

# Walking By Faith

## *Discipleship Study*

In every healthy relationship, you will find commitment;  
and that commitment will be seen in truth and sacrifice.

*16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. 17 God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.*  
~ 2 Timothy 3 NLT

OLD TESTAMENT - 39 Books			NEW TESTAMENT - 27 Books	
LAW - 5	POETRY - 5	MAJOR PROPHETS - 5	GOSPELS - 4	PAUL'S LETTERS TO FRIENDS - 4
GENESIS	JOB	ISAIAH	MATTHEW	1 TIMOTHY
EXODUS	PSALMS	JEREMIAH	MARK	2 TIMOTHY
LEVITICUS	PROVERBS	LAMENTATIONS	LUKE	TITUS
NUMBERS	ECCLESIASTES	EZEKIEL	JOHN	PHILEMON
DEUTERONOMY	SONG OF SOLOMON	DANIEL		
		MINOR PROPHETS - 12	HISTORY - 1	
HISTORY - 12	Hebrews 4:12	HOSEA	ACTS	
JOSHUA		JOEL		
JUDGES		AMOS	PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES - 9	GENERAL LETTERS - 9
RUTH		OBADIAH	ROMANS	HEBREWS
1 SAMUEL		JONAH	1 CORINTHIANS	JAMES
2 SAMUEL		MICAH	2 CORINTHIANS	1 PETER
1 KINGS		NAHUM	GALATIANS	2 PETER
2 KINGS		HABAKKUK	EPHESIANS	1 JOHN
1 CHRONICLES		ZEPHANIAH	PHILIPPIANS	2 JOHN
2 CHRONICLES		HAGGAI	COLOSSIANS	3 JOHN
EZRA		ZECHARIAH	1 THESSALONIANS	JUDE
NEHEMIAH		MALACHI	2 THESSALONIANS	REVELATION
ESTHER				

This study is designed to help you grow  
in the grace and knowledge of the Lord.

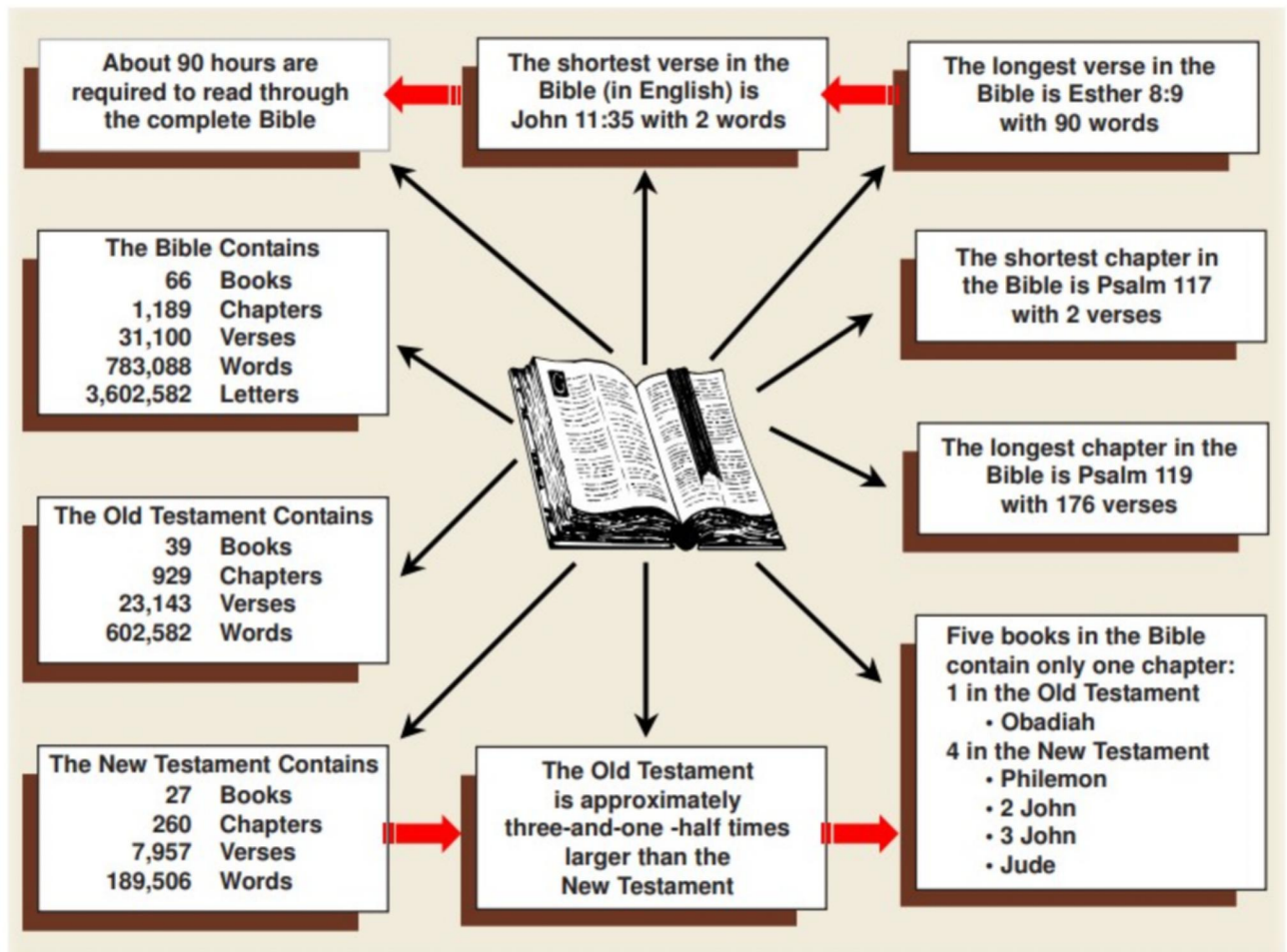
*2 Peter 3:18*

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## The Journey Continues - Do Not Stop Learning

This study is presented from the perspective that the Bible is the Word of God.  
Therefore, it is authoritative and without error.  
(2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21)



## Knowledge Extra - How To Study The Word Of God

**Whether you are reading one verse, a chapter, or a whole book at one time, you need to remember the following:**

- Nothing in the Bible is wasted or insignificant
- These God inspired truths are for our benefit
- God did not want us to be ignorant of His word

**As you open the Bible, consider these 3 basic study tools:**

- **Observation** - Comprehension of what is read is important. While memorizing scripture is helpful, we must be confident of what is being communicated to us. Was it literal, figurative, historical, prophetic, or a combination? ***Remember, there is probably more truths for you to learn than what you first noticed.***
- **Interpretation** - The original meaning and purpose can be known in God's perfect timing (*John 16:13*). Wrong assumptions about the meaning of individual words can drastically change the context of scripture. Correct doctrine will be supported in other passages. ***Remember, words have a way of evolving as the culture changes.***
- **Application** - How can what is read apply to me personally today, or in the future? How can it help me in sharing the Gospel and/or discipling others? How can it help me rightly place other scriptures in proper context? How can it help me be more confident in my faith? ***Remember, the Word is to be lived out and not just read.***

### **Topical Study**

This approach is particularly helpful in gaining biblical understanding that applies to a need in your life, your family, or those around you; such as truths pertaining to marriage, self-control, parent-child relationships, managing finances, healing, or evangelicalism.

Just be sure that you are reading them in their proper context so as not to pick out a single scripture and miss the ultimate teaching that God desired.

***Remember, as you gain more and more knowledge on a particular topic, you will also gain faith in God's perfect plan for each area of your life (Romans 10:17).***

- Hebrews 11 is a great place to start studying the topic of Faith
- Malachi 3 is a great place to start studying the topic of Tithing
- Matthew 13 is a great place to start studying the topic of Parables
- Isaiah 53 is a great place to start studying the topic of Suffering
- Mark 5 is a great place to start studying the topic of Deliverance

### **Supernatural Benefits**

Every Christian has to have their mind renewed (*Romans 12:1-2*). This retraining is essential for us to experience the preordained benefits provided through the God-breathed scripture as described by the Apostle in 2 Timothy 3:16-17. ***Remember, without our thought life being made new it will be impossible for us to fully know God's perfect will for our life.***

- The Word is profitable - We are made better because of it
- The Word instructs us - We are taught by the perfect Teacher
- The Word corrects us - We are redirected from self-inflicted harm
- The Word trains us - We are transformed into the likeness of our Teacher
- The Word prepares us - We are able to fulfill Teacher's purpose

## Seeking - Knocking - Asking

Good intentions do not bring about change, neither will it drive us to be diligent in our pursuit of Godly wisdom. If we are truly hungry for the things of God, it will be displayed in our normal daily life (*Deuteronomy 6:4-6*). **Remember, our Lord and Savior desires for us to know Him, that is why He wants us to seek out His truth** (*Proverbs 4:7*).

- What attributes of God's character did I see revealed? Remember, if we are going to "put on" the mind of Christ (*Philippians 2:5*), we will have to search out the character traits of the One who created you in His image.
- Did the scripture directly point to different persons of the Trinity (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)?
- Did the scripture explain the need for salvation?
- Did the scripture explain the result of not accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior?
- Did the scripture explain the difference between the Spirit and the flesh (*Galatians 5:16-26*)?
- How did the scripture help put other biblical passages in proper context?
- What truths caused you to reflect on different aspects of your current lifestyle?
- What truths encouraged you to love God and others more perfectly?
- Did the passage highlight sin that today's culture accepts?
- Who was the passage originally written to?
- What was the historic setting of the passage?
- Who was the main character in the passage?
- Did the passage appear to speak of past, present, or future events?
- Did the passage refer to other biblical characters, places, or events?
- Are there certain words, people, and places that you need to research?
- Are there topics and stories that made you uncomfortable? Why?
- How can you incorporate the passage in your prayer time?

