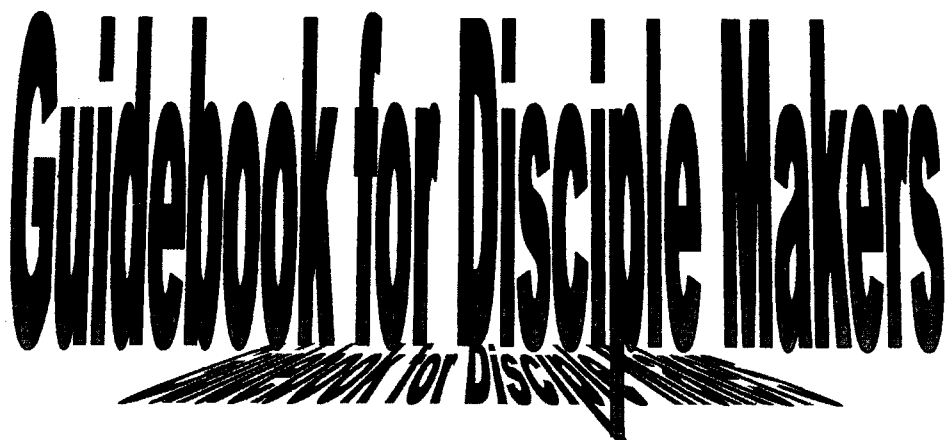


Guidebook for Disciple Makers



Edited by Edward Miller

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GUIDEBOOK FOR DISCIPLEMAKERS

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Session One

ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

Session Objective: That the disciple will know what his decision to receive Christ means and have assurance of his salvation.

Goals For This Session:

1. To define the Gospel and present its essential elements to the disciple so he will know what he has done in his decision to follow Christ.
2. To give assurance of this salvation found in Christ.

God's Plan of Salvation

The Gospel defined.

"The Gospel is that Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins, that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day... that he appeared to many witnesses and that He is alive today in heaven at the right hand of God. The Good News is that this salvation is a free gift from God." (Romans 1:16, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Ephesians 2:4-9)

The Gospel Explained

1. **God wants to accept you but your debt and sin stands in the way.**
 - You have a debt caused your sin. (Romans 3:23)
 - Your sin causes you to rebel against God. (1 John 3:4)
 - You will be judged for this sin. (Hebrews 9:27)
2. **Jesus gave Himself to pay your debt.**
 - Jesus is God's gift to you. (John 3:16)
 - Jesus sacrificed His perfect life to pay your debt (1 Peter 2:24)
 - Jesus defeated death and came back to life. (Matthew 28:6)
3. **Receive Jesus and God will accept you.**
 - Turn to God by renouncing your sin. (Acts 3:19)
 - Surrender yourself to Jesus (Acts 16:31)
 - Ask Jesus to come into your heart. (Revelation 3:20)

The Assurance of Salvation

Can you be sure of your salvation? **YES!** Paul writes, "Examine yourselves, whether you are in the faith." (2 Corinthians 13:5) The assurance of salvation is one of God's beautiful gifts. But how can one have the assurance of salvation?"

The Tests of Assurance of Salvation

1. **Obedience** – (1 John 2:3-4) Do you obey the Word of God?
2. **Love for Christians** – (1 John 2:9) Do you love God's people?
3. **Love for God's Word** – (Psalm 19:8-10) Do you love God's Word?
4. **Desire to Worship** – (Psalm 122:1) Do you love God's House?
5. **Fruit of the Spirit** – (Galatians 5:22) Do you have the fruit of the Spirit?
6. **God's Spirit** – (Romans 8:16-17) Do you have God's Spirit in you?
7. **Change in your life** – (2 Corinthians 5:17) Do you see any changes taking place in your life?

Activities

1. Have the disciple to tell you how he knows he is a Christian.
2. Have the disciple to explain his conversion experience to another person.
3. Encourage the disciple to write down the date and place of his conversion. Then when doubts arise, he can recall that he did receive Christ and God promises to give salvation to those who believe. (John 1:2)

Session Two LORDSHIP OF CHRIST

Session Objective: That the disciple will understand the Biblical teaching concerning the Lordship of Christ and in obedience and faith will submit to Him.

Goal For This Session:

1. To help disciple understand how Jesus is His Lord.
2. To help the disciple establish Christ as Lord of his life.

The Bible teaches that Jesus must not only be our Saviour, but also our Lord. This teaching is one of the most important teachings a disciple can be taught. Far too many times pastors, evangelists, and church leaders fail to emphasize this teaching and the results is mediocrity, lukewarmness, and frustration. The New Testament presents Jesus as the LORD Jesus Christ; therefore, if He is not Lord of all, He is not Lord at all.

Jesus is Lord of All

- *Who is ruling and controlling our universe?*
 - *Jesus is King over all. (Psalm 103:19)*
 - *Jesus controls all governments. (Proverbs 21:1)*
 - *He is in control of all things. (Daniel 2:20-23)*
- *What four steps did Christ take in order to provide salvation for you and me? (Philippians 2:5-8)*
 - *He emptied Himself (Philippians 2:7)*
 - *He became a servant. (Philippians 2:7)*
 - *He humbled Himself. (Philippians 2:8)*
 - *He was obedient. (Philippians 2:8)*
- *How did God respond to Christ's attitude in life of "not my will but thine?" (Philippians 2:9-10)*
- *What should be a disciple's response to such a Saviour? (Romans 12:1)*
- *According to Matthew 7:21 and Luke 6:46, what will be the evidence of Christ's Lordship in my life?*
- *Does making Jesus Lord cost?*
 - *Peter and Andrew (Matthew 4:18-20)*
 - *The rich young ruler was faced with a decision, (Luke 18:18-28 and Matthew 6:24)*
- *How did following Christ affect Paul's value system? (Philippians 3:4-8)*

Jesus is Our Lord. Therefore, to submit to Him, I must ...

- Surrender all I possess to Him. (Luke 14:33)
- Give Jesus control over all my plans
- Recognize His way as best for me whether I understand the way or not,
- Acknowledge Him as Lord in every circumstance.

Conclusion: The issue of the Lordship of Christ is the most important in every Christian's life. The disciple must submit to Him daily. Jesus wants only the best for me; therefore, I need not be afraid to submit to him.

Activities:

1. Define at least one area in the disciple's life that is yet uncommitted to the Lordship of Jesus. Discuss this area and how this too must be submitted. Pray with the disciple that this uncommitted area will also be placed under submission.
2. Study Colossians 1:18, and Mark 8:24 with the disciple.
3. Memorize Mark 8:24.

Session Three QUIET TIME

Review the Previous Sessions

1. Ask the disciple to tell you how he knows he/she is saved. Probe to see if there are any doubts. Ask the disciple to quote John 10:28.
2. Ask the disciple to explain what it means to submit to Jesus' Lordship. Inquire as to how he/she is doing in that uncommitted area of his/her life that was discussed at the last session. Repeat together Mark 8:34

Session Objective: That the disciple will know how to conduct his Quiet Time and will commit himself to having a time with God each day.

Goals For This Session:

1. To convince the disciple that a Quiet Time is not an option but a necessity.
2. To show by example how to have a Quiet Time.
3. To assist the disciple to start a Quiet Time the very next morning.

The fast pace at which most people live is frightening. We need to budget our time to do those things that should be done more than ever before, Quiet Time is not just a helpful idea; it is a necessary to spiritual growth. No matter how busy you are the Quiet time should be a priority. Without a daily Quiet Time, the disciple will remain weak.

What is the Quiet Time?

A Quiet Time is that time of the day when a Christian shuts everything else out of his mind and spends time alone with God.

Ingredients Essential for a Successful Quiet Time.

- Of course, **YOU** are the first essential ingredient. If you are not there, God can't meet with you. You must be alert mentally and spiritually. Get your mind off all your daily problems and concentrate only upon God.
- Have a **SPECIFIC PLACE**. Attempt to meet with God in the same place every day. Try to find a place where you will be alone and you will not be disturbed.
- Have a **SPECIFIC TIME**. If a disciple does not set aside a specific time to have a Quiet Time, he will probably never get to it. All three great enemies of the disciple, the world, the flesh, and the devil will see to it that you miss you Quiet Time. Set aside a time to spend alone in the presence of God.
- Have a **BIBLE**. God speaks to us primarily through His Word. The disciple should read his Bible with an open heart, listening for what the Lord wants to say to him.
- The **HOLY SPIRIT** is the disciple's teacher. Be aware of the Holy Spirit's presence with you as you have your Quiet Time.

