

New Believers Class

*“as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of
the word, that you may grow thereby,”*

1 Peter 2:2

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Introduction
SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF THE BOOK

The New Believer's Book is divided into 12 chapters with each chapter covering a basic foundational truth of God's Word. As such, these foundational truths are the essential building blocks to establish one's faith in order to contend with the many trials and circumstances that the believer faces in this life. As noted these chapters are divided into weeks. By reading and mediating on the many verses of Scriptures during each of the six weeks, a solid foundation of faith will be built,

Christians constantly face an onslaught of lies and deceptions that come from the devil and world's mindset. Jesus commanded...

“Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.” (Matthew 10:16).

We see from this command that there must be a balance in how we respond in facing the world and its many lies. Satan is that serpent of old (Rev. 20:2) whose tactics are lies and deception. Therefore we must know his many ways of influencing his victims. Obviously, we do not face him face to face being an unseen spirit. But none the less, we battle spiritual forces daily (Eph. 6:10-18) and we need to know how to respond to such attacks. The many Scriptures used in this booklet will equip the believer to know how to respond in the name of Jesus against those who oppose the Kingdom of God.

In addition to the 12 chapters, there are key memory verses that the believer is encouraged to commit to memory. By memorizing Scripture, the Holy Spirit will then use these truths to defend and direct believers as they face the many circumstances of life.

May you allow the Lord to equip and build you up in order to His faithful witness in this unbelieving world so that one day you will cross the finish line and stand before Him and hear Him say...

“...well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.” (Matthew 25:21).

Class Homework
MEMORY VERSES

WEEK ONE

MEMORY VERSES

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

John 3:16

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

II Corinthians 5:17

WEEK TWO

Memory Verses

“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”

I Corinthians 10:13

“How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.” “Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You!”

Psalms 119:9, 11

WEEK THREE

MEMORY VERSES

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”

Galatians 5:22-23

“But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’”

Matthew 4:4

WEEK FOUR

MEMORY VERSES

“Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.”

John 16:24

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.”

Romans 12:1

WEEK FIVE

MEMORY VERSES

“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”

James 1:2-4

““I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

John 15:5

WEEK SIX

MEMORY VERSES

“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. “But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 10:32-33

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

CHAPTER 1 THE GOSPEL

GOD'S PURPOSE

TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO MAN

Through Jesus Christ

TO RESTORE MAN TO HIMSELF

Through Jesus Christ

THE BAD NEWS

THE PROBLEM

Glory of God is all that God has revealed to us about Himself

To come short of God's glory is not to measure up to His standard or His nature.

- *"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"*

Romans 3:23

THE PREDICAMENT

Nothing comes without a price. There is a wage for sin. It is a just wage, because the fruit of sin is decay and death.

- *"For the wages of sin is death."*

Romans 6:23a

Sin is transgression. It is the willful act of stepping over the line. Therefore, the consequence of that act requires the payment of a life.

- *"Behold, all souls are Mine; The soul of the father As well as the soul of the son is Mine; The soul who sins shall die."*

Ezekiel 18:4

THE GOOD NEWS—THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE

THE PROVISION THAT COMES FROM GOD

Because eternal life is a gift and it is free, it therefore cannot be earned

- *"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

Romans 6:23

Eternal life cannot result from works, or else God would not be free to give, but rather be in debt to us.

- *"Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt."*

Romans 4:4

THAT IS BASED ON THE PERFECT NATURE OF GOD

He is Just - God is always consistent with Himself. His law must be satisfied at all times. His word is truth and must always be fulfilled. If He makes a law, it must be kept. God is not a respecter of persons and thus everyone is subject to His law.

He is Love - Because of His unconditional love, God is free to love even the most unlovely. Love is not something that God has, it is what He is.

- *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."*

John 3:16.

- *"He who does not love does not know God, for God is love."*

1 John 4:8

He is Merciful - It is God’s just nature that enables Him to show mercy. It is His love that demands mercy. It is His love that moved Him to be merciful by sending Jesus to die in our place in order to satisfy His just law.

- *“The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, Slow to anger and great in mercy.”*

Psalms 145:8

He is Gracious - Because of the consistency of His nature, God is able to be gracious to us by giving us something that we do not deserve.

- *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”*

Ephesians 2:8 -9

THAT IS PROCURED BY FAITH BASED ON GOD’S LOVE

By the understanding of God’s love

God wants people to know of His love and the demonstration of that love, which was the death of His Son

God wants people to know that they need His provision for salvation — people need to be saved so He says,

- *“For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.” How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!””*

Romans 10:13 -15

By the revelation of God’s love through a loving vessel—us

God has chosen to reveal Himself through His created people. We are people who can express love and emotion that comes from the indwelling Holy Spirit. Angels are incapable of such experiences. God uses men to reach men.

By the implanting of the Word of God in the heart

It is the seed of the Word of God that God causes to germinate into new life

- *“...having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,”*

1 Peter 1:23

It is the seed of the Word of God that produces faith to believe in that which can’t be seen.