## Letting Go

One of the hardest steps in the learning process, is unlearning facts and habits that are not helpful or Godly. Many believers are unwilling to let go of previously held beliefs, even when faced with a plain understanding of a biblical truth. The notion that much of their past knowledge or that their political world view has been contrary to the Word, is more than some can accept.

We must recognize that we all come from a place of corrupt thinking due to sin; and just because we have long adopted a particular mind set through our upbringing, an erroneous view of God, or being immersed in a certain lifestyle doesn't mean we are correct. **Remember, each of us must allow the living and powerful Word to humble us so that any needed repentance can turn us from the fleshly thought life that brought us so much confusion and difficulty** (*Hebrews 4:12*).

## Pitfalls In Bible Study

Christ wants us to experience His full provision (*John 10:10*); yet many believers live an uninspired defeated life. When we learn to consistently engage with the holy Word of the Lord, we are better able to experience His presence in our life (*John 1:1*); but we must do so intentionally, or we will miss the blessing. **Remember, our flesh faces many temptations to distract us from a super-natural understanding of our Creator.**

- Speed Reading (*without comprehension we cannot gain wisdom*)
- Distracted Study (*without focus we cannot discern the still small voice*)
- Familiarity (*without humility we cannot expect to receive more*)
- Delayed Application (*without obedience we cannot fully experience the truth*)
- Giving Up (*without perseverance we cannot expect to grow*)
- Silence (*without prayer we cannot speak to the Author of the Book*)



## **Lesson 1 – Discovering The One True God**

Christianity is not a religion, it is a relationship. This study is designed to help us better understand the One in whom we have been called to abide eternally. The deeper our understanding of the characteristics and attributes of God, the deeper our relationship becomes. He already knows us, and He wants us to know Him.

Understanding and believing the essentials of biblical truth is crucial to living in a confident and abiding faith. These foundational truths are also vital to the believer when it comes to their awareness and knowledge of the One true God.

The following are a few topics that people struggle to know and accept:

- *Salvation by grace not works*
- *The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus*
- *Creation is an intentional act*
- *Monotheism as opposed to polytheism, agnosticism, atheism, or pantheism*
- *Deity of Jesus*
- *Humanity of Jesus*
- *Only one path to heaven*
- *Tri-unity of God*
- *Faith, Hope, and Love*
- *The Gospel message of "whosoever"*
- *All are born into sin and depravity*
- *Eternity, Holiness, and Judgement*
- *Life after death*

- **Monotheism** - There is only 1 God (Psalm 86:10; Isaiah 43:10, 11; James 2:19)
  - Since there is only one true God, we are warned about honoring anyone or anything in a place of greater importance (Exodus 20:3-5, 34:14; Colossians 3:1-6)
- ❖ ***Why is it important to know and believe that there is only one God?***
- **Trinity** - God is one in essence and three in Person (Matthew 28:19; Ephesians 4:4-7).
  - The Father sent the Son (John 3:16)
  - The Father and the Son sent the Holy Spirit (John 14:26; Acts 2:33)
  - The Holy Spirit empowers and reveals truth (John 16:8-13; Romans 8:11)

***Each member of the Trinity is a distinct person and involved in our lives.***

	<b>Father</b>	<b>Son</b>	<b>Spirit</b>
<b><i>God</i></b>	Phil. 1:2	John 1:1, 14	Acts 5:3-4
<b><i>Creator</i></b>	Isaiah 64:8	Col. 1:15-17	Job 33:4
<b><i>Resurrects</i></b>	1 Thess. 1:10	John 2:19	Rom. 8:11
<b><i>Indwells</i></b>	2 Cor. 6:16	Col. 1:27	John 14:17
<b><i>Sanctifies</i></b>	1 Thess. 5:23	Heb. 2:11	1 Pet. 1:2
<b><i>Eternal</i></b>	Psalm 90:2	Micah 5:1-2	Heb. 9:14

The tri-unity of God demonstrates that God is eternally loving and relational. Before humankind was created, God lived and loved eternally in community with Himself (Genesis 1:26-27). The tri-unity of God makes salvation possible. The Father pours out His wrath against sin on the Son, the Son propitiates the wrath by providing atonement because He is both God and man, and the Spirit applies that salvation to us through His indwelling and regenerating presence.

❖ *Though the doctrine of a Triune God can be difficult to grasp, what aspects of the Trinity bring you the most comfort in your relationship with God?*

- **The Person of Jesus Christ** - Jesus is God's Son (John 3:16; 1 John 4:15)
  - Jesus Christ is God in the flesh (John 1:1, 14; Philippians 2:5-8)
  - Jesus Christ is the image of God (Colossians 1:15; Hebrews 1:1-3)
  - Jesus Christ is not an angel (Hebrews 1:4-9)
  - Jesus Christ is the object of our faith (Hebrews 1:2, 11:6, 12:2)
  - Jesus Christ intercedes for us (1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 7:25)
  - Jesus Christ was born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25)
  - Jesus Christ is the only way to be saved (John 14:6; Acts 4:12)
  - Jesus Christ was crucified and resurrected (1 Corinthians 15:3-4, 14, 17)
  - Jesus Christ is Lord and King forever (Revelation 1:8, 19:16, 22:13)
  - Jesus Christ is our propitiation ( 1 John 2:2, 4:10; Romans 3:25)
  - Jesus Christ died for you (Romans 5:8; Hebrews 9:11-28)

❖ *Which one of these characteristics stood out the most to you and why?*

- **God the Holy Spirit** - Giver of Spiritual Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:7-11)
  - Produces the fruit of righteousness (Galatians 5:16-25)
  - Renews us at salvation (Titus 3:4-6)
  - Intercedes for us (Romans 8:26)
  - Can call you out for service (Acts 13:2)
  - Is able to change circumstances (Acts 16:6-7)

Remember, the Holy Spirit is a personal being just as God the Father and God the Son. God the Holy Spirit is active in creation, conviction, prayer, and the regeneration of the redeemed.

One of the greatest blessings that Christians receive is the development of righteous character through the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit. All believers are provided everything needed for godliness as the Holy Spirit guides, comforts, and convicts (2 Peter 1:1-11). The closer our relationship is with the Father, the more we are influenced by His holy character, and the less likely we are to stumble along the way.

The more God increases in our life, the less of us gets in the way (John 3:30). Just as our bodies benefit from healthy supplements, so does our spirit.

Make every effort to supplement your...

- *Faith with Virtue*
- *Virtue with Knowledge*
- *Knowledge with Self-Control*
- *Self-Control with Steadfastness*
- *Steadfastness with Godliness*
- *Godliness with Brotherly Affection*
- *Brotherly Affection with Love*

## Knowledge Extra - God's Garden is YOU

The Lord is committed to the work that began in you with a mustard seed of faith, and He is determined to see that fruit-bearing transformation be revealed for our good and His glory (*Philippians 1:6*).

- God the Father is the gardener *John 15:1*
- Believers are vines with roots *John 15:4; Ephesians 3:17*
- Healthy believers produce good crops *Ephesians 5:8-10; Psalm 1:3; Matthew 7:16-20*

### Growing in the garden

- How is your relationship with the Gardener? - *Love, Joy, Peace*
- How are your relationships on the surface? - *Long-suffering, Gentleness, Goodness*
- How healthy are you underground? - *Faith, Meekness, Temperance*

The “*fruit of the Spirit*” contains 9 areas of growth that help us mature as God intended, so that we are no longer tossed to and fro like children (*Ephesians 4:11-16*).

❖ *Which of these holy characteristics do you resist the most and why?*

## THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)	Descriptive Definition	Other Scriptures	Greek Definition
<b>Love</b>	Love is not based on emotions or feelings. It is a decision to be committed to the well being of others without any conditions or circumstances.	John 15:12-14	<b>Agape:</b> Love which seeks the highest good of others.
<b>Joy</b>	Joy is not based on financial success, good health, or popularity. By obeying God's will, fellowship, ministering to others, and sharing the Gospel, believers will experience joy.	1 Peter 1:8, 9	<b>Chara:</b> Gladness, delight, a special presence of God.
<b>Peace</b>	Peace is a state of assurance, lack of fear, and sense of contentment. It is fellowship, harmony, and unity between individuals. Peace is freedom from worry, disturbance, and oppressive thoughts.	Philippians 4:7	<b>Eirene:</b> Peace between individuals, harmony, unity.
<b>Patience</b>	Patience is a slowness in avenging wrongs. It is the quality of restraint that prevents believers from speaking or acting hastily in the face of disagreement, opposition, or persecution.	1 Thessalonians 5:14,15	<b>Makrothumia:</b> Longsuffering, bearing trials without complaint.
<b>Kindness</b>	Kindness is an eagerness to put others at ease. It is a sweet and attractive temperament that shows friendly regard.	Proverbs 11:16,17	<b>Chrestotes:</b> Merciful, easy to bear. Morally good and upright.
<b>Goodness</b>	Goodness is the selfless desire to be open hearted and generous to others above what they deserve.	Titus 3:8	<b>Agathosune:</b> Useful, generous.
<b>Faithfulness</b>	Faithfulness is firm devotion to God, loyalty to friends, and dependability to carry out responsibilities. Faith is the conviction that even now God is working and acting on one's behalf.	Revelation 2:10b	<b>Pistis:</b> Trust, conviction.
<b>Gentleness</b>	Gentleness is a humble non-threatening demeanor that derives from a position of strength and authority, and is useful in calming another's anger. Gentleness is not a quality that is weak and passive.	1 Peter 3:15	<b>Prautes:</b> Humble, meek.
<b>Self-Control</b>	Self-control is to restrain one's emotions, actions, and desires, and to be in harmony with the will of God. Self-control is doing God's will, not living for one's self.	Titus 2:11,12	<b>Egkrateia:</b> Being in control of one's self.