- Spend time in **PRAYER**, not so much intercessory prayer, but communion to God. Worship Him. Tell God you love Him. Tell Him the things that are on your heart – both the burdens and the blessings. Praise His name for who He is and what He has done.

Remember, a Quiet Time is a time when the disciple and God get alone for communion. Spending time with God in this way helps you to understand Him better. Meditate upon His Word. You are thinking God's thoughts as you read the Bible.

How A Disciple Can Have A Quiet Time

- He should determine this is a need in his life.
- He should start with a ten minute Quiet Time.
- He should spend four minutes reading the Bible. The next four minutes should be for praying.
- Suggested plan for your prayer:
 - Praise God for Who He is and what He has done.
 - Ask God to reveal any sins in your life and then confess them to Him.
 - Thank God for your health, home, friends, salvation, etc.
 - Pray for things as God reveals them to you. Pray especially for your needs.
- Read from the Psalms or Proverbs. A chapter a day from John's Gospel will help you grow in the life with Christ.
- The remaining two minutes should be spent in meditation on what God has revealed to you through His Word or thoughts that the Holy Spirit has placed in your mind and heart.

Activities:

1. Go step-by-step through a ten minute Quiet Time with the disciple.
2. Memorize Psalm 143:8

Session Four OBEDIENCE

Review of Previous Session:

1. Has the disciple been having a Quiet Time?
2. What joys has he discovered in his Quiet Time?
3. What problems did he encounter?
4. What new approaches can be suggested?

Session Objective: That the disciple will determine to live a life of consistent obedience to the commands of God.

Goals For This Session:

1. To define the meaning of obedience.
2. To show how to become an obedient disciple of Christ.
3. To show how to deal with disobedience.

Obedience to God is of prime importance in victorious Christian living. Scripture emphasize the fact that the disciple must live a life of obedience. (Luke 9:23, 1 Corinthians 9:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:13) An obedient disciple will not develop overnight, but he can begin the process by understanding what it means to be obedient and practicing obedience to God's commands.

What Does It Mean To Be Obedient?

Obedience means the state or act of being in submission to the will of another.

- True obedience to God is serving God on His terms, not ours.
- True obedience to God does not mean we must live a life void of fun or possessions.
- True obedience to God means we conform to the image of His Son Jesus Christ. (Romans 8:28-29)

How Does a Disciple become Obedient?

- A disciple must know God's Word in order to know what to be obedient in. (Psalm 119:11)
- A disciple must step out by faith to obey God's commands. As one steps out in faith, the Holy Spirit gives power to obey.
- A disciple must have a servant's heart to obey. (Philippians 3:5-8)

Essential Areas For Obedience

There are certain essential areas that an effective disciple must be obedient in.

- He must be obedient in his Quiet Time. (1 Peter 2:2)
- He must be obedient in his Prayer Life. (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
- He must be obedient in getting together with other Christians. (Hebrews 10:25)
- He must be obedient in witnessing (Acts 1:8)
- Other areas where a disciple should be obedient...

- Scripture Memory
- Church participation
- Stewardship
- Submission to spiritual leaders

Steps in Dealing with Disobedience

1. Cases for Disobedience

- Perhaps a disciple does not realize the need to live a life of obedience.
- Or a disciple may be so disorganized that he cannot be obedient in many essential areas.
- But the chief cause of disobedience is laziness. The Bible speaks about a lazy person. (Proverbs 12:27)

2. A Solution to Disobedience

- Admit you have been disobedient. (1 John 1:9)
- Set priorities. (Ephesians 5:16)
- Obey even when you don't feel like it.
- Set limits on outside activities.
- Set realistic goals.

Conclusion: Remember, God is worthy of your life and obedience. Being obedient to God is one way we can prove our love for Him. Finally, God commands we be obedient to Him. (Deuteronomy 10:12, 13)

Activities:

1. Discover one or two areas where the disciple is disobedient. Discuss these with him. Develop ways to become an obedient disciple in at least one of these areas.
2. Memorize Deuteronomy 10:11-12)

Session Five WITNESSING

Session Objective: That the disciple will know that God expects him to witness and to learn how to witness.

Goals For This Session:

1. To discover the fact that we are to be witnesses.
2. To discover various approaches to witnessing
3. To demonstrate that each disciple can witness.

What does "witnessing" means? Is it quoting a lot of verses of scripture to a non-Christian? Not quite! "Witnessing" involves all that we are and do. Therefore, we are to be witnesses at all times. God's program for every Christian disciple is to worship and witness. God's imperative is to "come and worship," and "go and witness." Someone has said, "Witnessing is to share the Good News of Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit and leave the results to God." It is an imperative (command) that we be witnesses.

1. The Command to Witness

- In Mark's Gospel, we are commanded to go and witness; "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation." (Mark 16:15)
- Paul charged Timothy to "do the work of an evangelist." (2 Timothy 4:5) Every disciple is charged to evangelize or witness.
- Jesus said, "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be my witnesses..." (Acts 1:8)

2. Approaches to Witnessing - Witnessing with a Bible!

- **It is a fact that God loves you.** (John 3:16) The Bible says God loves you with an everlasting love that is impossible to humanly understand; and therefore, can only be known by faith. Calvary is proof that God loves and longs to save you. ("Friend, before we look at the next fact will you admit that God loves you?") Regardless of how he/she answers, continue with the plan of salvation.
- **It is a fact that you are a sinner.** (Romans 3:23) *What is sin?* Sin is unbelief; it calls God a liar. Sin is active rebellion against God. All unrighteousness is sin. ("Before you look at the next fact, will you admit you're a sinner?")
- **It is a fact that Christ died for you.** (Romans 5:6-8) Christ died for people who are unlike Him. In the light of these scriptures, lead the lost person to admit that Christ died for him.
- **It is a fact that by faith you can be saved.** (Romans 10:9-10) When a sinner confesses with his mouth the Lord Jesus, and believes in his heart that God has raised Jesus from the dead, he can be saved. (As you come to the end of this note, be ready to get down on your knees.)

- **Lead him to call upon the name of the Lord to be saved.** (Romans 10:13-17) *Say something like this, "Friend (or proper name), you have admitted that you are loved by God. You have admitted being a sinner and that Christ died for sinners. Will you kneel with me while I pray will you accept the Lord Jesus as your Saviour?"*

Note:

Don't wait for him to kneel; lead the way. If he refuses, pray a short prayer for him. Ask when you can visit him again. If he does kneel, offer a short prayer for him. Pray that the lord will come into his heart and save him.

Then say...

"Friend, you can be saved right now. All you have to do is open your heart to the Lord Jesus Christ and pray this pray of acceptance after me."

"Dear Lord, I know you love me. (Wait for him to repeat that much of the prayer.) because you died for me on the cross and bore my sins. Thank you for revealing to me my lost sinful condition. I confess I am a sinner. I do now, by faith, gladly accept you as my Saviour. Thank you Lord, for my salvation. In Jesus Name, Amen!"

- **Now read again Romans 10:13.**
- **Ask:** *"Did you call upon the name of the Lord in faith?"*
- **Ask:** *"According to Roman 10:13, "What do you receive when you call upon the name of the Lord in faith?" (You have eternal life!)"*

3. Approaches to Witnessing - Witnessing by use of your testimony

Prepare a brief informative testimony of no more than two or three minutes. Write it out on paper and memorize it. Follow the outline below.