- *“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”*

Roman 10:17

By the sovereign work of the Holy Spirit causing the Word to germinate.

It is the Holy Spirit that acts on the implanted Word of God that causes it to spring forth into new life

- *“not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,”*

Titus 3:5

The Holy Spirit along with the Word leads to new birth

- *“Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.”*

John 3:5

By the response of faith by believing in what God has done

It is initialized through an outward confession of need and the acceptance of Jesus Christ

- *“that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*

Romans 10:9 -10

It is continued through life of repentance and obedience as seen through a changed life.

- *“Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

Acts 2:38

CHAPTER 2 ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

HOW DO I KNOW I AM SAVED

BECAUSE SALVATION IS BASED ON WHAT JESUS DID

He BORE our iniquity for us

- “All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”

Isaiah 53:6

He PAID the price for our sin

- “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,”

1 Peter 3:18

He ALONE satisfied the just law of God on our behalf

- “In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

1 John 4:9-10

BECAUSE SALVATION IS BASED ON GOD’S PROMISE

Therefore, nothing can separate from the love of God

- “For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 8:38-39

It was all God’s doing - a gift we receive

- “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

Ephesians 2:8-9

It was not the result of our efforts

- “not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,”

Titus 3:5

BECAUSE THE BIBLE SAYS THAT YOU MAY KNOW YOUR ARE SAVED

If we just believe what God has said

- “These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.”

1 John 5:13

If we simply receive Jesus into our lives

- “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:”

John 1:12

BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT IS INDWELLING YOU

He bares witness with our spirit

- “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,”

Romans 8:16

He has sealed us until God redeems us from this body

- *“In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,”*

Ephesians 1:13

- *“And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”*

Ephesians 4:30

He brings about a change in us as proof of His indwelling

- *“By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.”*

1 John 4:13

- *“He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son.”*

1 John 5:10

WHY DO I DOUBT THAT I AM SAVED

BECAUSE SATAN WANTS YOU TO DOUBT

He deceived our first parents - Adam & Eve

- *“Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, ‘Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’”*

Genesis 3:1

He deceives us by disguising himself as something good

- *“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.”*

2 Corinthians 11:13-14

He accuses believers by trying to put guilt on them

- *“...for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.”*

Revelation 12:10

BECAUSE YOUR HEART WILL MAKE YOU DOUBT

It is foolish to put our trust in our feelings and emotions

- *“He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, But whoever walks wisely will be delivered.”*

Proverbs 28:26

God warns us that our feelings are deceptive

- *“‘The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?’”*

Jeremiah 17:9

Our hearts are evil by nature

- *“Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;”*

Hebrews 3:12

BECAUSE YOU HAVE GONE BACK TO THE OLD LIFE

A life of sin is a life away from God

- *“But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.”*

James 1:14-15

CHAPTER 3 MAKING JESUS LORD

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT THAT JESUS BE LORD?

HE ALONE IS WORTHY

He has been given a name above every name

- *“Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*

Philippians 2:9-11

He demonstrated the greatest love

- *“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.”*

John 15:13

HE PURCHASED YOU WITH HIS BLOOD

He has satisfied the laws of redemption

- *““Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.”*

Acts 20:28

He now owns us by right of redemption

- *“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”*

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

HE IS THE ONLY SOURCE OF LIFE

He wants to give you life - not take it

- *“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”*

John 10:10

He taught that He was the only option

- *“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”*

John 14:6

HOW DO YOU MAKE JESUS LORD?

SURRENDERING OF YOUR WILL

Realizing that Jesus set the example

- *“... because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.”*

John 5:30

- *“He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.”” “Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.”*

Matthew 26:39, 42

Realizing that Satan and his self-will is the root of sin

- *“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’”*

Isaiah 14:12-14

DENYING YOUR YOURSELF

Requires relinquishing old activities

- *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”*

2 Corinthians 5:17

Requires relinquishing old acquaintances

- *“Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;”*

Psalms 1:1

- *“Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.” Therefore “Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.”*

2 Corinthians 6:14-17

Requires the relinquishing old habits

- *“Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,”*

Colossians 3:5-9

Requires the relinquishing of personal wants

- *“Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.”*

Matthew 16:24

OBEDIENCE TO THE WORD OF GOD

Demand a change in character

- *“and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,”*

Colossians 3:10

Demand a change in habits

- *“Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.”*

Colossians 3:12-14

Demand a change of acquaintances

- *“Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;”*

Psalm 1:1

SERVING WITH ALL YOUR HEART

Involves the reordering of priorities

- *“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”*

Matthew 6:33

Involves serving others to make their lives better

- *“But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. “Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. “And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.””*

Mark 10:42-45

Involves doing what Jesus would do

- *““Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ‘for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; ‘I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ “Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? ‘When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? ‘Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ “And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’”*