## **Lesson 2 – The Power of Salvation**

This study is essential to the understanding of sin, salvation, and our need to be forgiven and made right in the eyes of God through Jesus. All relationships have a beginning - and salvation is the beginning for the believer.

- **Sin** - Sin is a transgression of God's law (*missing the mark*) (1 John 3:4)
  - All have sinned (Romans 3:23)
  - Sin brings death (Romans 6:23)
  - Sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:1-2; Genesis 3:23-24)
  - Sin is the reason that all must be saved (1 John 1:5-10; John 3:16-21)
  - ❖ *Who determines the standard for what gets classified as sin?*
  - ❖ *Can comparing our sin to the sin of others diminish the seriousness of all sin?*
- **Salvation is a gift** - God's love brings grace and mercy (John 3:17; Ephesians 2:8)
  - God draws us (John 6:44)
  - God wants you to be saved (1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9)
  - ❖ *Have you ever struggled with the value of things that are free?*
- **Salvation is not of works** - We are unable to save our self (Ephesians 2:9)
  - No one can be declared righteous on their own (Romans 3:20; Galatians 3:11)
  - No one's good can outweigh their bad (2 Timothy 1:9; Titus 3:5)
  - ❖ *Do good works have any value?*
- **Salvation is conditional upon faith** - Faith pleases God (Hebrews 11:6)
  - Salvation comes by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8)
  - Faith is a requirement until the end (Matthew 7:21-23; Hebrews 6:4-6, 10:26-39)
  - ❖ *What does "shipwrecking" your faith mean to you? (1 Timothy 1:18-20)*
- **Salvation brings a change** - We are given a new nature (2 Corinthians 5:17)
  - We are forgiven (1 John 1:9)
  - We are justified (Romans 4:25, 5:1)
  - We are sanctified (Hebrews 10:10)
  - We are free from wrath (1 Thessalonians 5:9; John 3:18, 36)
  - We are given eternal life (John 3:16)
  - We are called to action (Ephesians 2:10; Matthew 5:13-16)
  - ❖ *Being born-again implies a transformation, yet many professing Christians seem to be living the same kind of life they did before salvation. What do you see as the problem when the believer is not growing spiritually and they are still tied to their old lifestyle?*
  - ❖ *What do you believe the difference is between conviction and conversion?*

Many struggle to make peace with their past, but if Jesus is able to deal with the sin of the whole world, He is able to completely forgive your past as well.



## **Knowledge Extra - Who is this Jesus?**

<b>Advocate</b> (1 John 2:1)	<b>Lamb Without Blemish</b> (1 Pet. 1:19)
<b>Almighty</b> (Rev. 1:8; Mt. 28:18)	<b>Last Adam</b> (1 Cor. 15:45)
<b>Alpha and Omega</b> (Rev. 1:8; 22:13)	<b>Life</b> (John 14:6; Col. 3:4)
<b>Amen</b> (Rev. 3:14)	<b>Light of the World</b> (John 8:12)
<b>Apostle of our Profession</b> (Heb. 3:1)	<b>Lion of the Tribe of Judah</b> (Rev. 5:5)
<b>Atoning Sacrifice for our Sins</b> (1 John 2:2)	<b>Living One</b> (Rev. 1:18)
<b>Author of Life</b> (Acts 3:15)	<b>Living Stone</b> (1 Pet. 2:4)
<b>Author and Perfecter of our Faith</b> (Heb. 12:2)	<b>Lord</b> (2 Pet. 2:20)
<b>Author of Salvation</b> (Heb. 2:10)	<b>Lord of All</b> (Acts 10:36)
<b>Beginning and End</b> (Rev. 22:13)	<b>Lord of Glory</b> (1 Cor. 2:8)
<b>Blessed and only Ruler</b> (1 Tim. 6:15)	<b>Lord of lords</b> (Rev. 19:16)
<b>Bread of God</b> (John 6:33)	<b>Man from Heaven</b> (1 Cor. 15:48)
<b>Bread of Life</b> (John 6:35; 6:48)	<b>Mediator of the New Covenant</b> (Heb. 9:15)
<b>Bridegroom</b> (Mt. 9:15)	<b>Mighty God</b> (Isa. 9:6)
<b>Capstone</b> (Acts 4:11; 1 Pet. 2:7)	<b>Morning Star</b> (Rev. 22:16)
<b>Chief Cornerstone</b> (Eph. 2:20)	<b>Offspring of David</b> (Rev. 22:16)
<b>Chief Shepherd</b> (1 Pet. 5:4)	<b>Only Begotten Son of God</b> (John 1:18; 1 John 4:9)
<b>Christ</b> (1 John 2:22)	<b>Our Great God and Savior</b> (Titus 2:13)
<b>Creator</b> (John 1:3)	<b>Our Holiness</b> (1 Cor. 1:30)
<b>Deliverer</b> (Rom. 11:26)	<b>Our Husband</b> (2 Cor. 11:2)
<b>Eternal Life</b> (1 John 1:2; 5:20)	<b>Our Protection</b> (2 Thess. 3:3)
<b>Gate</b> (John 10:9)	<b>Our Redemption</b> (1 Cor. 1:30)
<b>Faithful and True</b> (Rev. 19:11)	<b>Our Righteousness</b> (1 Cor. 1:30)
<b>Faithful Witness</b> (Rev. 1:5)	<b>Our Sacrificed Passover Lamb</b> (1 Cor. 5:7)
<b>Faith and True Witness</b> (Rev. 3:14)	<b>Power of God</b> (1 Cor. 1:24)
<b>First and Last</b> (Rev. 1:17; 2:8; 22:13)	<b>Precious Cornerstone</b> (1 Pet. 2:6)
<b>Firstborn From the Dead</b> (Rev. 1:5)	<b>Prophet</b> (Acts 3:22)
<b>Firstborn over all creation</b> (Col. 1:15)	<b>Rabbi</b> (Mt. 26:25)
<b>Gate</b> (John 10:9)	<b>Resurrection and Life</b> (John 11:25)
<b>God</b> (John 1:1; 20:28; Heb. 1:8; Rom. 9:5)	<b>Righteous Branch</b> (Jer. 23:5)
<b>Good Shepherd</b> (John 10:11,14)	<b>Righteous One</b> (Acts 7:52; 1 John 2:1)
<b>Great Shepherd</b> (Heb. 13:20)	<b>Rock</b> (1 Cor. 10:4)
<b>Great High Priest</b> (Heb. 4:14)	<b>Root of David</b> (Rev. 5:5; 22:16)
<b>Head of the Church</b> (Eph. 1:22; 4:15; 5:23)	<b>Ruler of God's Creation</b> (Rev. 3:14)
<b>Heir of all things</b> (Heb. 1:2)	<b>Ruler of the Kings of the Earth</b> (Rev. 1:5)
<b>High Priest</b> (Heb. 2:17)	<b>Savior</b> (Eph. 5:23; Titus 1:4; 3:6; 2 Pet. 2:20)
<b>Holy and True</b> (Rev. 3:7)	<b>Son of David</b> (Lk. 18:39)
<b>Holy One</b> (Acts 3:14)	<b>Son of God</b> (John 1:49; Heb. 4:14)
<b>Hope</b> (1 Tim. 1:1)	<b>Son of Man</b> (Mt. 8:20)
<b>Hope of Glory</b> (Col. 1:27)	<b>Son of the Most High God</b> (Lk. 1:32)
<b>Horn of Salvation</b> (Luke 1:69)	<b>Source of Eternal Salvation for believers</b> (Heb. 5:9)
<b>I Am</b> (John 8:58)	<b>The One Mediator</b> (1 Tim. 2:5)
<b>Image of God</b> (2 Cor. 4:4)	<b>The Stone the builders rejected</b> (Acts 4:11)
<b>Immanuel</b> (Mt. 1:23)	<b>True Bread</b> (John 6:32)
<b>Judge of the living and the dead</b> (Acts 10:42)	<b>True Light</b> (John 1:9)
<b>King Eternal</b> (1 Tim. 1:17)	<b>True Vine</b> (John 15:1)
<b>King of Israel</b> (John 1:49)	<b>Truth</b> (John 1:14; 14:6)
<b>King of the Jews</b> (Mt. 27:11)	<b>Way</b> (John 14:6)
<b>King of kings</b> (1 Tim 6:15; Rev. 19:16)	<b>Wisdom of God</b> (1 Cor. 1:24)
<b>King of the Ages</b> (Rev. 15:3)	<b>Word</b> (John 1:1)
<b>Lamb</b> (Rev. 13:8)	<b>Word of God</b> (Rev. 19:13)
<b>Lamb of God</b> (John 1:29)	