- Describe your life before you accepted Christ as your Saviour. (*Your attitudes, actions, etc. that revealed your lostness.*)
- Describe the circumstances that led you to see your need for Christ. (*Give a very brief description of things that led you to see your need for Christ.*)
- Describe what you did to receive Christ as your Saviour. (*Give specific steps you took to receive Christ so that another person will understand what they must do to receive Christ.*)
- Describe your life since you accepted Christ as your Saviour and Lord. (*Your attitudes, actions, etc. since you became a Christian.*)

Activities:

1. Practice with the disciple the two ways to witness. Help him to mark his New Testament with scriptures that are to be used in witnessing.
2. Assign him the task of writing out his Personal Testimony.
3. Memorize together the following verses to use in presenting the plan of salvation. John 3:16. Romans 3:23, Romans 5:6-8, Romans 10:7-10, Romans 10:13

Session Six
KNOW YOUR ENEMY – SATAN

Review of Previous Session:

1. Find areas where the disciple may be having trouble in being obedient.
2. Ask him to give his personal testimony in about two minutes. Finally ask him to show you in the Bible the plan of salvation.
3. Set a time for you and your disciple to go witnessing together.

Session Objective: That the disciple will know Satan for what he really is; and therefore, he will be better equipped to engage in spiritual battle.

Goals For This Session:

1. To know the nature and work of Satan by a close study of the Bible
2. To convince the disciple that Satan is real and is seeking to destroy him.
3. To convince the disciple that Satan is a defeated foe and that there is a power within him that can defeat Satan.

False Ideas About Satan

Many people today have dismissed the idea of a real devil. So often Satan has been pictured as a being dressed in a red suit, carrying a pitchfork, having horns with a forked tail. This idea did not originate in the Bible. The Bible presents Satan as a real personality. The first report of Satan in the Bible is found in Genesis 3. From Genesis 3, you can trace his murderous footsteps through the pages of history.

It is important for a disciple of Christ to realize he has an archenemy and that there is an explanation behind all the problems he is facing. Ephesians 2:2-3 gives us the true facts concerning Satan. He is the prince of the world. (v. 2) He is the one who gives energy ("spirit that works") to this world. (v. 2) He is responsible for lust, bad thoughts, and strong vengeful anger by man. (v. 3)

The Origin and Character of Satan (Ezekiel 28:11-19)

The first ten verses of Ezekiel 28 concerns itself with a message against the Prince of Tyre, a very proud man who thought himself to be God. In verses 11 and 12, we read a message against a King of Tyre. The things that are described about the King of Tyre cannot be that of a human being.

So the Prince of Tyre was a real man, but the King of Tyre is not human but has all the qualities of Satan himself. Therefore, Satan or Lucifer is the power behind the Prince of Tyre. When God controls a person's life, He reproduces His good characteristics in him. When Satan controls a person, he reproduces his evil characteristics in that person.

Satan is a created being (Ezekiel 28:13b and 15)

- God created all things – even Satan
- God allows him to exist even today
- God created Satan perfect (Ezekiel 28:12 and 15)

- God created Satan perfect in wisdom (Ezekiel 28:12)
- Never was there a wiser creature created. Today, Satan has used that wisdom for wrong. The devil is not perfect in knowledge; only God knows all things.
- God created Satan perfect in beauty. (v. 12) Verse 13 describes how beautiful Lucifer or Satan must have appeared. He was beautiful in sight. Notice that this is the way he looked in heaven. (Eden, the garden of God," verse 13), God's paradise. The meaning of Lucifer is the "shining one."

Satan was created powerful (Ezekiel 28:14)

- God had placed Lucifer in second command over the entire universe.
- "Anointed cherub," the cherub was the highest order of angel. Anointed means Messiah or Christ. He was the special anointed angelic being.
- He was probably the Prime Minister of God; "covering cherub," means one who guards or rules. God administers by use of angels. It could be Lucifer or Satan was in charge of all the angelic beings that carried out the decisions of God.
- It is important to note that Satan has not lost any of his power, but has lost his position, perfection and beauty. The Bible indicates he has not lost his power, and that he is second only to God in power, but he is second to God.

How and Why Did Lucifer or Satan Become Evil?

Ezekiel 28:15-16 speaks of Satan being created blameless, but evil was later found in him. In verse 16, we read the phrase abundance of your trade. It means that the privileges that Satan had been second to God made him proud. In verse 18 we see that Lucifer had profaned or defiled his own sanctuaries... indicates his high position.

His sin was two-fold.

1. He became proud of his position
2. He perverted his position. He was not content to stay where he was second to God. See Isaiah 14:2 ff. **Notice** the five "*I wills*" of Lucifer/Satan.
 - *I will ascend to heaven (with God).*
 - *I will raise my throne (Satan's throne) above the stars (angels of God).*
 - *I will sit on the mount. (He wanted to control the universe.)*
 - *I will descend above the heights (He seeks greater glory than God has.)*
 - *I will make myself like the most-high God. (Equal with God – Genesis 3)*
3. Satan wanted to oppose God's will and he wanted to exercise self-will. The disciple must remember that we are created to do God's will and not

his own will. As long as God's will rules your life, there will be harmony, but when there are two wills, there will be disharmony.

Satan is a Defeated Being!

1. Isaiah 14:15-16 – God cast down Satan
 2. Ezekiel 28:17-19 – God completely defeated Satan
 3. The New Testament speaks of God destroying Satan's ability:
 - 1 John 3:8 - Jesus came to destroy the devil's work
 - Hebrews 2:14 - He frees those in slavery to sin
 - Colossians 2:15 - He triumphed over powers and authorities
 - Revelations 12:11; 20:10 - The Blood of Jesus is the means to overcome Satan. The devil knows he is defeated, but he tries to convince the Christian that God has never defeated him.
- Remember – **Satan is a defeated enemy!**

Why Does God Allow Satan To Continue!

1. To demonstrate to the universe the futility of trying to live independent from God.
2. To demonstrate God's power and wisdom (Ephesians 2:7; 3:10). Therefore, Paul says in Philippians 2:9-11, that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord – even Satan must confess!

Activities:

1. Memorize 1 John 4:4 with your disciple
2. Discuss with the disciple certain facts about Satan. Who created Satan? What position did Satan hold? How did he lose that position?
3. Make sure the disciple understands that his enemy is a defeated enemy and has only limited power!

Session Seven THE CHURCH AND YOU

Session Objective: That the disciple will realize the importance of the local church and make plans to associate with a local Baptist Church.

Goals For This Session:

1. To help him to realize God's eternal plan for each convert to become a part of the local church.
2. To explain to the disciple that he needs the church and the church needs him.
3. To challenge him to become involved in a local church.

The word church has two meanings. Every born again believer is a member of the body of believers in Jesus Christ and is part of the universal church. There is also the local church that is located where you live. The local church is just one congregation in the worldwide church.

The church is God's chosen instrument for reaching the world with the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. On the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended on the gathered believers (Acts 2) and empowered them to evangelize the whole world, (Acts 1:8) Peter preached a sermon to the large crowd in Jerusalem. Many were saved when Peter preached. Luke states, *"Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added unto their number that day."* (Acts 2:41)

Entry into membership is through faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. (Ephesians 1:13-14) In Acts 2:42-47 we see the pattern of the New Testament church unfolding. They were under the teaching ministry of the apostles or church leaders, they met regularly to observe the Lord's Supper and they prayed. The church had unity. They met in the temple courts and homes. They worshipped God and had fellowship. This, then, was the beginning of the New Testament church.

What is the Church?

- In Colossians 1:18, Paul says the church is the body of Christ. Paul also says that Jesus Christ is the head of the church. (Ephesians 1:22-23) Jesus is the Lord over the church. Just as our head controls our physical body, Christ, as the head of the church, is the absolute control of all matters concerning the church. He builds the church. (Matthew 16:18) He examines the church (Revelation 1-3).
- The disciple becomes a member of the church by believing in Jesus, (Ephesians 1:13) In Baptist churches it is necessary for one to have had believer's baptism.

You Need the Church and the Church Needs You

- Church attendance is as vital to a disciple as healthy blood is to a healthy body. The Christian who is separated from the local church is like a plant without proper roots; he will wither and become weak.

- Every disciple needs the church for worship, instruction, fellowship, and training. There can be no substitute for the church in the life of the Christian.
- No Christian union or organization can ever take the place of a church. So often Bible study and prayer groups try to be a substitute for the church, but they never will be a church and the person will never be satisfied in such a group.