Matthew 25:34-40

CHAPTER 4 SPIRITUAL WARFARE

BELIEVERS LIVE IN A WORLD THAT IS IN OPPOSITION

BECAUSE IT FELL VICTIM TO A CURSE

Because of disobedience, sin entered the world

Genesis 3:1-24 (See text)

Because of one man's disobedience, sin reigns in all

- *"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned--"*

Romans 5:12

BECAUSE IT IS RULED BY A USURPER CALLED THE SATAN

Jesus called him the "prince of the world"

- *"Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out."*

John 12:31

- *"...for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me."*

John 14:30

- *"of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged."*

John 16:11

Paul called him the "prince of the power of the air"

- *"in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,"*

Ephesians 2:2

BECAUSE IT IS DOMINATED BY UNGODLY PEOPLE

Therefore believers are like fish swimming upstream

- *"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."*

Matthew 7:13-14

BELIEVERS FACE DAILY ENEMIES

THE WORLD

Christians are not to love the world

- *"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world--the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life--is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever."*

1 John 2:15-16

Christians are not to be conformed to the world

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

Romans 12:2

Christians who love the world are God's enemy

- *"Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."*

James 4:4

THE FLESH

The works of the flesh have no value to God

- *“For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice.”*

Romans 7:18-19

The works of the flesh only bring hurt to others

- *“Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”*

Galatians 5:19-21

The works of the flesh are not characteristic of Believers

- *“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.”*

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

THE DEVIL

Satan is called the prince of the world

- *“Now is the judgment of this world; now the **ruler of this world** will be cast out.”*

John 12:31

- *“I will no longer talk much with you, for the **ruler of this world** is coming, and he has nothing in Me.”*

John 14:30

- *“of judgment, because the **ruler of this world** is judged.”*

John 16:11

Satan controls all unbelievers

- *“And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,”*

Ephesians 2:1-2

Satan takes away the Word of God from people hearts

- *“And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts.”*

Mark 4:15

Satan tempts to sin as in the example with Jesus

- *“And the devil said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.”” “And the devil said to Him, “All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.” “Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here.”*

Luke 4:3,6,9

Satan is the father of lies

- *“You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.”*

John 8:44

Satan seeks to devour people's lives

- *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”*

I Peter 5:8

Satan can come disguised as an angel of light

- *“And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.”*

2 Corinthians 11:14-15

Satan deceives the whole world

- *“So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”*

Revelation 12:9

Satan accuses believers to bring guilt and doubt on them

- *“Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.”*

Revelation 12:10

BELIEVERS HAVE RESOURCES FOR VICTORY

THE WORD OF GOD

It is a powerful weapon designed for spiritual warfare

- *“For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”*

Hebrews 4:12

It will keep believers from sinning

- *“How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.” “Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You!”*

Psalms 119:9, 11

It was used by Jesus to defend against Satan

- *“But Jesus answered him, saying, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.’”” “And Jesus answered and said to him, “Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.’”” ““and, ‘In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.’””*

Luke 4:4, 8, 11

It is the Holy Spirit's weapon

- *“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;”*

Ephesians 6:17

PRAYER

Prayer keeps us from temptation

- *“Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”*

Matthew 26:41

Prayer fights against the enemy

- *“praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints--”*

Ephesians 6:18

Prayer delivers us out of trouble

- *“Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the fish’s belly. And he said: “I cried out to the LORD because of my affliction, And He answered me. “Out of the belly of Sheol I cried, And You heard my voice.” “When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the LORD; And my prayer went up to You, Into Your holy temple.”*

Jonah 2:1-2, 7

Prayer delivers others out of trouble

Genesis 18:23-33 (See text)

THE HOLY SPIRIT

He provides victory over the lust of the flesh

- *“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.”*

Galatians 5:16-17

He is greater than our enemy

- *“You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”*

1 John 4:4

He will guide us into all truth, exposing the lie

- *“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”*

John 16:13

He will remind us of what God has said in His word

- *“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”*

John 14:26

FAITH

It enables us to have victory over a hostile world

- *“For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.”*

1 John 5:4

It enables us to please God

- *“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”*

Hebrews 11:6

It enables us to see our great resources

- *“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”*

Hebrews 11:1

- *“And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?” So he answered, “Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” And Elisha prayed, and said, “LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.”*