## Exercise # 1 – Essentials

### 18 Questions To Better Understand God And His Work

### Answers

1. **How many Gods are there?**  
(Deuteronomy 4:35; Isaiah 43:10; Ephesians 4:4-6; James 2:19) 1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Is God omnipresent (everywhere all the time)?**  
(Jeremiah 23:24; Matthew 28:20; Psalm 139:7) 2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. **True or False: Jesus Christ existed before His birth?**  
(Colossians 1:16-20; John 1:1-14, 30; Genesis 1:26) 3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. **How many persons of the Trinity were involved in the birth of Jesus?**  
(John 1:1-3, 3:16-17, 10:30; Romans 1:1-4; Matthew 1:18-25; 1 John 4:2) 4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. **Was Jesus Christ both man and God while here on earth?**  
(John 1:1, 14; Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 1:1-4, 4:15; 5:1-10; Romans 5:8 ) 5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. **True or False: Jesus was resurrected in bodily form on the third day.**  
(Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-14; Luke 18:31-33, 24:1-48; John 20:1-21:25) 6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. **True or False: Jesus is in heaven and interceding on our behalf.**  
(Hebrews 4:14; Luke 24:49-52; 1 John 2:2) 7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. **True or False: Jesus is just another angel created by God.**  
(Hebrews 1:1-10; Philippians 2:5-8; Mark 1:9-11) 8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. **True or False: The Bible does not identify Jesus as being God.**  
(John 8:24, 58, 10:30, 14:9, 20:28; Revelation 21:1-7; Exodus 3:14) 9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. **True or False: The Bible does not mention that Jesus Christ is eternal.**  
(Micah 5:2; John 10:28; Revelation 2:17-18, 22:13) 10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. **Which member of the Trinity indwells within the believer?**  
(John 14:15-18, 26-27; Ephesians 1:13-14) 11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. **True or False: All people go to heaven.**  
(Matthew 7:21-23; Daniel 12:2; Revelation 20:11-15) 12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. **True or False: Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation and heaven.**  
(John 3:16, 14:6; Acts 4:12) 13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. **True or False: Jesus came to save the lost from hell.**  
(Luke 2:8-14, 19:9-10; John 3:17-18, 8:42-47) 14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. **True or False: Everyone but Jesus has sinned.**  
(Romans 3:9-12, 23; Hebrews 4:15; 2 Corinthians 5:21) 15. \_\_\_\_\_
16. **True or False: Bad people cannot become Christians.**  
(Isaiah 1:18, 59:1-2; John 3:16, 6:40; Romans 5:8) 16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. **How many good things can you do, to be good enough for heaven?**  
(Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Timothy 1:9; Romans 3:28; Titus 3:5) 17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. **Which member of the Trinity is known as Word, Wonderful, Son, Prince of Peace, Lamb, Lord, King, Immanuel, Alpha, and Omega?**  
(Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 1:23; John 1:14, 29, 34; Revelation 19:11-16, 22:12-16) 18. \_\_\_\_\_

## **Lesson 3 – Experiencing God *Part 1***

Your relationship began with a personal experience, and that relationship will continue to grow and deepen as you experience His love for you more fully. This study focuses on our daily walk with Christ; and how better to experience the One who saved us from an eternity in hell. The abundant life that Jesus spoke of comes through closeness with Him. God has already defined what many of these experiences should be.

- **Experiencing God Through Prayer**

- Jesus expected us to pray (Matthew 6:5-7)
- You can have confidence in your prayers (Hebrews 4:15-16; 1 John 5:13-15)

❖ *Healthy relationships thrive when life experiences are shared with one another. Share a moment you were able to experience with the Lord recently.*

- **Experiencing God Through Fasting**

- Jesus expected us to fast (Matthew 6:16-18)
- Fasting helps us to hear more clearly (Acts 14:23; Joel 2:12)

❖ *Many Christians have never fasted. What do you believe is the biggest obstacle when it comes to fasting?*

- **Experiencing God Through Giving**

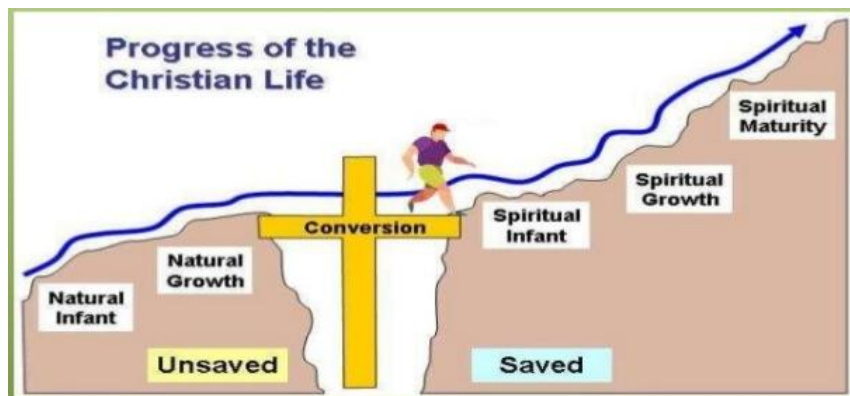
- Jesus expected us to give (Matthew 6:1-4)
- Giving is relative to our faith (Mark 10:17-31)

❖ *How can understanding the difference between an owner and a steward, change someone's perspective on giving and tithing?*

- **Experiencing God Through The Bible**

- The Word is alive (Hebrews 4:12)
- The Word is authoritative (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- The Word increases our faith (Romans 10:17)
- The Word guides us daily (Psalm 119:105)

❖ *Hebrews 4:12-13 may indicate why so many people avoid reading the Bible. Therefore, it could be said that to willingly avoid the truth is a desire to live a lie. What are your thoughts on that statement?*



## Exercise # 2 – Fundamentals

- **The Beginning** – After reading Genesis 1:1-2:3; Job 38:4-39:40; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:2; 2 Peter 3:5, does the Bible prove that creation was the sole act of a sovereign God, and not that of evolution?    \_\_\_\_yes    \_\_\_\_no
- **The Fall** – The fall of mankind into sin began with one act of disobedience. This created a separation between mankind and God. After reading Genesis 3:1-24; 2 Samuel 15:22-23; Isaiah 59:2; Romans 5:12, can you understand the seriousness of disobedience?    \_\_\_\_yes  
\_\_\_\_no
- **The Flood** – The flood reveals how sin gets worse unless dealt with. Does reading Genesis 6:5-7; Romans 3:23, 6:23 give you a better sense for the need to repent?    \_\_\_\_yes  
\_\_\_\_no
- **The Restoration** – God’s mercy is constantly revealed through the scripture. Does reading Genesis 8:15-22, 9:8-17; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; 1 John 1:9 give you confidence that God will show you mercy to bring about forgiveness and restoration?    \_\_\_\_yes    \_\_\_\_no
- **Heaven** – After reading John 14:1-4; 2 Corinthians 5:1; Revelation 4:1-11, 21:1-22:5, are you now able to believe that heaven is a real and beautiful place?    \_\_\_\_yes    \_\_\_\_no
- **Hell** – After reading Matthew 8:12, 25:41; Mark 9:42-48; Luke 16:19-31, can you now see the urgency of salvation and the horror of hell?    \_\_\_\_yes    \_\_\_\_no
- **Return** – The imminent return of Jesus Christ is the basis for our eternal hope. Unless His resurrection means that He will also gather us to Himself, then our salvation has little meaning. When you read Matthew 24:29-31; Acts 1:6-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Peter 1:8-9; Revelation 1:7-8, 22:20, is your faith stirred for Christ return?    \_\_\_\_yes    \_\_\_\_no
- **Resurrection** – In 1 Corinthians 15: 12-58; Thessalonians 4:13-18 we see that a bodily resurrection will take place; and in light of 2 Corinthians 5:8 can you be confident that at the moment of your death you will be in the presence of Jesus Christ?    \_\_\_\_yes    \_\_\_\_no
- **Judgment** – According to 2 Corinthians 5:10-11; 2 Peter 3:7-12; Revelation 19:1-20:15 God will judge His creation and each will be responsible and without excuse. Because of these truths, we can see the urgency in receiving Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Does God's definite judgment concerning sin show us the need for salvation?    \_\_\_\_yes    \_\_\_\_no
- **Inspiration** – Having confidence in God’s Word is vital. When you read 2 Timothy 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:12-21, can you believe that the Bible is super-naturally inspired by God, and that the truths contained in it are best for you and the world?    \_\_\_\_yes    \_\_\_\_no
- **Inerrancy** – Not all Bibles are the same; and unfortunately, some have tried to lead people into error. Since many Christians cannot understand the original languages of Hebrew and Greek, having Word-for-Word translations such as the KJV, ESV, and NASB are helpful. After reading Psalm 12:6; Proverbs 30:5-6; Psalm 119:105, can you believe by faith that God’s inspired Word is perfect and without errors or contradictions? \_\_\_\_yes    \_\_\_\_no
- **Faith** – After reading Mark 11:24; 2 Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews 11:6; 1 John 5:4 do you better understand the importance of having a deeper faith? \_\_\_\_yes    \_\_\_\_no



## **Lesson 4 – Experiencing God     *Part 2***

It is said that everybody worships something. The fixation on money, power, fame, sports, a good name, love, etc., can easily become worship; and our actions will prove how committed we are to the thing, person, or activity. The measure of our closeness with the Lord will be seen in how every aspect of life intersects with biblical truth.

