peter	1	2	3	4	5								
2 Peter	1	2	3										
1 John	1	2	3	4	5								
2 John	1												
3 John	1												
Jude	1												
Revelation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22				

Beginning with Christ



On the next page you will find the verses of the “Beginning with Christ” series. You may either make a photocopy of them, or cut out the whole page. If possible, have the verses laminated (plastic coated). This service is usually available in shops that handle large quantities of photocopies. You may want to ask the person leading this course to help you find such a place. Laminating your verses will ensure that they last long even though you will be using them frequently. If you cannot have them laminated then glue them to a stiff piece of paper or cardboard so that they will be sturdier.

The first week you will only be memorizing one memory passage, but after that you will add to your “verse pack” each week. By keeping all your verses together, you will be able to “overlearn” verses you have already memorized as you are learning new ones. For this reason you will need to find some way to keep them together and protect them, such as a rubber band or a small plastic holder.

Prepare your verses well because you will want to use them for a long time!

<p>Assurance of Salvation</p> <p>1 John 5:11–12</p> <p>And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life</p> <p>1 John 5:11–12</p> <p>A-1 Beginning with Christ</p>	<p>Assurance of Answered Prayer</p> <p>John 16:24</p> <p>Until now you have not asked for anything in My Name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.</p> <p>John 16:24</p> <p>A-2 Beginning with Christ</p>
<p>Assurance of Victory</p> <p>1 Corinthians 10:13</p> <p>No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.</p> <p>1 Corinthians 10:13</p> <p>A-3 Beginning with Christ</p>	<p>Assurance of Forgiveness</p> <p>1 John 1:9</p> <p>If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.</p> <p>1 John 1:9</p> <p>A-4 Beginning with Christ</p>
<p>Assurance of Guidance</p> <p>Proverbs 3:5–6</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Proverbs 3:5–6</p> <p>A-5 Beginning with Christ</p>	