2 Kings 6:15-17

ARMOUR OF GOD

Truth - loins

- *“Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth...”*

Ephesians 6:14

Breastplate - righteousness

- *“...having put on the breastplate of righteousness,”*

Ephesians 6:14

Shoes - preparation of Gospel of peace

- *“and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;”*

Ephesians 6:15

Shield - faith

- *“above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.”*

Ephesians 6:16

Helmet - knowing that we are saved

- *“And take the helmet of salvation...”*

Ephesians 6:17

Sword of the Spirit - the word of God

- *“...and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:”*

Ephesians 6:17

CHAPTER 5 WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

HE INDWELLS BELIEVERS

HE FULFILLS THE PROMISE OF JESUS

He affords a dwelling place for Jesus and the Father

- *“Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.”*

John 14:23

He becomes our source of comfort

- *“And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever--”*

John 14:16

He becomes our teacher

- *“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”*

John 14:26

He becomes our guide

- *““However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”*

John 16:13

HE MAKES US THE TEMPLE OF GOD

We are no longer our own, but have become His dwelling place

- *“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”*

1 Corinthians 6:19

We have been bought with a price

- *“For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”*

1 Corinthians 6:20

HE GUARANTEES OUR SALVATION

He seals us unto the day of our redemption

- *“In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.”*

Ephesians 1:13-14

- *“...you were sealed for the day of redemption.”*

Ephesians 4:30

He reminds us that we belong to Jesus

- *“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,”*

Romans 8:16

- *“By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.”*

1 John 4:13

HE TRANSFORMS BELIEVERS

HE CHANGES OUR NATURE

By getting rid of the old fleshly nature

- *“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”*

Galatians 5:16

- *“Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”*

Galatians 5:19-21

By manifesting a new spiritual nature

- *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”*

Galatians 5:22-23

HE CONFORMS US TO JESUS

Through a daily transformation

- *“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”*

2 Corinthians 3:18

Through a purposeful transformation

- *“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.”*

Romans 8:28-29

HE EQUIPS BELIEVERS

HE GIVES US THE ABILITY TO PRAY

For we don't know how to pray as we ought

- *“Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.”*

Romans 8:26

HE GIVES US DISCERNMENT OF SPIRITUAL THINGS

Only Christians can have this ability

- *“But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”*

1 Corinthians 2:10-14

HE GIVES SPIRITUAL GIFTS FOR SERVICE

For the purpose of building up others

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (See text)

CHAPTER 6 APPLYING THE SCRIPTURES

WE MUST REALIZE THE POWER OF THE WORD OF GOD

THE CLAIMS

It is powerful and discerning

- *“For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”*

Hebrews 4:12

It is a devouring flame

- *“Therefore thus says the LORD God of hosts: “Because you speak this word, Behold, I will make My words in your mouth fire, And this people wood, And it shall devour them.”*

Jeremiah 5:14

It is a crushing hammer

- *““Is not My word like a fire?” says the LORD, “And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”*

Jeremiah 23:29

It is precious seed that will produce a harvest

- *“...The seed is the word of God.”*

Luke 8:11

- *“having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,”*

1 Peter 1:23

It is like cleansing water to purify and convict

- *“How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.”*

Psalms 119:9

It brings peace and stability

- *“Great peace have those who love Your law, And nothing causes them to stumble.”*

Psalms 119:165

It brings salvation to others

- *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”*

Romans 1:16

THE EXHORTATIONS

God said that we can't live apart from the Word

- *““... man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.”*

Deuteronomy 8:3

God said that we must have a great desire for the Word

- *“as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,”*

1 Peter 2:2

God said that it will bring profit to your life

- *“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness”*

2 Timothy 3:16

THE EXAMPLES

Job found the Word to be better than food

- *“I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth More than my necessary food.”*

Job 23:12

David found the Word to sweeter than honey

- *“How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!”*

Psalm 119:103

Jeremiah found that the Word brought great joy during adversity

- *“Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts.”*

Jeremiah 15:16

Jesus used the Word against Satan

- *“But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’”” “Jesus said to him, “It is written again, ‘You shall not tempt the LORD your God.’”” “Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.’””*

Matthew 4:4, 7, 10

WE MUST REMEMBER THE PROMISES OF THE WORD OF GOD

WE MUST MEMORIZED IT

To keep us pure

- *“How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.” “Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You!”*

Psalm 119:9, 11

To keep us from slipping

- *“The law of his God is in his heart; None of his steps shall slide”*

Psalm 37:31

To deliver us from fear

- *“Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts.”*

Jeremiah 15:16

To know and understand God

- *“My son, if you receive my words, And treasure my commands within you, So that you incline your ear to wisdom, And apply your heart to understanding; Yes, if you cry out for discernment, And lift up your voice for understanding, If you seek her as silver, And search for her as for hidden treasures; Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, And find the knowledge of God.”*

Proverbs 2:1-5

WE MUST MEDITATE ON IT

In order to prosper in all that we do

- *“Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.”*

Psalm 1:1-3

In order to have guidance

- *“Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.”*

Psalm 119:105

In order to defend against the enemy

- *“Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day. You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; For they are ever with me.”*