### ● **Experiencing God Through Worship**

- Worship reveals Godly wisdom (Psalm 73:16-17; 1 Kings 3:4-15)
- Worship reveals God's glory (1 Kings 8:1-13; Isaiah 6:1-4)
- Worship reveals a Godly presence (Matthew 18:20; 2 Corinthians 13:3-4)
- Worship reveals our heart (Isaiah 6:5-8; 1 Corinthians 14:24-25)
- Worship reveals God's will (John 4:19-26; Romans 12:1-2)

❖ *Do you struggle to worship God when you are alone?*

❖ *What human trait keeps us from bowing down before another?*

### ● **Experiencing God Through Waiting**

- Waiting brings favor (Lamentations 3:25,26)
- Waiting brings peace (Micah 7:6-8)
- Waiting brings wisdom (James 1:5)
- Waiting brings confidence (Psalm 33:20)
- Waiting brings strength (Isaiah 40:31)
- Waiting is opposite of stress (Psalm 37:7)
- Waiting is trusting (James 1:4, 5:7-8)

❖ *On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being perfect), how would you rate your level of patience?*

❖ *What hinders you from being more patient?*

❖ *Have you ever started something, but gave up when it became too hard, or when results did not come as quickly as you had hoped? If so, how can that kind of attitude hurt your relationship with God?*

### ● **Experiencing God Through Maturity**

- Growth increases our faith (Philippians 4:4-13)
- Growth increases our commitment (Hebrews 5:13-6:3)
- Growth increases our blessings (2 Peter 1:2-11)
- Growth increases our witness (2 Timothy 1:5, 3:10-11)

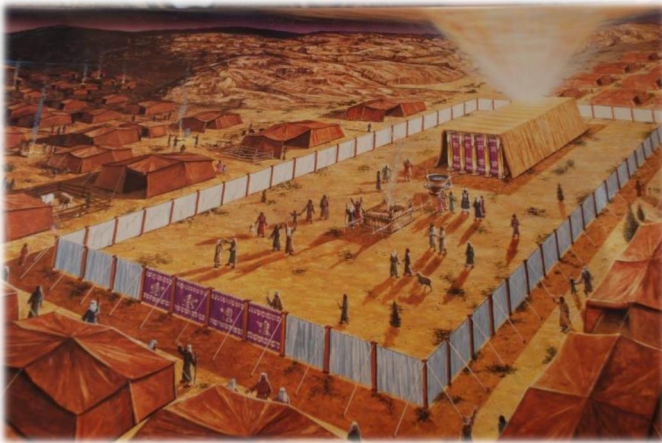
❖ *How could maturing as a Christian reduce stress?*

❖ *How would you describe a mature Christian?*

Experiencing God is a continuing process of belonging to Him through Christ, being guided by the Holy Spirit, and growing in the knowledge of the Word. The Christian is called to abide in a loving relationship (*John 15:1-15*) - not in a sporadic friendship.

## Knowledge Extra - What is Worship?

### Tabernacle in the Wilderness



**Worship:** *to pray and praise honestly; to honor, serve, and sacrifice; to set God apart in one's own heart as supreme, holy, and greater than self; to dedicate self to the will, purpose, and plan of the Creator.*

#### **Worship must be a lifestyle**

- *1 Corinthians 10:31*
- *James 1:22-27*

#### **Worship must be honest**

- *Isaiah 29:13*
- *John 4:24*

#### **Worship must be acceptable**

- *Romans 12:1-2*
- *Hebrews 12:28-29*

#### **Worship must reveal the Glory of God**

- *Isaiah 43:7*
- *Psalms 29:1-2*

#### **Worship changes us not God**

- *John 14:15*
- *Exodus 20:1-17*

- True worship is God-focused (*Revelation 22:8-9*)
- To worship anything or anyone else is idolatry (*Revelation 9:20*)
- God-centered worship only exalts the Lord and is offered for His pleasure because He alone is worthy (*Revelation 4:11*)
- God-centered worship will reveal the need for correction (*Revelation 3:19-22*)
- Biblical worship recognizes the eternal nature of God (*Revelation 1:17-18*)
- Worship should be reserved for the Supreme Ruler (*Revelation 1:4-8*)

### Exercise # 3 – Character Traits

- **Spiritual Gifts** - List all of the God given gifts that are found in Romans 12:3-8, I Corinthians 12:4-11, Ephesians 4:7-11, and 1 Peter 4:8-11 : \_\_\_\_\_

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- Are all believers given a gift (1 Peter 4:10; 1 Corinthians 12:7)? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no
- Can a believer receive more than one gift (1 Corinthians 12:11)? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no
- What is the purpose of our gifts (1 Peter 4:10-11)? \_\_\_\_\_
- According to Ephesians 2:10, God has already predetermined that every Christian would do what? \_\_\_\_\_
- Is it possible to draw close to the Lord and still be disobedient? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no

- **Humility** - List the attributes of true love and the fruit of the Spirit as found in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a and Galatians 5:22-23: \_\_\_\_\_

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- **Do's & Don'ts** - Read James 1:19-22, and list the "do's" and "don'ts": \_\_\_\_\_

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- **Growth** - The spiritual health of any church is always measured by the spiritual health of its individual members. Describe what you believe the Bible is teaching the believer in the following verses: 2 Timothy 2:15, Hebrews 5:11-6:6, and 2 Peter 3:14-18: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Lesson 5 - Expectations of Faith     *Part 1***

Christianity is a relationship between the saved and the Savior, and all relationships have expectations. This study focuses on the importance of our responsibility to the Lord, to our local church, and to the world. Because of redemption, we are now given a holy and eternal purpose; and by the power that dwells in us through grace, we are equipped to fulfill that purpose.

### ● **Faith Through Service**

- Setting priorities (Matthew 6:33)
  - Using what is given (Matthew 25:14-30; 1 Corinthians 12:7)
  - Walking in the Spirit (Matthew 25:34-40)
  - Faith will be manifested (James 1:26-27, 2:14-20)
- 
- ❖ *What kind of impact could the local church make if every church member used their Holy Spirit given gifts for the betterment of the congregation and for the glory of God?*
  - ❖ *Many Christians believe 2 Thessalonians 3:10 when it comes to welfare, but are often willing to let others in the church do the work. We are warned about being only a hearer and not a doer. Are you ready to lead and serve?*

### **Faith Through Commitment**

- Faithfully attending (Hebrews 10:24-25; Matthew 18:20)
  - Faithfully giving (Malachi 3:6-10; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15)
  - Faithfully praying (Ephesians 3:14-21; Matthew 26:41)
  - Faithfully studying (2 Timothy 2:15-16)
- 
- ❖ *When co-workers are unreliable, how does it affect productivity and morale?*
  - ❖ *Would those closest to you consider you a person that keeps their promises, or simply another person who likes to make new commitments without keeping the old ones?*

### ● **Faith Through Purity**

- Prepared for pure thinking (Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 10:5 )
  - Prepared for pure vision (Job 31:1; Matthew 5:28)
  - Prepared for pure speech (James 3:1-12; 1 Corinthians 15:33)
  - Prepared for pure relationships (1 Corinthians 6:18; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5)
- 
- ❖ *Can a body of water appear calm on the surface while the currents below are dangerous?*
  - ❖ *Why do you believe the Bible has so much to say on sexual immorality, and how can our relationships be a reflection of our beliefs?*

Because we know ourselves so well, it is not unusual to doubt whether or not we can be holy enough; but Christ has made a way through His sacrifice.

- *“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.” 2 Corinthians 5:21 KJV*
- *“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.” Philippians 1:6 NLT*



## **Knowledge Extra - Old Testament Names of God**

These names reveal personal attributes and characteristics about a Holy God; and as we meditate on these names, we become better aware of how the Lord may apply certain principles and truths in our everyday life. As you study these names, ask yourself what your character reveals about you.

ELOHIM - (*Genesis 1:1; Psalm 19:1*)

meaning "God", a reference to God's power and might.

ADONAI - (*Malachi 1:6*)

meaning "Lord", a reference to the Lordship of God.

JEHOVAH--YAHWEH - (*Genesis 2:4*)

a reference to God's divine salvation.

JEHOVAH-MACCADDESEM - (*Exodus 31:13*)

meaning "The Lord thy sanctifier"

JEHOVAH-ROHI - (*Psalm 23:1*)

meaning "The Lord my shepherd"

JEHOVAH-SHAMMAH - (*Ezekiel 48:35*)

meaning "The Lord who is present"

JEHOVAH-RAPHA - (*Exodus 15:26*)

meaning "The Lord our healer"

JEHOVAH-TSIDKENU - (*Jeremiah 23:6*)

meaning "The Lord our righteousness"

JEHOVAH-JIREH - (*Genesis 22:13-14*)

meaning "The Lord will provide"

JEHOVAH-NISSI - (*Exodus 17:15*)

meaning "The Lord our banner"

JEHOVAH-SHALOM - (*Judges 6:24*)

meaning "The Lord is peace"

JEHOVAH-SABBAOTH - (*Isaiah 6:1-3*)

meaning "The Lord of Hosts"

JEHOVAH-GMOLAH - (*Jeremiah 51:6*)

meaning "The God of Recompense"

EL-ELYON - (*Genesis 14:17-20; Isaiah 14:13-14*)

meaning "The most high God"

EL-ROI - (*Genesis 16:13*)

meaning "The strong one who sees"

EL-SHADDAI - (*Genesis 17:1; Psalm 91:1*)

meaning "The God of the mountains or God Almighty"

EL-OLAM - (*Isaiah 40:28-31*)

meaning "The everlasting God"

## **Lesson 6 - Expectations of Faith     Part 2**

Many of our disappointments in life come from wrong or misguided expectations. The great thing about our almighty God is that He desires us to fully know what His expectations are for our life, and that He will help us achieve them.