Characteristics of a New Testament Church

1. The church has a **saved** membership. (Acts 2:41) They gladly received the Word and were baptized.
2. The church has a **steadfast** membership. (Acts 2:42) They received teaching in doctrine and do not stray from Biblical teachings.
3. The church has a **sacrificial** membership. (Acts 2:44-45) All members are willing to give their possessions to the common good of the church. It is a privilege to sacrifice. They gave all their money and all they possessed to the church to be used for the good of the good of the church.
4. The church is a **Spirit-filled** church (Acts 2:41) The power and strength the members have come from the Holy Spirit and not from their own strength. A church may appear busy and fruitful, but unless the power for service comes from the Holy Spirit, the works are worthless. (1 Corinthians 3:15)

Why Be a Church Member?

1. Because it is the Biblical thing to do.
2. Because you are to build-up the church and the church is to build up you.
3. Because the church offers the **only** way for a disciple to grow into a balanced Christian life.
4. Because the church is the best place for you to use the gifts God has given you.

How do you Get Involved in a Local Church?

1. Get involved in your church's outreach in the community, and serve Jesus Christ by serving the church.
2. Get involved by supporting the church with your finances. (1 Corinthians 16:2)

Conclusion: God expects his disciples to be active in His local church. The church is God's instrument for reaching the world with the Gospel. The church of Jesus Christ provides fellowship, encouragement, and a place of worship for Christians. A disciple should have a vital part in the ministry of his local church. The disciple is to support his church by his prayers and by giving of his money.

Activities:

1. How important is the church of God? Have the disciple to give scriptural proof that God considers the church important. Colossians 1:18 and Ephesians 1:22 are excellent examples.
2. Ask the disciple to tell what the church means to him.
3. Discuss with the disciple how he supports his church.
4. Memorize Colossians 1:18 with the disciple.

Session Eight THE DISCIPLE AND HIS MONEY

Session Objective: That the disciple will understand the Biblical basis for the proper use of his money and will commit himself to obeying what God's Word teaches.

Goals For This Session:

1. To discover the basic Biblical principles concerning tithing.
2. To understand the meaning of the tithe
3. To discover the motive for tithing.

Biblical Principles of Tithing

Paul says that we brought nothing into the world and can take nothing with us when we leave. (1 Timothy 6:7) Every Christian can accept this basic fact. A disciple must examine his heart and decide what will be his attitude toward material things. Evaluate yourself by indicating your agreement or disagreement with the following.

Agree	Disagree	
_____	_____	1. <i>God is the owner of all material things.</i>
_____	_____	2. <i>Man is a steward of God's possessions. He will have to give an account to God on how he uses them.</i>
_____	_____	3. <i>As an expression of his love for God, man should contribute a portion of his material things to God through the church.</i>
_____	_____	4. <i>The Biblical standard for our giving is a tithe as a minimum gift.</i>
_____	_____	5. <i>Tithing is a part of the teachings of the New Testament.</i>

All the above statements are in the Bible. Let us look now in the Bible, our source of authority, and examine each statement.

God is Owner (Psalm 24:1-2)

The writer of Psalm acknowledges that God owns the world when he wrote, "The earth is the Lord's and all it contains." Genesis 1:1 reads, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." This earth has been in existence longer than man can calculate. Things of earth change hands from one generation to another. But God has never surrendered His original claim of ownership over all that is in the whole universe.

In the letter to the Colossians, Paul says, "For in Him all things were created, both in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities. – all things have been created through Him and for Him." (Colossians 1:16) God's ownership of all things is as eternal as God Himself.

Man is Steward (Matthew 25:14-30)

How blessed we are to be able to use all that God has created and owns. Many times Jesus spoke of how man is to use the resources that God has

entrusted to him. The parable found in Matthew 25:14-30 illustrates this fact. **Read** Matthew 25:14-30. If God owns all things, how does man relate to material possessions? Jesus taught that man is a steward, *one who manages the possessions of another*. Generally, a steward is given freedom to decide and act without the direct intervention of the owner. Generally, a steward is given freedom to decide and act without the direct intervention of the owner.

The disciple must bear in mind that he must give an account of how faithful he has been as a steward. A disciple of Christ will not be judged by the total amount he gives but by his faithfulness with all he has been given. A disciple must be faithful in how he uses what God has given him.

The parable in Matthew teaches these important truths:

1. Man is entrusted to manage what belongs to God
2. He is held responsible in direct proportion to the amount of goods he received.
3. Each servant had to give an account of how he used his goods.

Tithing is a Minimum. (Genesis 14:17-24)

For a disciple to faithfully fulfill his responsibility as a steward he must use his money wisely and he must also, in an act of worship, give a portion of his money back to God. Possibly his first question is, "**How much should I give.**"

The minimum standard in the Bible is the tithe. Read Genesis 14:17-24 for an example of tithing. Abraham had defeated some kings. As Abraham returned from the victorious battle with all his possessions he met the King of Sodom and Melchizedek, King of Salem and who was a priest of God. As an act of gratitude and worship of God, Abraham **gave** Melchizedek a **tenth of all** his possessions.

Out of a heart filled with gratitude of God, Abraham made his offering. Giving to God should never become legalistic; it should come from a heart filled with gratitude to God. In Genesis 28:22, Jacob promised God that he would give a tenth of all that he had. Tithing is a persistent practice in the Old Testament (Genesis 35:6-7; Leviticus 27:30-33, Numbers 18:21-28, 2 Chronicles 31:5-6). Perhaps the strongest words in the Old Testament are those of Malachi in which the prophet accused the people of robbing God. (Malachi 3:8)

Jesus came not to replace the Old Testament, but to fulfill it. In no instance did Jesus abolish the tithe. In the New Testament, Jesus spoke about the tithe in Matthew 23:23 and in Luke 11:42. In these scriptures Jesus taught:

1. *We should tithe in an **attitude** of love.*
2. *To tithe, and to forget justice and mercy is **wrong**.*

Love is the Motive for Giving (2 Corinthians 8:1-7)

Since tithing is taught in the Bible, the disciple is to practice tithing. God desires not only our possessions but first and foremost, our commitment. In 2 Corinthians 8:5, discover the answers to the following:

- *What did the Macedonian Christians first commit to the Lord?* _____
- *What were the results?* _____

In considering your commitment to give, it would be good to reflect upon the fact that God not only gave us material possessions; he gave us *Himself*. (John 3:16) Surely an obedient disciple could not be satisfied with give only ten percent (10%) of his income, but would want to move on to 12%, 14%, or 20% or more. Then in his spirit of giving, whether a tithe or more, your giving becomes an act of joy and worship.

Commitment to tithe: *"In accordance with the Biblical teachings and as an act of my love for the Lord, I will give at least ten percent of my income to God's work through my church."*

Signed: _____

Activities:

1. Ask your disciple: "Should a Christian tithe?"
2. Give a personal testimony of how you began to tithe.
3. Memorize Malachi 3:10.

Session Nine

THE ORDINANCES: BAPTISM and THE LORD'S SUPPER

Session Objective: That the disciple will understand the meaning of believer's baptism and partaking of the Lord's Supper.

Goals For This Session:

1. To study the true Biblical means of baptism and the Lord's Supper.
2. To understand the symbolism in baptism and the Lord's Supper.
3. To discover how baptism and the Lord's Supper can be acts of worship.

Baptism and the Lord's Supper symbolize great truths of the Gospel. In baptism, the believer is completely submerged in the water to symbolize his death to sin, and his resurrection to a new life created in Jesus Christ. It is a symbolic act of his commitment to the Lord Jesus. In the act of baptism, the believer identifies himself with Christ and other Christians.

The Lord's Supper symbolizes the death of Jesus Christ on the Cross. The bread symbolizes His broken body, and the cup represents His blood shed for the remission of sins. As the believer partakes of the elements (bread and wine) he is called to remember the death of Christ and expresses his hope in Christ's promised return. Also, the believer, as he partakes of the bread and wine commits himself anew to living a life totally surrendered to Jesus Christ.