Psalm 119:97-98

WE MUST ROUTINELY PRACTICE THE WORD OF GOD

AS A PROOF OF OUR LOVE FOR JESUS

Those who love Jesus keep His Word

- *“He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s who sent Me.”*

John 14:24

AS A PROOF OF OUR LOVE FOR OTHERS

Those who truly love others are conformed to the Word

- *“My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.”*

1 John 3:18

AS A DEMONSTRATION OF OUR WORSHIP

True disciples will naturally be filled with praise

- *“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”*

Colossians 3:16

AS AN DEMONSTRATION OF OUR WITNESS

True disciples are salt and light to the world

- *“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”*

Matthew 5:13-16

CHAPTER 7

LEARNING TO PRAY

THE PURPOSE OF PRAYER

TO KNOW GOD INTIMATELY

He desires to reveal Himself to us in prayer

- *“Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.”*

Jeremiah 33:3

TO EXPERIENCE A TRANSFORMED LIFE

Notice that Jesus was transformed in prayer

- *“As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.”*

Luke 9:29

TO SEE OTHER LIVES CHANGED

The early church prayed for Peter’s release from prison

- *“Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church.”*

Acts 12:5

Paul prayed for people to be saved

- *“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.”*

Romans 10:1

THE PROMISE OF PRAYER

WE ARE PROMISED AN SYMPATHETIC HEART FROM GOD

Because Jesus experienced everything that we experience

- *“For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”*

Hebrews 4:15-16

WE ARE PROMISED A LIMITLESS RESOURCE

God owns all things and possesses all power

- *“Thus says the LORD, The Holy One of Israel, and his Maker: Ask Me of things to come concerning My sons; And concerning the work of My hands, you command Me. I have made the earth, And created man on it. I--My hands--stretched out the heavens, And all their host I have commanded.”*

Isaiah 45:11-12

WE ARE PROMISED THE BEST GIFTS POSSIBLE

God is more loving than human fathers

- *“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!”*

Matthew 7:11

WE ARE PROMISED ANSWERS

Jesus encourages us to ask and promises answers to give us joy

- *““Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.”*

THE POSSIBILITIES OF PRAYER

CHANGED LIVES AND FAMILIES

The persistent prayer of a Gentile woman brought deliverance for her daughter

Matthew 15:21-28 (See text)

Mark 7:24-30 (See text)

The prayer of a father brought a daughter back to life

Matthew 9:18-26 (See text)

Mark 5:22-43 (See text)

The prayer of a father delivered a son

Mark 9:14-29 (See text)

A CHANGED NATION

GOD'S REMEDY FOR A SINFUL NATION IS A REPENTANT, PRAYING CHURCH

- *“if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”*

2 Chronicles 7:14

God heard Nehemiah and restored a nation

Nehemiah 1, 2 (See text)

THE PRACTICE OF PRAYER

WE ARE TO ASK IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOD'S WILL

This means knowing and obeying His Word

- *“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.”*

John 15:7

- *“And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.”*

1 John 3:22

This means asking what Jesus would ask for

- *“If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. If you love Me, keep My commandments.”*

John 14:14-15

- *“And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.”*

John 16:23-24

WE ARE TO ASK IN FAITH WITHOUT WAVERING

A double-minded man cannot expect answers

- *“But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;”*

James 1:6-7

WE ARE TO ASK BELIEVING THAT WE HAVE WHAT WE ASKED FOR

Prayer is faith in action—seeing that which eyes do not

- *“Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.”*

Mark 11:24

WE ARE TO BE CONTINUALLY ASKING

We are commanded to pray continually

- *“Pray without ceasing.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Paul’s habit was to pray continually

- *“For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers,”*

Romans 1:9

- *“remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father,”*

1 Thessalonians 1:3

- *“For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.”*

1 Thessalonians 2:13

- *“I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day,”*

2 Timothy 1:3

WE ARE TO PRAY EVEN IF IT MEANS PERSONAL SACRIFICE

Jesus saw pray as being so essential that he got up early

- *“Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed.”*

Mark 1:35

CHAPTER 8
CLEANING UP OUR ACT

REALIZE THAT SIN SEPARATES US FROM GOD AND FROM ONE ANOTHER

SIN HAS MANY MANIFESTATIONS

Pride

- *“A haughty look, a proud heart, And the plowing of the wicked are sin.”*

Proverbs 21:4

- *“For all that is in the world--the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life--is not of the Father but is of the world.”*

1 John 2:16

Jealousy, and anger

- *“idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies”*

Galatians 5:20

Lying

- *“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.”*

Exodus 20:16

Sexual sin

- *“You shall not commit adultery.”*

Exodus 20:14

SIN IS ALWAYS SELF-SEEKING

Self-will is the root of all sin

- *“But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.”*

James 1:14

It is the result of the sinful nature wanting gratification at all cost

- *“You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.”*

James 4:2-3

SIN HAS DECEPTIVE WAYS

Many times it comes in when we least suspect it

- *“but exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.”*

Hebrews 3:13

It is has a powerful drawing ability

- *“But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.”*

James 1:14

SIN BRINGS ONLY BAD RESULTS

It hurts people

- *“Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members?”*

James 4:1

- *“not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother’s righteous. Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you.”*