- **Faith Through Obedience**

- Baptism - Identifies us with Christ death, burial, and resurrection (Romans 6:1-13)
- Communion - A constant reminder of Christ sacrifice (1 Corinthians 11:23-29)
- Feet Washing - A constant reminder of how each believer is to be humble (John 13:1-20)
- Holiness - Grace empowers us to live holy lives apart from sin (Romans 6:11-18)

❖ *If we have been ordained unto good works as Ephesians 2:10 tells us, and our life is not manifesting the abundance of obedience and good works, how do we change direction?*

- **Faith Through Love**

- Our attitude is crucial (Galatians 5:24-26; Ephesians 4:1-7)
- Our humility is crucial (Philippians 2:3-8; Hebrews 13:17)
- Our concern is crucial (Matthew 28:18-20)
- Our manner of life is crucial (Matthew 5:13-16)

❖ *Is it possible to love others as described in the Bible and still be selfish?*

❖ *How mature must a Christian be in order to give up their own personal ambition in order to serve and love those that God is leading them to?*

- **Have you ever stopped and asked God what His expectations of you are?**

- In 1 Peter 1:13-16, God is calling us to holiness.
- In Romans 12:1-2, we are being told how to know God's perfect will for our lives.
- In 1 John 3:14-18, the Apostle shows us the proper way to love.
- In Matthew 5:38-48, Jesus reveals an expectation contrary to the world.
- In Exodus 20:1-17, when the ten commandments were given to Moses, it was God giving us a clear expectation of how to treat Him and others in this life.

❖ *So, are you willing to spend time in prayer asking God to reveal to you any area of your life that is hindering your relationship with Him?*

God is on OUR side

Romans 8:31-39

God will give you rest *Matthew 11:28-30*

God will strengthen you *Isaiah 41:10*

God will give you wisdom *James 1:5*

God will answer you *Jeremiah 33:3*

God will provide for you *2 Corinthians 9:8*

God will guide you *Proverbs 3:5-6*

God will save you *Romans 10:9-13*

God will not fail YOU

Deuteronomy 31:8

## **Knowledge Extra - Faith Is An Action Word**

<i><b>Subject of Grace</b></i>	<i><b>God's Plan</b></i>	<i><b>Act of Faith</b></i>	<i><b>The Blessing</b></i>
<b>Noah</b> <i>Genesis 6-9</i>	<b>Build an Ark</b> <i>Genesis 6:13-14</i>	<b>Hard Work</b> <i>Genesis 6:22</i>	<b>Rescued</b> <i>Hebrews 11:7</i>
<b>Abraham</b> <i>Genesis 12</i>	<b>Start a New Nation</b> <i>Genesis 12:1</i>	<b>Left Home</b> <i>Hebrews 11:8-10</i>	<b>Righteousness</b> <i>Romans 4:16-22</i>
<b>Abraham</b> <i>Genesis 22</i>	<b>Test of Faith</b> <i>Genesis 22:2,9</i>	<b>Trust God's Plan</b> <i>Genesis 22:8,10</i>	<b>Justified</b> <i>James 2:21-24</i>
<b>Israelites</b> <i>Exodus 12</i>	<b>Blood on Doorpost</b> <i>Exodus 12:21-23</i>	<b>Preparation</b> <i>Exodus 12:24-28</i>	<b>Protection</b> <i>Exodus 12:27</i>
<b>Israelites</b> <i>Exodus 14</i>	<b>Trust Leadership</b> <i>Exodus 14:13-14</i>	<b>Began to Walk</b> <i>Exodus 14:21-22</i>	<b>Deliverance</b> <i>Exodus 14:30</i>
<b>Rahab</b> <i>Joshua 2</i>	<b>Opportunity</b> <i>Joshua 2:17-20</i>	<b>Tied the Cord</b> <i>Joshua 2:21</i>	<b>Life</b> <i>Hebrews 11:31</i>
<b>Naaman</b> <i>2 Kings 5</i>	<b>Dip in Jordan River</b> <i>2 Kings 5:10-13</i>	<b>Humility</b> <i>2 Kings 5:14-15</i>	<b>Cleansed</b> <i>Luke 4:27</i>
<b>Ethiopian</b> <i>Acts 8</i>	<b>Evangelism</b> <i>Acts 8:26-35</i>	<b>Public Profession</b> <i>Acts 8:36-38</i>	<b>Salvation &amp; Joy</b> <i>Acts 8:38-39</i>
<b>Paul</b> <i>Acts 9</i>	<b>Blindness</b> <i>Acts 9:3-9</i>	<b>Intercession</b> <i>Acts 9:10-16</i>	<b>Salvation &amp; Healing</b> <i>Acts 9:17-20</i>

### **Conviction or Conversion**

Jesus said, "Unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven" (*Matt. 18:3*). Jesus is clear that if a person of this world is to be accepted into the kingdom of heaven, they must be converted (*born-again John 3:3*). In the biblical sense, conversion means a turning—a spiritual turning away from sin in repentance and to Christ in faith. It is a dramatic turning away from one path in order to pursue an entirely new one. It involves turning one's back to the system of the world, anti-God values, and self-righteousness. This turning leads to a radical transformation through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit (*2 Corinthians 5:7, 17-21*).

**True repentance is visible, since a change of heart will lead to a change in actions.**

## Exercise # 4 – Joy & Satisfaction

### Part 1 - Joy In Trials

**1. Trials prove our testimony** – It is easy for the Christian to praise God when things go our way; but God must be proclaimed even when we are in the valley (1 Peter 1:6; 2 Timothy 2:8-10; Isaiah 25:1-5; Hebrews 4:14-16).

*How can those around us be encouraged by our faithfulness in difficult times?*

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**2. Trials prove us** – God uses difficulty in this life to strengthen our resolve, and to make our faith complete (James 1:2-4; Romans 5:3; Matthew 5:12).

*How can difficult times in your life give you confidence in your faith?*

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**3. Trials prove God's faithfulness** – The dark and painful times of life, are great opportunities to experience the peaceful majesty of God's unfailing love (2 Timothy 2:13; Psalm 18:1-6, 16-19, 25-29, 46-50; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Jeremiah 29:11-13).

*How can difficult times teach us more about the promises of God?*

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## Part 2 - Satisfaction In God's Plan

**1. Prepared for trouble** – Many Christians are caught off guard by heartache and disappointment, as if it was not part of God's plan (John 16:33; 1 Peter 4:12; Psalm 11:5; 2 Timothy 3:12).

*How can being prepared for trouble make the process easier when it comes?*

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**2. Prepared for service in suffering** – The Bible teaches that we are to persevere - meaning that even when life is not pleasing, we continue to serve God (1 Peter 4:19; Galatians 6:9; Psalm 144:1-2)

*Do you think you could continue serving God, if everything fell apart? Why?*

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**3. Prepared for God's best in others** – Sometimes our difficulty and suffering is what is needed for someone else to see God's glory. Most everyone enjoys an inspirational story, but most of us do not want to serve as that inspiration. While the Book of Job brings great comfort, we must not forget that he had to suffer deeply (Job 1:13-21, 2:7-9; 2 Corinthians 11:18-12:10)

*We are told in Philippians 2:5 to put on the mind of Christ. How difficult do you believe it is to suffer on behalf of another person?*

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## Knowledge Extra - Plagues & Passover