BAPTISM

The word "*baptism*" comes from the Greek word *baptizo* meaning to dip, plunge, submerge or immerse. Baptism in the New Testament was a symbol of one's repentance from sin and his willingness to participate in the Kingdom of God. (Matthew 3:4-6; Luke 3:3-16) Jesus submitted to baptism (Matthew 3:16) not to show repentance but to show His acceptance of John's ministry and His approval of the act of baptism. Once can see He clearly wanted to set an example.

Baptism does not cause regeneration. Only God can regenerate or save. Roman Catholics and some Protestants believe that baptism is necessary for salvation. Baptists do not believe this to be true. Acts 2:38 should be understood to read, "*Repent and be baptized* (as the result of or on the basis of) *the remissions for sins.*" It is good to remember that Jesus did all that was necessary for man's salvation, but He never baptized anyone (John 4:2). Paul said he was sent to preach the Gospel, not to baptize (1 Corinthians 1:14-17).

Based on clear New Testament teaching, Baptists reject pouring of water or sprinkling as the way to baptize new believers. Baptists believe that baptism symbolizes Christ's redeeming work *for* and *in* the believer. Only immersion expresses that meaning. Baptism is not necessary for one's salvation, but it is necessary for membership in a local church.

LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper (Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:17-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26) is the other observance in Baptist churches that is both

meaningful and symbolic. In the Lord's Supper, Baptists use bread and juice. Some use grape juice or another fruit juice. Each element has a symbolic meaning. The bread and the juice represent the body and the blood. Like Baptism, these elements symbolize what Jesus did for our salvation.

Baptists reject the ideal that the elements of bread and juice are really the body and blood of Christ. Baptists believe that these elements merely symbolize the body and the blood of Jesus, but have no saving power. The first observance of the Lord's Supper was held on Thursday evening before Jesus went to the cross. The New Testament Christians celebrated it on Sunday. Two things are taught in 1 Corinthians 11:24-26. "*In remembrance*" means that we are to remember what Jesus has done in salvation. "*Till He comes,*" means we are to look forward to the day of his triumphant return.

Baptism is to be administrated only one time in the life of the believer. It is to be administrated when one has come to the time of accepting Christ as his own personal Saviour. The Lord's Supper is a continuing observance that should be repeated at given intervals. (Some churches seek to have an observance of the Lord's Supper every ten to twelve weeks.) The believer should participate in the observance of the Lord's Supper throughout the believer's life until Jesus returns.

Only God's grace can save. It is only by God's grace that makes us worthy to partake of the Lord's Supper. Therefore, self-examination should be done prior to partaking. The believer should re-commit his life to Jesus and seek cleansing for future service. Some lately feel since they have unconfessed sin or some problem, they will excuse themselves from partaking. This is not what the scripture means when it says, "*Examine yourselves.*" The self-examination is for the purpose of participation, not for excusing one from participation in the Lord's Supper.

Both Baptism and the Lord's Supper were given as commands. Therefore to fail to practice these two observances is to be disobedient to the Lord. Also, note that there is no Biblical mention of some physical condition that excuses one from participation.

Activities:

1. Ask the disciple to give a brief statement as to what Baptism symbolizes.
2. Share with the disciple your baptism. Also, give an account of a memorable Lord's Supper service you participated in.
3. Memorize Acts 2:38; and 1 Corinthians 11:26

Session Ten
THREE DIVISIONS OF MAN

Session Objective: That the disciple see the differences between the carnal Christian, the spiritual Christian, and the unsaved person.

Goals For This Session:

1. To help the disciple to have a clear Biblical understanding of each of the three types of people.
2. To help the disciple to see the characteristics of a carnal and a spiritual man.

Introduction:

It is important to understand the major divisions of mankind and see the differences between the carnal, spiritual, and the unsaved person. An early understanding of those differences can help steer the new Christian away from certain disaster and toward maturity as a spiritual Christian.

The Natural Man (1 Corinthians 2:14)

Who is the natural man? He is the person who has been born only once! He has never experienced new birth. He is alive physically but dead spiritually. The natural man has never been born from above. (John 3:3-8) He is an unbeliever who has never been converted. The things of God are "foolishness to him." (1 Corinthians 2:14) A lost or natural man does not have the Holy Spirit; and therefore, he cannot read his Bible with understanding, pray effectively, nor can he understand the mysteries of God's kingdom.

The Carnal Man (1 Corinthians 3:1-5)

Who is the carnal man? Paul called them "infants in Christ." (1 Corinthians 3:1b) A carnal man is a Christian under control of the flesh. He has experienced God's salvation but he knows little of submission to Jesus' Lordship. Jesus is in his life, but self is supreme. He is the master of his life. The carnal man has been saved, but has never grown in the Lord. Warnings are given in 1 Corinthians 11:31-32, and Hebrews 5:12-13 to such a person that he is subject to the disciplining hand of God. The carnal man acts so much like an unsaved person, that the world thinks he is one of them.

The Spiritual Man (1 Corinthians 3:1-5)

Who is the spiritual man? The spiritual man has experienced the second birth, and is controlled by the Holy Spirit. His power comes from the Holy Spirit. He is yielded to God and energized by the indwelling Spirit of God. (Romans 8:9, and Romans 8:11) According to 1 Corinthians 2, this spiritual man is alive to all true values (verse 15) and the mind of Christ (verse 16).

Contrast the differences between the Carnal Man and Spiritual Man

Carnal Man

Quenches the Spirit - 1 Thessalonians 5:19

Spiritual Man

Yields to the Spirit - Romans 8

Grieves the Spirit - Ephesians 4:30-31

Lives in two worlds - Galatians 5:17

Doubts his salvation - Roman 1:13

Influenced by the world - 1 Thess. 4:3-8

Poor spiritual habits - Galatians 5:16-21

Serves in own power - Galatians 3:3

Pleases the Spirit - Galatians 5:22-23

Single-mindedness - Luke 11:34

Assured of his salvation - Romans 8:16

Lives a separated life - Galatians 5:16

Good spiritual habits - Galatians 5:22-23

Serves in God's power-Luke 24:49, Acts 1:8

Activities:

1. Read Luke 22:54-62, about Peter's denial. Ask the disciple the following questions:
 - What contributed to Peter's downfall? (1 Corinthians 10:12)
 - What was Peter's response to his failures? (Luke 22:62)
 - What can we learn from his experience?
2. Discuss with the disciple what must be done when a spiritual man makes a mistake?
3. Read 2 Peter 1:5-11. How does the progression take place? In this true in your own practical experiences? Share specific experiences.
4. Memorize 1 Corinthians 10:13.

Session Eleven SEPARATION FROM SIN

Session Objective: That the disciple will know that he lives in the world, but that his attitude is not one of worldliness.

Goals For This Session:

1. To study the Biblical commands to live separate lives.
2. To understand how to live "in" the world yet not be "of" the world.
3. To study and understand the Biblical guidelines for separation.

It is important to live a life separated from sin and its control of your life. We must approach this subject with care and concern. There are two extremes to avoid; extending Christian freedom until it becomes permissiveness and license, or defining worldliness to exclude legitimate pleasures so that the Christian life becomes just a set of rules. What is needed is an emphasis on holiness, purity, and joy in Christ. He is the One who came to give us life that is full and meaningful. (John 10:10)

Worldliness is an attitude. Therefore, to pass a list of rules will never defeat worldliness. One should submit to the Holy Spirit and let Him make his attitude toward the world a Godly attitude. Christians should become bogged down in discussions about specific amusements, clothing, and customs. One should clearly test every attitude by what the Bible says about any given topic.

What Being Separate from the World Means...

Paul said to the Christians at Corinth, "Come out from them, and be separate." (2 Corinthians 6:17) He did not mean for them to isolate themselves nor did he mean for them to ignore the world. Corinth was a very wicked city. Even Corinthian Christians had been involved in the basest kinds of immorality and wickedness before they became Christians.

Paul encouraged these Christians to be in the world, but not of the world.

In the world

"Salt"
"Light"
Concern for others
Fruit of the Spirit evident in your life

of the world

Powerless
Carnal
Concern for Self
Fruit of the Flesh

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world." (Matthew 5:13-14) This would be impossible if we seclude ourselves. We are in the world so that we can be a testimony to the world. We live in the world being salt and light, displaying the fruit of the Spirit not because we love the world and its amusements but because we have a burden for the lost.