1 John 3:12

It makes God our enemy

- *“Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”*

James 4:4

Sin makes us the servant of the devil

- *“He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”*

1 John 3:8

It makes us miserable

- *“For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me.”*

Psalms 51:3

- *“Good understanding gains favor, But the way of the unfaithful is hard.”*

Proverbs 13:15

REMEMBER THAT CONFESSION RESTORES SEVERED RELATIONSHIPS

WE MUST REMEMBER OUR COMMITMENT TO THE LORD

Because when we sin, we hurt the One that truly loves us

- *“Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight--That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge.”*

Psalms 51:4

Because His commitment to us is constant and eternal

- *“...I will never leave you nor forsake you.”*

Hebrews 13:5

WE MUST REMEMBER THAT CONFESSION IS OUR BAR OF SOAP

God has provided a way for instant restoration

- *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

1 John 1:9

God has promised a great blessing for who confess

- *“Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered.”*

Psalms 32:1

WE MUST REMEMBER THE CONTINUAL LONGING THAT GOD HAS FOR US

As told in the story of the Prodigal son

- *“And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.”*

Luke 15:20

As seen in the account of God calling to Adam after the fall

- *“And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.”*

Genesis 3:8

As told by the Psalmist

- *“For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.”*

Psalm 86:5

WE MUST REMEMBER THE CONSTANT LOVE THAT GOD DIRECTS TOWARD US

Paul plainly stated that nothing can separate us from the God’s love.

- *“For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Romans 8:38-39

WE MUST REMEMBER THAT CONDEMNATION NO LONGER AWAITS US

Jesus came not to condemn, but to save

- *“For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.”*

John 3:17

Christians no longer are subject to condemnation

- *“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”*

Roman 8:1

CHAPTER 9 PURPOSE OF TRIALS

THE PRESENCE OF TRIALS IN THE WORLD

IT IS A RESULT OF LIVING IN A WORLD THAT IS IN OPPOSITION

Jesus warned us that this world is filled with tribulation

- *“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”*

John 16:33

Paul taught that all believers will suffer persecution

- *“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.”*

2 Timothy 3:12

The Bible teaches that all unbelievers are disobedient to God

- *“in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,”*

Ephesians 2:2

Jesus warned us that if the world hated Him it will hate us

- *“If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.”*

John 15:18-20

IT IS THE RESULT OF SATANIC RULER SHIP IN THE WORLD

Jesus credited Satan as the ruler of this world

- *“I will no longer talk much with you, for the **ruler of this world** is coming, and he has nothing in Me.”*

John 14:30

Jesus did not deny Satan’s claim of authority over the world

- *“And the devil said to Him, “All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.”*

Luke 4:6

Peter warns us to stay on guard and to know our enemy

- *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”*

1 Peter 5:8

THE PURPOSE OF TRIALS IN OUR LIVES

TRIALS PURIFY OUR FAITH

Trials cause our faith to grow and lead us into completeness and contentment

- *“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”*

James 1:2-4

TRIALS REFINE OUR LOVE

Job was confident that trials would refine him

- *“But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.”*

Job 23:10

TRIALS BUILD OUR CHARACTER

Paul experienced many trials and fully understood their purpose

- *“And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”*

Romans 5:3-5

TRIALS CORRECT US WHEN WE GO ASTRAY

Our Heavenly father disciplines us because He loves us

- *“And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: “My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.””*

Hebrews 12:5-6

- *“Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now I keep Your word.”*

Psalms 119:67

TRIALS EQUIP US TO BE BETTER SERVANTS

When we experience God’s comfort we can give comfort

- *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.”*

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

TRIALS TEACH US DISCIPLINE

Jesus was our example

- *“Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;”*

Hebrews 5:7-8

THE POSSIBILITY OF TRIALS

WE CAN EXPERIENCE UNSPEAKABLE JOY DURING THE TRIAL

We should have joy the moment we fall into a trial

- *“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,”*

James 1:2

- *“Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.”*

1 Peter 4:12-13

Paul and Silas worshipped and praised the Lord in prison

- *“But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.”*

Acts 16:25

Jesus promised a great blessing when persecuted

- *“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. “Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”*

Matthew 5:10-12

WE CAN EXPECT A GREAT PEACE TO RULE OUR HEARTS

God promised peace if we turn to Him during anxious moments

- *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

Philippians 4:6-7

Jesus promised a peace that cannot be obtained from the world

- *“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”*

John 14:27

CHAPTER 10
LEARNING TO BE A DISCIPLE

BECOMING FOLLOWER

A TRUE FOLLOWER FOLLOWS THE LORD IN BAPTISM

Because Jesus set the example

- *“Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him, saying, “I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?” But Jesus answered and said to him, “Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he allowed Him. When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.””*

Matthew 3:13-17

Because he wants to testify to God has done

- *“Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, “See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?” Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.”*

Acts 8:-36-39

Because he wants to be obedient

- *“He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”*

Mark 16:16

Because his sins are forgiven

- *“I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”*

Matthew 3:11

A TRUE FOLLOWER FAITHFULLY ATTENDS CHURCH

Because of the command of Scripture

- *“not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”*

Hebrews 10:25

Because he is an important part of the Body
(See text)