# The 10 Plagues - Jehovah Versus the Gods of Egypt

PLAGUE	GODS OF EGYPT	INTERESTING NOTES
<b>1</b> <b>WATER TURNED TO BLOOD</b> Exodus 7:14-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Khnum - Guardian of river's source.</li> <li>• Hapi - Spirit of the Nile.</li> <li>• Osiris - Nile was his bloodstream.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duplicated by the Egyptians.</li> <li>• Occurs in Goshen where Israelites lived.</li> <li>• Dead fish — putrid smell</li> </ul>
<b>2</b> <b>FROGS</b> Exodus 8:1-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hapi } Frog goddess to Egypt.</li> <li>• Heqt } Both related to fertility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duplicated by the Egyptians</li> <li>• Occurs in Goshen where Israelites lived.</li> </ul>
<b>3</b> <b>LICE</b> Exodus 8:16-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seb The earth god of Egypt</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not duplicated by the Egyptians</li> <li>• Occurs in Goshen where Israelites lived.</li> <li>• Attributed to the "finger of God."</li> </ul>
<b>4</b> <b>FLIES</b> Exodus 8:20-32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uatchit - The fly god of Egypt.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God now makes a separation between the Egyptians and the Israelites.</li> <li>• No more plagues will come upon the Israelites.</li> </ul>
<b>5</b> <b>DISEASE ON CATTLE</b> Exodus 9:1-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ptah    • Mnevis } Egyptian gods associated</li> <li>• Hathor   • Amon } bulls and cows.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affects property.</li> <li>• Death of livestock.</li> </ul>
<b>6</b> <b>BOILS</b> Exodus 9:8-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sekhmet - Egyptian goddess of Epidemics</li> <li>• Serapis } Egyptian gods of healing.</li> <li>• Imhotep }</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affects physical bodies.</li> <li>• Pharaoh's magicians cannot even appear in court.</li> </ul>
<b>7</b> <b>HAIL</b> Exodus 9:13-35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nut - Egyptian sky goddess.</li> <li>• Isis &amp; Seth - Egyptian agriculture deities.</li> <li>• Shu - Egyptian god of the atmosphere.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical uniqueness for such a storm in Egypt.</li> <li>• Pharaoh confesses his sin but later changes his mind.</li> </ul>
<b>8</b> <b>LOCUSTS</b> Exodus 10:1-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serapia - Egyptian deity protector from Locusts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pharaoh offers a compromise.</li> <li>• The compromise is rejected.</li> <li>• Pharaoh again confesses his sin.</li> </ul>
<b>9</b> <b>DARKNESS</b> Exodus 10:21-29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re    • Amon-re   • Aten } Egyptian sun gods.</li> <li>• Atum   • Horus }</li> <li>• Thoth - Egyptian moon god.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dark in Egypt at midday.</li> <li>• Apparently light was still provided for the Israelites in Goshen.</li> </ul>
<b>10</b> <b>DEATH OF FIRSTBORN</b> Exodus 12:29-36	This plague was a judgment on all of Egypt's gods, including Pharaoh himself. In Exodus 1, Pharaoh had killed the sons of Israel. Now the Lord kills the firstborn sons of the Egyptians (Exodus 11-12). Pharaoh will now let Israel go. He will later lose his army to death in the Red Sea (Exodus 14:4-31).	

 Barnes' Bible Charts

The Passover was to be observed every year, and it was first instituted as the Hebrew people prepared to leave Egypt after the tenth plague (Exodus 12:1-51).

*Other Passover events in the Bible:*

- First Passover in the Promised Land (*Joshua 5:8-13*)
- King Josiah observes Passover (*2 Kings 23:19-25*)
- King Hezekiah observes Passover (*2 Chronicles 30:1-27*)
- Passover observed after captivity (*Ezra 6:16-22*)
- Christ and the Disciples observe Passover (*Matthew 26:14-35*)

*23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: 24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. 25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. 26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. ~1 Corinthians 11 KJV*

## **Lesson 7 - Multiplication as a Lifestyle**

Until each Christian accepts the fact that sharing the Gospel is supposed to be an everyday activity, the Church will remain stagnant and society will not change for the glory of God. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit empowers us to fulfill the high calling of sharing hope through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.

- **Sharing is fundamental to Christianity**
  - Evangelizing the world is commanded (Matthew 28:19-20)
  - Evangelizing reveals our heart (Mark 12:30-31)
  - Evangelizing proves our confidence (Romans 1:16)

❖ *Have you considered the fact that evangelizing is your responsibility?*
- **Sharing happens in everyday opportunities**
  - Our circle and beyond (Acts 1:8)
  - We are missionaries (John 1:36-46)

❖ *How can you introduce others to Jesus this week?*
- **Sharing should be intentional**
  - Ready to give an answer (1 Peter 3:15-16)
  - Pray for boldness (Ephesians 6:18-20)

❖ *In what ways can we be prepared to share the Gospel?*
- **Sharing has benefits**
  - Sweet savor of good news (2 Corinthians 2:14-17)
  - How we are seen (Romans 10:13-15; Isaiah 52:7; Matthew 5:13-16)

❖ *How do you feel when you get to minister to others?*

### **You Too Can Be Active In Building The Kingdom Of God**

- ✓ Direct Approach - *Acts 2:14-41*
- ✓ Intellectual Reasoning - *Acts 17:16-34*
- ✓ Personal Testimony - *John 9:24-33*
- ✓ Serving & Caring - *Matthew 5:13-16*
- ✓ Invitational - *John 4:28-30*

Many Christians make excuses for why they cannot serve God; yet God has a way of helping us understand. In Exodus chapters 3 and 4, Moses gave 5 reasons why he could not fulfill God's calling. Moses said he was unworthy, didn't know what to say, others would not believe, he wasn't a good speaker, and that he just didn't want to do it.

**How about you?**

## Knowledge Extra - Finding Eternal Peace

- **God's Purpose: Peace and Life**

God loves you and wants you to experience peace and life - abundant and eternal.

***Romans 5:1 / John 3:16 / John 10:10***

The world cannot provide lasting peace.

- **The Problem: Our Separation**

Disobedience in the Garden of Eden, led to the fall of all mankind.

***Romans 3:23 / Romans 6:23 / Isaiah 59:2 / John 3:3***

Each person is hopelessly lost.

- **Our Attempts: Self-Righteous Pride**

People have tried many ways to work their way to heaven.

***Proverbs 14:12 / Ephesians 2:9 / Titus 3:5 / John 6:44***

No man-made bridge can reach God.

- **God's Bridge: The Cross**

Jesus Christ died for our sin, was buried, and rose again the third day.

***1 Timothy 2:5 / 1 Peter 3:18 / Romans 5:8 / 2 Corinthians 5:21***

God has provided only one way to forgiveness, salvation, and heaven.

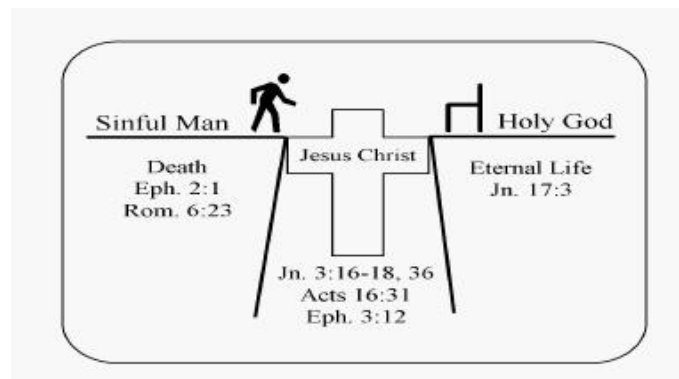
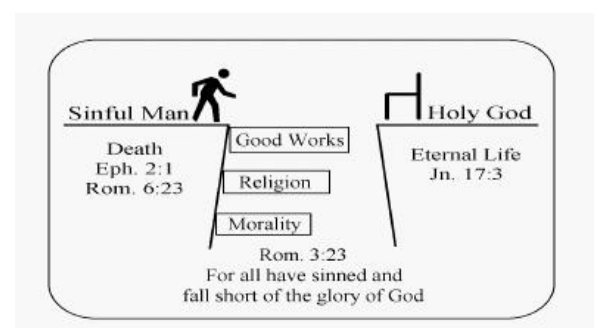
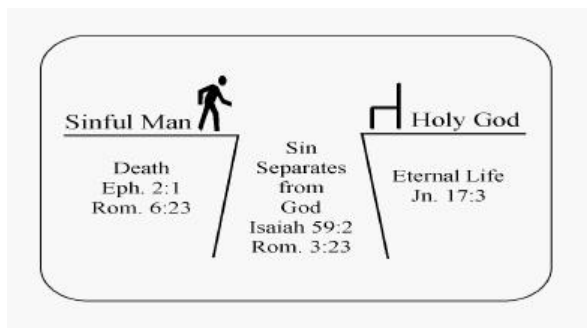
- **Our Response: Receive Christ**

Admit – Believe – Commit

***Revelation 3:20 / John 1:12 / Romans 10:9-13 / Ephesians 2:8***

***Acts 3:19 / 1 John 1:9 / Matthew 16:24 / Acts 4:12 / Ezekiel 36:26***

Christ is available to all those who surrender by faith.





## **Knowledge Extra - Prayers of the Bible**

The study of these prayers helps us better understand how others viewed God, and how God interacted with them in different situations.

- ✓ **The Prayer of Jesus** - *John 17:1-26*
- ✓ **Jesus Teaching on Prayer** - *Matthew 6:5-15*
- ✓ **The Tax Collector's Prayer** - *Luke 18:9-14*
- ✓ **Habakkuk's Prayer** - *Habakkuk 3:1-19*
- ✓ **The Prayer of Ezra** - *Ezra 9:1-15*
- ✓ **Daniel's Prayer for the Captive Jews** - *Daniel 9:1-27*
- ✓ **Hezekiah's Prayer when Sick** - *Isaiah 38:1-22*
- ✓ **The Prayer of Jabez** - *1 Chronicles 4:9-10*
- ✓ **Elijah's Prayer at Mount Carmel** - *1 Kings 18:16-39*
- ✓ **Solomon's Prayer of Dedication** - *1 Kings 8:10-61*
- ✓ **David's Prayer of Thanks** - *2 Samuel 7:8-29*
- ✓ **Abraham's Prayer for Sodom** - *Genesis 18:16-33*
- ✓ **Stephen's Prayer at His Stoning** - *Acts 7:51-60*
- ✓ **Prayer for Spiritual Growth** - *Ephesians 3:14-21*
- ✓ **Prayer for Knowing God's Will** - *Colossians 1:3-14*
- ✓ **Prayer for Spiritual Wisdom** - *Ephesians 1:15-23*
- ✓ **Prayer for Partners in Ministry** - *Philippians 1:2-11*

### **The Priestly Blessing** (*Numbers 6 NIV*)

**22** The LORD said to Moses, **23** “Tell Aaron and his sons, ‘This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:

**24** “‘The LORD bless you  
and keep you;

**25** the LORD make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you;

**26** the LORD turn his face toward you  
and give you peace.’”

**27** “So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.”

## Encouragement To Persevere

As you evaluate your life according to God's word, you will see areas that bring confidence, and areas that still need improvement; but when you understand that the picture of the mature Christian (*which God desires all believers to be*) takes time to develop, then you will know that your failures and your immaturity are “**not**” signs of being out of the love of God, or even unsaved; but rather, they are the marks of our old nature passing away, as our new person in Christ is being developed.