Jesus said, "You do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world." (John 15:19b) You cannot be friendly with the world and with God at the same time. If your attitude towards the world is friendly, you are of the world; you are worldly. The worldly Christian is powerless and carnal; he is salt that has lost its savor and light that is hidden. (Matthew 5:13-14) His concern is for

himself, and not for those to whom he should be ministering. His fruit is the works of the flesh rather than the fruit of the Spirit.

Biblical Commands for Separation

A disciple should never pattern his life after what someone else says or expects him to be or say. The Biblical principle is *"Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind."* (Romans 14:5) The Holy Spirit is the disciple's guide. A disciple is not to judge other Christians if they don't agree with his own guidance.

Principles for Separation from the World

- **The Principle of Ownership** (1 Corinthians 6:19)
Paul said that you are to live as if you have and own nothing. If you understand this principle, you will not become attached to the temporal things that God has given to you for a while. It is one thing to own things and quite another for things to own you.
- **The Principle of Others** (1 Corinthians 8:13)
Your behaviour should be guided by consideration for the desires and needs of others. Consider what effect of your actions would have if everyone did what you were doing.
- **The Principle of Self** (1 Corinthians 9:27)
A disciple must consider the effect of his actions upon himself. One reaps what he sows. A disciple must practice self-denial and restraint in his personal life.
- **The Principle of the Glory of God** (1 Corinthians 10:31)
A committed disciple will do everything to the glory of God and to abstain from even the appearance of evil. *"Avoid every kind of evil"* is the challenge of 1 Thessalonians 5:22. The disciple is challenged, *"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world."* (Romans 12:1) Certain things are not specifically forbidden in Scripture, but as a Christian you not to do them. A disciple should always examine his motives and actions and make sure he does not do anything that will bring dishonor to the name of the Lord. *"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus."* (Colossians 3:17a)

Activities:

1. Discuss with your disciple who you handle invitations to places and events that are wrong to be seen at.
2. Ask the disciple to share what separation from the world means in his or her life.
3. List the things that a disciple can do that are fun and enjoyable.
4. Memorize Romans 12:1-2

Session Twelve

THE FILLING AND WALK IN THE SPIRIT

Session Objective: That the disciple will understand that God's will for his life is to be filled daily with the Holy Spirit and to walk in the spirit

Goals For This Session:

1. To seek to understand and experience the filling of the Holy Spirit.
2. To understand what is the fullness of the Spirit

Introduction:

To know God's will is the greatest knowledge; to do God's will is the greatest achievement. Paul commanded the Christians of Ephesus, "*Do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.*" (Ephesians 5:17-18) What a profound truth, to be filled by the Holy Spirit. The will of God for every believer is that he be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Basic Truths Concerning the Holy Spirit

The person of the Holy Spirit and God are one. In Romans 8:9-11, Paul used such terms as "*Spirit of God*," "*Spirit of Christ*," and "*Spirit*" to refer to the Holy Spirit. All are correct. The Holy Spirit is the One who brought about conviction of sin and convinced us we needed to be saved.

The moment a person is saved the Holy Spirit comes into his life to live forever. The believer must be filled with the Holy Spirit if he is to be of maximum use for God in service.

What is meant by the Fullness of the Spirit?

Baptism related to the Holy Spirit

- It is to be a baptism (an immersion)
- It is to involve the Holy Spirit
- It is to be accompanied by fire (Matthew and Luke).
- It is to be "not many days hence." (Acts 1:5)

Scripture that relates directly to the above statements: Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33; Acts 1:5; Acts 11:16; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Acts 2.

At the moment a person turns from sin in repentance and turns to Jesus in faith, that person is saved. He experiences personally what the church experienced in the upper room at Pentecost (Acts 2). He then submits to water baptism to depict Spirit baptism, which already has taken place.

While every believer is Spirit-baptized, not every believer is Spirit-filled. That is, many believers have the Holy Spirit but are not living under the Holy Spirit's control. The fullness of the Spirit, then, is that work of the Spirit of God within the believer, brought about by...

- Continued confession of sins
- Continued cleansing
- Continued consecration

When these things occur, the character of Christ is expressed through the believer's life. *"Be ye (always) filled with the Spirit."* (Ephesians 5:17-18) Paul's command is a present-tense and continuous action command. It means it is more than a one-time experience.

Nine Reasons Why a Disciple Needs to be filled with the Spirit.

1. The disciple cannot live a holy life without the ministry of the Holy Spirit.
2. The disciple cannot have a continuing power in the spiritual realm without the Holy Spirit.
3. The disciple will not be an effective witness without the fullness of the Holy Spirit.
4. The disciple cannot pray effectively without the fullness of the Spirit.
5. The disciple cannot worship God without the fullness of the Holy Spirit.
6. The disciple cannot understand his Bible without the fullness of the Holy Spirit.
7. The disciple cannot teach others effectively without the fullness of the Holy Spirit.
8. The disciple cannot expect to be victorious in his battle with Satan without the fullness of the Holy Spirit.
9. The disciple can only be obedient to God's word when he is filled with the Holy Spirit. And it is truth to be known that to be less than obedient is to live in sin. To live in sin is defeat. Victorious Christian living comes as a result of living a Spirit-filled life.

How a Disciple Can Be Filled With the Holy Spirit

- Keep his sins confessed up-to-date. When there is unconfessed sin in a disciple's life, God cannot fill him with His Spirit. (1 John 1:9)
- Make Jesus Lord of your life. (Luke 9:23)
- Choose to allow self to die in order that Jesus can live in your life. (Romans 6:11)
- Choose the will of God in every area of your life. (Romans 12:1-2)
- Simply believe and receive the Spirit. Pray for His will (the willing of every believer) to be done in your life. Ask Him to fill you and believe you receive your request. (Mark 11:24)
- Praise the Lord by faith that He has filled you. Don't depend on your feelings.
- It is the Lord's will that every disciple experience the fullness of His Spirit. It is yours...accept it now...by faith!

Activities:

1. Explain my difficulties that might arise in the disciple's heart and mind.
2. Share with him about your own experience in being filled with the Holy Spirit.
3. Pray with the disciple. Ask him to confess any sins. Crown Jesus Lord his life. Then by faith...receive the Holy Spirit.
4. Memorize Luke 9:23; 1 John 5:14:15

Session Thirteen

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Review the Previous Session

1. Check the disciple to see if he/she is finding joy and satisfaction in his/her Quiet Time. Ask him to share with you what the Lord has revealed to him recently during his Quiet Time.
2. Review for a few minutes some scripture verses. Find out if there are difficulties here.
3. Ask your disciple if he has been sharing the Gospel with others. Have him to relate a recent example. Set a time when you can visit and share the Gospel with him to a lost person.
4. Quickly review the previous session on the Filling of the Holy Spirit

Session Objective: That the disciple will know nine Christian characteristics that should be seen in his life.

Goals For This Session:

1. To discover the meaning of each Christian characteristic.
2. To discover ways of applying such characteristics to his daily life.

Paul's theme in Galatians Chapter five is "**freedom.**" If you live by the flesh, (verse 19) the works or deeds will be characterized by very negative traits. (Verse 19-21) But if the Holy Spirit controls you, nine lovely Christ-like traits will inevitably result. (Galatians 5:22-23) The Holy Spirit at work in a disciple's life will produce beautiful God-given qualities or fruit. They cannot be produced by mere human determination. Since a disciple will become like Christ, Christ's Spirit is the only power that can produce them. Jesus said, "*If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit...*" (John 15:5)

Christ-like Character

- **Love** rightly heads the list for this is the most God-like quality. (Matthew 5:43-48; 1 John 4:7) The emphasis here is love for others. Christian love makes a deliberate effort for the best, for all people, even those who seek the worst for you. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-6 for a description of this kind of love.
- Next there is **joy**. Real joy can come only to those who have experienced new life in Jesus. Joy comes as a result of knowing one's sins are forgiven and knowing you are a child of God with an eternal hope. It also includes joy in Christian service and Christian fellowship. Paul contents that we are to cultivate joy. (Philippians 1:4; 4:4; 1 Thessalonians 5:16)
- **Peace** is likewise a Christ-like quality. "Peace" means a general well-being, tranquility, and serenity of spirit. A disciple has peace with God and with himself. Inner peace is the gift of Christ. (John 14:27; 20:19, 21, 26)

Outward peace is the relationship God desires for his disciples to have with all men. (Matthew 5:9; Hebrews 12:14)

The Christian and His Fellowman

- **Patience** is God's attitude toward men. (Exodus 34:6; Psalm 103:8) It is being "long tempered" in contrast to being "short tempered." A Spirit controlled disciple will have strength to endure all things under trial. As Paul says in 1 Corinthians 13:4, 7, "*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud... It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*"
- **Kindness** is like love in that it implies a benevolent disposition toward those around us. Kindness leads a Christian to forgive others when they do him wrong. (Ephesians 4:32)
- **Goodness** is a very wide, general term, referring to one's attitude toward others. Goodness is synonymous with beneficence or generosity. Goodness is love in action.