1 Corinthians 12:12-21

Because he has great joy in doing so

- *“I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go into the house of the LORD.”*

Psalms 122:1

A TRUE FOLLOWER FEEDS UPON THE WORD OF GOD

Through methodical study of the Scripture

- *“These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.”*

Acts 17:11

- *“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”*

2 Timothy 2:15

Through memorizing the Scripture

- *“Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You!”*

Psalms 119:11

Through meditating on the Scripture

- *“Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.”*

Psalms 1:1-3

A TRUE FOLLOWER FORSAKES ALL TO FOLLOW CHRIST

Because Jesus is to be preeminent over all other relationships

- *“If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.”*

Luke 14:26

Because Jesus is now to be his first love

- *“Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.”*

Revelation 2:4

Because Jesus is now his Lord

- *“But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do the things which I say?”*

Luke 6:46

BECOMING A LEARNER

DISCIPLESHIP DEMANDS FULL COMMITMENT

Because we can’t serve two masters

- *“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.”*

Matthew 6:24

Because we must take upon us His yoke in order to learn of Him

- *“Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. “For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”*

Matthew 11:29-30

DISCIPLESHIP MEANS DENYING SELF

Because a prerequisite for discipleship is forsaking all

- *“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”*

Luke 14:33

Because a disciple pronounces death to himself

- *“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”*

Galatians 2:20

- *“For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”*

Colossians 3:3

DISCIPLESHIP DEMANDS SACRIFICE

Because it is our reasonable service for what God has done

- *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.”*

Romans 12:1

Because Jesus was our example in being the perfect sacrifice

- *“just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”*

Matthew 20:28

BECOMING A WORSHIPPER

WE WORSHIP HIM IN OUR PRAISE

Because God said that it is a good thing to do

- *“Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous! For praise from the upright is beautiful.”*

Psalms 33:1

- *“Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; For it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful.”*

Psalms 147:1

Because praising God is result of the filling of the Holy Spirit

- *“...but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,”*

Ephesians 5:18-19

Because it is a key to being a joyful believer

- *“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!”*

Philippians 4:4

WE WORSHIP HIM IN COMMUNION

Because Jesus commanded us to do so

- *“And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, “Take, eat; this is My body.” Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you.”*

Matthew 26:26-27

Because we need to remember what Jesus has done for us

- *“and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” For as **often** as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.”*

1 Corinthians 11:24-26

WE WORSHIP HIM IN OUR GIVING

It is the result of putting God first

- *“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”*

Matthew 6:33

It is a test of faith in the Lord and our love for Him

- *“Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much. Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury;*

“for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood.”

Mark 12:41-44

It because of our great indebtedness - David's example

- *“Then the king said to Araunah, “No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price; **nor will I offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God with that which costs me nothing.**” So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.”*

2 Samuel 24:24

It is a test of what is really in our heart

- *“Now behold, one came and said to Him, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?” So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.” He said to Him, “Which ones?” Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.”*

Matthew 19:16-22

It is a way to experience the blessings of God and true joy

- *“But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; **for God loves a cheerful giver.** And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.”*

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

CHAPTER 11 TELLING OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

WHY DO WE WITNESS TO OTHERS

BECAUSE PEOPLE NEED TO BE SAVED BY HEARING THE GOSPEL

Because all have sinned

- *“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”*

Romans 3:23

Because payment for sin will bring eternal death

- *“For the wages of sin is death...”*

Romans 6:23a

Because God has paid the price for salvation for all

- *“...but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Romans 6:23b

- *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”*

John 3:16

BECAUSE GOD WANTS TO USE US TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

He has put his heavenly treasure of the Good News in us

- *“For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.”*

2 Corinthians 4:6-7

He now wants to send us to tell the Good News to others

- *“How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?”*

Romans 10:14

HOW DO WE WITNESS TO OTHERS

BY TELLING OTHERS WHAT WE KNOW

Andrew as an example, told his brother Peter about Jesus

- *“One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, “You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas” (which is translated, A Stone).”*

John 1:40-42

Just tell people what Jesus has done for you

- *“...Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you.”*

Mark 5:19

BY LIVING LIVES THAT POINT PEOPLE TO JESUS

Jesus said that our good works should attract the attention of others

- *“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”*

Matthew 5:16

BY PRAYING FOR OTHERS TO BE SAVED

Paul prayed for people to get saved

- *“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.”*

Romans 10:1

BY SHARING WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT JESUS

Jesus used the Scriptures about Himself

- *“And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.”*

Luke 24:27

Paul used the Scriptures to teach others about Jesus

- *“Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures,”*

Acts 17:2

BY USING ALL KINDS OF OPPORTUNITIES

Make use of tracts (available in the Chapel Store)