If we as Christians move through life feeling useless, defeated, and discouraged, we will fail to experience all the joy that the Lord has prepared for us, and we will fail to shine a light on His glory. Satan patrols the earth like a roaring lion looking for the weak and the stragglers - for they are the easiest prey to devour. His mission is to kill, steal, and destroy (*John 10:9-10; 1 Peter 5:6-9*). He seeks to kill our motivation; to steal our joy; and to destroy our faith; and the easiest way to accomplish this is to convince us that we are helpless sinners. Satan will point to our failures and our past in hopes that we give up; but if you have placed your faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you must quit listening to the lies of the devil, and start believing in the promises of God!

Being a disciple of Christ is a life-long learning event where some days don't seem as victorious as others; yet Jesus said He would be with us always and that He is committed to us unto the end (*Matthew 28:16-20; Philippians 1:6*).

As a born-again believer you are called to be a disciple and to be a disciple maker. You can do this because it is Jesus working in and through you. So congratulations on completing this study and be diligent to pursue deeper biblical truth that will allow your relationship with an Almighty God to grow closer everyday!

*<sup>3</sup> At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. <sup>4</sup> But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. <sup>8</sup> This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.*

*~ Titus 3:3-8*

## About You

- Are you confident that you are a born-again believer? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no
- Would you like to discuss your current relationship with the Lord? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no
- Have you ever been baptized before? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no
  - If so, do you believe you were truly saved at that time? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no
- Have you ever been baptized more than once? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no
  - If so, why? \_\_\_\_\_

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- If saved, briefly describe your salvation experience. (*Your Testimony*) \_\_\_\_\_

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- Have you ever considered serving in ministry? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no
- How do you feel about yourself when reading 1 Corinthians 12:7? \_\_\_\_\_

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- How do you feel about yourself when reading 1 Corinthians 12:14-20? \_\_\_\_\_

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- What would stop you from taking an active role in God's Kingdom? \_\_\_\_\_

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On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your spiritual maturity as of today? \_\_\_\_\_

(1 being a brand new believer, and 10 being an experienced believer who is actively teaching, serving, and evangelizing others)

**Your learning journey does not end when you finish this study. Keep pushing deeper and deeper into the wealth of God's Holy Word; and as you renew your mind (*Romans 12:2*), your personal views and perceived wisdom will come into alignment with the One who created you and redeemed you.**

Since the miracles of Jesus gives us great insight into His earthly ministry, and helps us better know the power and purpose of God's only Son, the following list will be a helpful reference as you continue in your calling to be a disciple.

<b>Miracle</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Scripture</b>
<i>Water made wine</i>	<i>Cana</i>	<i>Joh 2:1-11.</i>
<i>Traders cast out of the temple</i>	<i>Jerusalem</i>	<i>Joh 2:13-17.</i>
<i>Nobleman's son healed</i>	<i>Cana</i>	<i>Joh 4:46-54.</i>
<i>First miraculous draught of fishes</i>	<i>Sea of Galilee</i>	<i>Lu 5:1-11.</i>
<i>Leper healed</i>	<i>Capernaum</i>	<i>Mt 8:2-4; Mark 1:40-45; Lu 5:12-15.</i>
<i>Centurion's servant healed</i>	<i>Capernaum</i>	<i>Mt 8:5-13; Lu 7:1-10.</i>
<i>Widow's son raised to life</i>	<i>Nain</i>	<i>Lu 7:11-17.</i>
<i>Demoniac healed</i>	<i>Capernaum</i>	<i>Mr 1:21-28; Lu 4:31-37.</i>
<i>Peter's mother-in-law healed</i>	<i>Capernaum</i>	<i>Mt 8:14, 15; Mr 1:29-31; Lu 4:38, 39.</i>
<i>Paralytic healed</i>	<i>Capernaum</i>	<i>Mt 9:2-8; Mr 2:1-12; Lu 5:17-26.</i>
<i>Impotent man healed</i>	<i>Jerusalem</i>	<i>Joh 5:1-16.</i>
<i>Man with withered hand healed</i>	<i>Galilee</i>	<i>Mt 12:10-14; Mr 3:1-6; Lu 6:6-11.</i>
<i>Blind and dumb demoniac healed</i>	<i>Galilee</i>	<i>Mt 12:22-24; Lu 11:14.</i>
<i>Tempest stilled</i>	<i>Sea of Galilee</i>	<i>Mt 8:23-27; Mr 4:35-41; Lu 8:22-25.</i>
<i>Demoniacs dispossessed</i>	<i>Gadara</i>	<i>Mt 8:28-34; Mr 5:1-20.</i>
<i>Jairus' daughter raised to life</i>	<i>Capernaum</i>	<i>Mt 9:18-26; Mr 5:22-24; Lu 8:41-56.</i>
<i>Issue of blood healed</i>	<i>Near Capernaum</i>	<i>Mt 9:18-26; Mr 5:22-24; Lu 8:41-56.</i>
<i>Two blind men restored to sight</i>	<i>Capernaum</i>	<i>Mt 9:27-31.</i>
<i>Dumb demoniac healed</i>	<i>Capernaum</i>	<i>Mt 9:32-34.</i>
<i>Five thousand miraculously fed</i>	<i>Decapolis</i>	<i>Mt 14:13-21; Mr 6:31-44; Lu 9:10-17; Joh 6:5-14.</i>
<i>Jesus walks on the sea</i>	<i>Sea of Galilee</i>	<i>Mt 14:22-33; Mr 6:45-52; Joh 6:15-21.</i>
<i>Syrophoenician's daughter healed</i>	<i>Coasts of Tyre and Sidon</i>	<i>Mt 15:21-28; Mr 7:24-30.</i>

<i>Deaf and dumb man healed</i>	<i>Decapolis</i>	<i>Mr 7:31-37.</i>
<i>Four thousand fed</i>	<i>Decapolis</i>	<i>Mt 15:32-39; Mr 8:1-9.</i>
<i>Blind man restored to sight</i>	<i>Bethsaida</i>	<i>Mr 8:22-26.</i>
<i>Demoniac and lunatic boy healed</i>	<i>Near Caesarea Philippi</i>	<i>Mt 17:14-21; Mr 9:14-29; Lu 9:37-43.</i>
<i>Miraculous provision of tribute</i>	<i>Capernaum</i>	<i>Mt 17:24-27.</i>
<i>The eyes of one born blind opened</i>	<i>Jerusalem</i>	<i>Joh 9:1-41.</i>
<i>Woman, of eighteen years' infirmity, cured</i>	<i>Possibly Perea</i>	<i>Lu 13:10-17.</i>
<i>Dropsical man healed</i>	<i>Possibly Perea</i>	<i>Lu 14:1-6.</i>
<i>Ten lepers cleansed</i>	<i>Borders of Samaria</i>	<i>Lu 17:11-19.</i>
<i>Lazarus raised to life</i>	<i>Bethany</i>	<i>Joh 11:1-46.</i>
<i>Two blind beggars restored to sight</i>	<i>Jericho</i>	<i>Mt 20:29-34; Mr 10:46-52; Lu 18:35-43.</i>
<i>Barren fig tree blighted</i>	<i>Bethany</i>	<i>Mt 21:12, 13, 18, 19; Mr 11:12-24.</i>
<i>Buyers and sellers again cast out</i>	<i>Jerusalem</i>	<i>Lu 19:45, 46.</i>
<i>Malchus' ear healed</i>	<i>Gethsemane</i>	<i>Mt 26:51-54; Mr 14:47-49; Lu 22:50, 51; Joh 18:10,11.</i>
<i>Second draught of fishes</i>	<i>Sea of Galilee</i>	<i>Joh 21:1-14.</i>

The Greek term for “disciple” in the New Testament is *mathetes*, which basically means “student” or “learner.” But a disciple is also a “follower,” someone who adheres completely to the teachings of another, making them his rule of life and conduct. The Pharisees prided themselves in being disciples of Moses (*John 9:28*). Jesus’ followers were called “disciples” long before they were ever called “Christians.” Their discipleship began with Jesus’ call and required them to exercise their will to follow Him (*Matthew 9:9*).

A true Christian disciple is a believer in Christ and possesses new life through the indwelling Holy Spirit. Because he loves Christ, a Christian will also be an obedient disciple (*John 14:15*). Paul describes the reality of being a Christian disciple: “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me” (*Galatians 2:20*).

## Keep Learning & Growing