The Christian and His Conduct

- Next Paul mentions **faithfulness**. It means trustworthy and loyal. A faithful Christian is one who persists in doing right. God is faithful and certainly His children should be like Him. (1 Thessalonians 5:24; 2 Thessalonians 3:3)
- Then there is **gentleness**. Some translations use meekness. The meaning is closely akin to love and kindness. A gentle person is one who is considerate of the feelings of others. In no sense does it imply weakness; rather, it means strength under control. Jesus Himself is described as "*gentle and humble (lowly) in heart.*" (Matthew 11:29)
- Finally, Paul listed **self-control**. Self-control is the very opposite of the deeds mentioned in verse 19-21. It means Spirit-controlled. The Holy Spirit is the one who give power to enable a Christian to control his thoughts, words, impulses, and actions.

The Challenge to the Disciple

The disciple belongs to Christ. These traits are to appear in your life. The disciple cannot produce these in his own strength. He must allow the indwelling Spirit to develop them in his life. We have the responsibility to cooperate with the indwelling Holy Spirit and allow these qualities to be radiated in our life.

Activities:

1. Discuss with the disciple what areas the Holy Spirit has been speaking to him about his life.
2. What traits has your disciple discovered are absent in his life?
3. Attempt to set forth some simple steps in allowing the Holy Spirit to produce His character in your disciple's life.
4. Memorize Galatians 5:22-23.

Session Fourteen

THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

Session Objective: That the disciple will understand the spiritual gifts given by God.

Goals For This Session:

1. To understand the Biblical description of each spiritual gift.
2. To understand how each Christian is to express his God-given gifts to build up and strengthen the church through ministry.
3. To encourage each disciple to discover his own God-given gift.

Introduction:

When a person is born, they possess certain natural abilities, or traits. These natural abilities can be developed with practice and involvement in that particular ability. When a Christian is born spiritually, he received certain abilities (gifts) as a member of the body of Christ. (Romans 12:5-6) If each disciple properly understands his spiritual gift, it will motivate him to greater commitment and service as well as bring new excitement to the local church.

Finding and expressing that gift is a source of joy. Each person seeks meaningful achievement. The ultimate of this is having a significant part in a divine program. This divine program is being carried out through the Body of Christ by the proper functioning of each man's gift. It is God who gives us our spiritual gift and it is He who gives us power to use that gift for His glory. (Philippians 2:13) Failure to exercise our gift weakens the ministry of the Body of Christ, the church.

If we are to concentrate on our gift as instructed in Romans 12, we must first of all understand what that gift is. Also, to be in harmony with others within the Body of Christ, we must understand and appreciate what their particular functions are.

Three Distinct Categories Of Spiritual Gifts

"Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant (be uninformed) ...there are different kinds of gifts, ...there are different kinds of services, ...and there are different kinds of working." (1 Corinthians 12:1-6) As we look at these three categories of spiritual gifts, we notice that...

- ... There are varieties of gifts
- ... There are varieties of service
- ... There are varieties of workings

Lets look closely at these three categories of gifts.

- **MOTIVATIONS** – The motivational gift is that basic inward drive which God places in each Christian to express His love. 1 Corinthians 12:4 – *"There are different gifts"* (variety of gifts). This is that gift that the Christian gets his greatest fulfillment for expressing. **Motivations** – Romans 12:3-9
- **MINISTRIES** – The opportunity of Christian service which is open to you to exercise or express your basic motivational gift. (1 Corinthians 12:5) -

“There are different kinds of service” (variety of service). This is the variety of ways that your motivational gift can be expressed in ministry. Ministries – 1 Corinthians 12:27-31, Ephesians 4:

- **MANIFESTATIONS** – The actual result in the lives of those to whom you minister as determined by the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:6) – “There are different kinds of workings” (variety of workings). Manifestations – 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

We are not to seek after manifestations, but rather to concentrate on our motivational gift and the most effective ministry to express it. (1 Corinthians 12:31; 1 Corinthians 14:1, 6) *Pursue love, have zeal for the spiritual gifts in order that you may build up the church.* When we exercise our motivational gift through our ministry, the Holy Spirit determines when and if manifestations are needed that will benefit the receiver the most.

Seven Basic Motivational Gifts

- **Proclaiming truth** – Prophecy – The motivation to reveal unrighteousness by presenting God’s truth. To be persuasive in speech. To bring to light things previously concealed. To reveal the secrets of men’s hearts causing them to experience conviction, and leading them to fall down and worship God. (1 Corinthians 14:25)
- **Serving** – Service - The motivation to demonstrate Christ’s love by meeting practical needs. This gift is expressed in the ability to detect needs and to meet them in a practical way. To overlook personal discomfort in order to meet these needs in others.
- **Clarifying truth** – Teaching – The motivation to search out and validate truth, which has been presented. This gift is expressed by engaging in research and detailed study in order to validate truth.
- **Exhortation** - Encouraging – The motivation to stimulate the faith in others. “To call others to pursue a course of action. This gift is expressed in personal counseling to encourage spiritual growth.
- **Giving** – The motivation to entrust personal assets to others for the furtherance of their ministry. This gift is expressed by an ability to make quick decisions regarding the immediate needs of others.
- **Ruling** – Administration – The motivation to coordinate the activities of others for the achievement of common Goals. This gift is expressed in the ability to break down large tasks into doable tasks. To lead, to distinguish major Goals and help others to visualize them.
- **Showing Mercy** – To identify with and comfort those in distress. This gift is expressed in the ability to empathize with the misfortunes and misery of others and to comfort them.

There is a minimum weariness, and maximum effectiveness when we operate in the area of our spiritual giftedness. The reverse is true when we try to imitate another person’s motivation. Knowing each other’s gift coordinates and unifies Christians within the Body of Christ.

Listing of various gifts – motivations, ministries, and manifestations

- Apostleship** – An extinct office, represented today by the Spirit-given ability to ministry cross-culturally with church planting Goals.
- Prophecy** – The ability to cause the Word of God to be applied for a certain situation. It includes congregational preaching which explains pointedly and applies God’s revelation. It is inspired preaching.
- Evangelism** – An effective instrument of God in soul winning, outreach and missions
- Shepherding** – As in pasturing, to guide, to feed, and to protect the flock of followers of Christ.
- Teaching** – Clarifying truth, to facilitate detailed understanding of Biblical truth to those willing to learn.
- Exhortation** – To come alongside another for the sake of another in need of encouragement, challenge, and earnest advise.
- Knowledge** – The spiritual ability to easily master a body of truth. To apply God’s Word to current situations.
- Wisdom** – A reverential awe of God coupled with ability to use knowledge effectively. The ability to impart new insights of divine truth to others, to relax a tense situation.
- Helps** – Serving - Temporal aid given to release other Christian workers for spiritual ministry, serving others, helpers and assistants.
- Hospitality** – The ability to provide open house and graciousness to those in need of food, lodging and fellowship.
- Giving** – Ability to manage money well and give generously for the furtherance of another’s ministry. This gift is not confined to “rich” people.
- Administration** – Working with and through followers of the Lord toward achieving Biblical Goals, the ability to organize.
- Leading** – Influencing others, to preside, or to take the lead in the Body of Christ.
- Mercy** – Showing kindness, ability to identify with another’s needs. Desire to aid the suffering and undeserving.
- Faith** – Unusual ability to trust in the power and provision of God. He has confidence in God.
- Discernment** – Ability to distinguish between truth and error or between good and evil. Ability to distinguish between human, divine, and anti-divine power.
- Miracles** – Miraculous powers such as raising the dead, infliction of death by a word, claming of a storm are miracles of special power.
- Healing** – Each individual healing is a direct gift from God. The bearer of this gift has nothing to boast of...it is direct from God. Primarily this gift is the ability to cure the sick.