In restaurants

Bill paying

Correspondence

Invite people to come to church

Friends

Neighbors

Relatives

Work associates

Witness t-shirts

Seek opportunities to witness at work, school, and at home

CHAPTER 12 BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER

AS SPOKEN THROUGH ISAIAH THE PROPHET

- *“For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, And floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, And My blessing on your offspring;”*

Isaiah 44:3

AS SPOKEN THROUGH JOEL THE PROPHET

- *“And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.”*

Joel 2:28-29

THE TIMELINE OF SCRIPTURE

THE BAPTIZER IS JESUS

As promised by John the Baptist

- *“I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”*

Matthew 3:11

- *“I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”*

Mark 1:8

- *“John answered, saying to all, “I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”*

Luke 3:16

- *“I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’”*

John 1:33

THE DISCIPLES ARE BORN AGAIN BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

This was prior to the out pouring at Pentecost

Jesus “breathed” life into them - this is the spiritual birth - they born again

- *“Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, “We have seen the Lord.” So he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.””*

John 20:19-25

THE DISCIPLES ARE PROMISED A FURTHER GIFT FOR SERVICE

He promises them an additional gift after new birth

He wanted them to have a special power to be witnesses

- *“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*

Acts 1:8

THE OUTPOURING AT PENTECOST

The experience that took place

- *“And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”*

Acts 2:2-4

Peter’s explanation of what happened

- *“But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ‘And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy.’”*

Acts 2:14-18

Peter’s sermon

(See text)

Acts 2:22-36

The results

(See text)

Acts 2:37-41

THE BELIEVERS AT SAMARIA

The result of the Church being scattered due to persecution

- *“Now Saul was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison.”*

Acts 8:1-3

This forces the Gospel to go beyond Jerusalem

- *“Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.”*

Acts 8:4

Philip preaches the Gospel in Samaria

- *“Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.”*

Acts 8:5-6

Many respond and get saved and are baptized in water

- *“But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized.”*

Acts 8:12

Believers have a second experience later

- *“Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they **received the Holy Spirit.**”*

Acts 8:14-17

THE CONVERSION EXPERIENCE OF PAUL

Paul is saved on the road to Damascus

- *“As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” And he said, “Who are You, Lord?” Then the Lord said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads.” So he, trembling and astonished, said, “Lord, what do You want me to do?” Then the Lord said to him, “Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.” And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one. Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.”*

Acts 9:3-9

Paul’s salvation is confirmed by Ananias calling Paul “brother”

- *“And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and **be filled with the Holy Spirit.**””*

Acts 9:17

Paul given the fullness of the Holy Spirit then water baptized

- *“Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized.”*

Acts 9:18

Paul’s is empowered for ministry

- *“Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God. Then all who heard were amazed, and said, “Is this not he who destroyed those who called on this name in Jerusalem, and has come here for that purpose, so that he might bring them bound to the chief priests?” But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this Jesus is the Christ.”*

Acts 9:20-22

THE EXPERIENCE OF PETER AND CORNELIUS

The visions of Peter and Cornelius

(See text)

Acts 10:1-24

The gathering that Peter finds at Cornelius’ house

(See text)

Acts 10:25-34

The sermon delivered by Peter to these gentiles

(See text)

Acts 10:35-43

The outpouring of the Holy Spirit that is simultaneous with conversion

- *“While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with*

Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, “Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.”

Acts 10:44-48

THE ENCOUNTER AT EPHESUS

The uncertainty of the people’s salvation

- *“he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?” So they said, “Into John’s baptism.””*

Acts 19:2-3

The message of salvation that Paul delivers

- *“Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.””*

Acts 19:4

The people repent, get saved, and are baptized

- *“When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.”*

Acts 19:5

The subsequent experience of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

- *“And when Paul had laid hands on them, **the Holy Spirit came upon them**, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.”*

Acts 19:6

THE EXPERIENCE THAT AWAITS US

THE REQUIREMENTS THAT ARE NECESSARY

Must be born again and be surrendered to the Lordship of Jesus Christ

- *“And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who **obey Him**.”*

Acts 5:32

Must have a desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit

- *“On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.”*

John 7:37-39

THE STEPS TO TAKE

Must ask the Father through prayer

- *“And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and **they were all filled with the Holy Spirit**, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.”*

Acts 4:31

- *“who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.”*

Acts 8:15-16

- *““So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. “For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who*

knocks it will be opened. “If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? “Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to **those who ask Him!**””

Luke 11:9-13

Must believe what has been asked has already been given

- “Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, **believe** that you receive them, and you will have them.”

Mark 11:24

Must not waiver between belief and unbelief

- “But let him ask in faith, **with no doubting**, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;”

James 1:6-7

THE RESULTS THAT FOLLOW

Ability to pray to the Lord in the Holy Spirit

- “For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries. He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification. For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.”

1 Corinthians 14:2, 4, 5, 14

- “But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,”

Jude 20

Ability to worship the Lord in the Holy Spirit

- “What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.”

1 Corinthians 14:15

A fervency in witnessing

- “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 1:8