- Tongues – The ability to speak various languages. This person has a unique ability to be able to learn various languages.
- Interpretations – The ability to translate the meanings of languages.

Conclusion:

- The purpose of our spiritual gift is to free other Christians to perform or use their gift for the glory of God.
- The gift is given to equip the Church to carry out its work.
- There is a minimum of weariness and maximum of effectiveness when the church recognizes and uses each member's gift.
- We are not to seek after manifestations but rather to concentrate on our motivational gift through our ministry and allow the Holy Spirit to determine the manifestation that will benefit the receiver the most.

Activities:

1. Using the list of definitions of gifts, lead your disciple to try to discover which gift could possibly be his gift.
2. Ask your disciple to name people that he knows and try to identify which gift he thinks they might possess.
3. Memorize Ephesians 4:11-13

Session Fifteen

CHRIST'S CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

Session Objective: That each disciple will be confronted with the clear call of Jesus to discipleship and respond by committing his whole life to Him.

Goals For This Session:

1. To confront the disciple with the fact that Christ's call to discipleship is for every believer.
2. To learn the Biblical definition of discipleship.
3. To examine what a disciple looks like.
4. To challenge the disciple to total commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord of his life.

Introduction:

The New Testament teaches the Jesus Christ has called every disciple to follow Him in all areas of his life. The last command of the Lord Jesus (Matthew 28:18-20) was given to His disciples but it also applies to every Christian in every era. What is meant by the phrase, "Go and make disciples?" How would you describe the qualities and characteristics of a disciple?

Meaning of "DISCIPLE"

- A disciple is a learner or follower.
- A Christian disciple is one who has given Christ first place in his life.
- A Christian disciple has unconditionally surrendered his life to Jesus as Lord.
- A Christian disciple has denied himself and voluntarily chosen to follow Jesus daily. (Luke 9:23)
- As new believer becomes a disciple, he is trained, and eventually is equipped by God to produce other disciples.

Some Qualities found in a Disciple

- Luke 14:26 teaches us that a disciple loves Jesus more than anybody or anything in the world. One cannot love anyone more than he loves Jesus and be His disciple.
- Matthew 16:24 teaches that a disciple is to deny himself. It means that the disciple puts Jesus on the throne of his life and his own self becomes subject to the desires and wishes of Jesus.
- Luke 9:23 teaches us that as a disciple, we must deliberately choose the way of the cross. "The way of the cross" is a road that can mean suffering and even death. Paul gives a personal testimony to such a way of life in 2 Corinthians 11:23-27.
- Matthew 8:22 teaches us that a disciple is completely obedient to the wishes of the Father. The complete submission of Jesus to God is to be the disciple's pattern.

- John 13:34-35 teaches us that a disciple loves his fellow Christians. (Further readings on this can include 1 Corinthians Chapter 13.)
- John 8:31-32 teaches that a disciple is a person who delights in studying, meditating, and applying the truths of the Bible to his life.

Evaluation for A Disciple

Read the following questions and answer "Yes" or "No."

YES NO

- | | | |
|-----|-----|---|
| ___ | ___ | <i>Is Jesus Lord in all areas of your life?</i> |
| ___ | ___ | <i>Do I say "no" to ungodliness and worldly passions?</i> |
| ___ | ___ | <i>Do I read my Bible and pray faithfully each day?</i> |
| ___ | ___ | <i>Do I memorize scripture?</i> |
| ___ | ___ | <i>Do I attend church consistently?</i> |
| ___ | ___ | <i>Do I have a servant's heart/</i> |
| ___ | ___ | <i>Do I have a teachable spirit?</i> |
| ___ | ___ | <i>Do I demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit in my life?</i> |

Activities:

1. Ask your disciple to describe the characteristics of a disciple of Christ.
2. Discuss with your disciple the areas of his life where he is weak. Consider the checklist to discover areas where additional study is needed.
3. Memorize Luke 14:33
4. Pray with your disciple that he will discover the joy of full surrender to Christ.

Session Sixteen GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE

Session Objective: That the disciple understands that God has a definite plan for his life and that the plan is one of abundant living.

Goals For This Session:

1. To show the disciple the choices he now faces (living for CHRIST or living for himself).
2. To show the abundant living plan for your life.
3. To challenge him to accept the abundant living plan

Introduction:

Perhaps it's been a long time since you studied "**Assurance of Salvation.**" Perhaps these studies have caused you to commit yourself more fully to the Lord and you desire to live totally for Him.

The question now is "*Where do you go from here?*" As you share this final session together, perhaps you will come to move from learning Biblical truths to teaching Biblical truths.

Growing to Maturity

The writer of Hebrews encourages us to "*leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity.*" (Hebrews 6:1) The writer says we should not always speak of repentance, death, and faith in God; for these things are primary gifts we receive from the Lord when we are first converted. The disciple should be able to leave these studies knowing about the Christian life and how to share with others how they too can live a dynamic Christian life.

Can the Lord count on you? Are you willing to be God's man or woman at school or work or in the market? Are you a willing disciple, who says to God, "Lord, what do you want me to do?"

God's Promises to a Willing Disciple

1 Peter 1:3 tells us that God has already given everything we need to live an abundant life to us. For the willing disciple, God has promised to give us power to live lives that are abundant and holy.

In Colossians 2:9-10 Paul reminds us that the willing disciple's body is Christ Himself. When we attempt to walk in the ways of discipleship, Christ empowers us and enables us to live Godly lives.

The Choice is Yours

- **A useless life** consists of no growth, no progress, lack of power, and no forward movement in your Christian life.
- **A powerless life** is satisfied with just attending church. This one has just enough knowledge of the Bible and just enough disobedience that he is miserable.

- A fruitful life is committed to Jesus Christ and is therefore an effective and fruitful disciple. The proof you are truly a disciple of Christ is whether or not you bear fruit. (John 15:8)

GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE

First, God's plan for your life is that you get to know Him. Since knowing Him comes about in two ways, you should read about Him in your Bible and talk to Him in prayer. (Philippians 3:10)

Second, God's plan is that we learn to live by faith. (Romans 1:17) Read Hebrews 11, for a Biblical account of our Heroes of the Faith... See also Psalms 90 for a set of principles to live by!

Third, we are to be transformed into the image of God's Son, Jesus. How can this be done? By suffering, financial pressures, devotional times, sicknesses, and accidents. Also faithful parents and teachers will counsel you in how to live like Jesus. We are to be molded and shaped into Christ's image.

Fourth, God's plan for your life is that you join a church and exercise your spiritual gift to build up the Body of Christ there.

Fifth, God's plan for your life is that you be a spiritual reproducer.

Three Reasons For Lack of Spiritual Reproduces

- Immaturity as a Christian
- Sin in the life of the Christian
- A lack of daily relationship with Christ Jesus!

Conclusion:

Perhaps you would bow your head and ask God to give you a ministry of making disciples. Look around you, are there interested people in your church, school, or at your working place who want to grow into maturity with Christ?

Perhaps God has allowed you to lead someone to His Son, Jesus, and that person is the very one that God wants you to disciple.

Activities:

1. Review with the disciple the fact that for his life to count for Christ, he must die to self, and his own way, and commit himself to doing things according to God's plan.
2. In the eyes of most people, perhaps your disciple is further along in his Christian growth than others in his church. You should encourage him to commit himself to spiritual reproduction.
3. Above in the section on "*God's Plan For Your Life,*" what did you discover was the major area of weakness for your disciple. Share that weakness with him or her, and ask him what his plans are regarding that weakness.
4. Memorize John 12:24