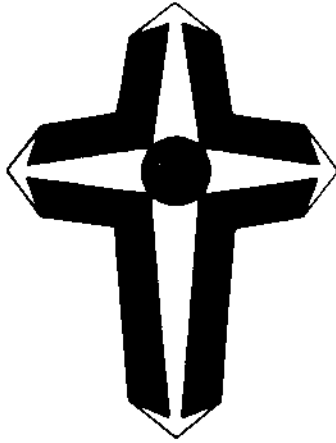


# *MasterLife*

**BOOK ONE**







**THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS**



# MasterLife

## BOOK ONE

### THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS

	Lessons 1-4	5-9	10-13	14-18	19-23	24-26
						

Introduction

The  
Disciple's  
Cross

The  
Disciple's  
Personality

God's Word  
in Your Heart  
and Hand

The  
Spiritual  
Armour

The  
Good  
News

Discovering  
Your Spiritual  
Gifts

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## INTRODUCTION TO MASTERLIFE BOOK ONE

Welcome to *MasterLife Book One*. In this book, *The Disciple's Cross* (Lessons 1-4), you will begin mastering the presentation of THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS. This presentation is a picture of what your life as a Christian should be.

There are Bible studies for you to complete and Scriptures for you to memorize. Other material is also included that will guide you in your walk with the Master.

### CONTENTS

#### PAGE

#### Lesson One

My Walk with the Master, Lesson 1 . . . . .	25
The Way I See My Spiritual Life. . . . .	26
THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS Worksheet. . . . .	28
THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS. . . . .	29
Bible Study: "Take up Your Cross". . . . .	34

#### Lesson Two

My Walk with the Master, Lesson 2 . . . . .	39
Bible Study: "Your Quiet Time". . . . .	40
How to Have a Quiet Time. . . . .	45
Bible Reading Chart and Memory Verses	
Quiet Time Notes. . . . .	48
Guide to Praise. . . . .	49

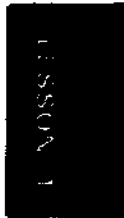
### **Lesson Three**

My Walk with the Master, Lesson 3 . . . . .	50
Bible Study: "Do God's Will". . . . .	.52
My Prayer List. . . . .	56
Stewardship of Time. . . . .	.58
How to Be a Steward of Your time. . . . .	60

### **Lesson Four**

My Walk with the Master, Lesson 4 . . . . .	62
Bible Study: "Renew Your Mind". . . . .	64
How to Memorize Scripture. . . . .	.68
Master Completion Chart. . . . .	.71

# MY WALK WITH THE MASTER, LESSON 1



## SPENDING TIME WITH THE MASTER

- Read "The Way I See My Spiritual Life" and answer the questions. Notice areas in which you would like to improve.

## LIVING IN GOD'S WORD

- Read your Bible daily.
- Memorize John 8:31-32.
- Complete the Bible study, "Take Up Your Cross."
- Revise John 15:5 and Luke 9:23 daily.
- Revise John 8:31-32.

## PRAYING IN FAITH

- Pray for each member of your MasterLife group by name at least twice.
- Choose a prayer partner and pray together at least once this week. If possible choose someone outside your MasterLife group.

## FELLOWSHIPING WITH BELIEVERS

- Become better acquainted with someone in your MasterLife group this week.

## WITNESSING TO THE WORLD

- Show someone that you are a Christian by something you say or do this week.

## SERVING OTHERS

- Read THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS.
- Learn and be able to teach numbers 1 and 2 of THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS to someone in your group.
- Do something kind for a neighbour.



## FELLOWSHIPING WITH BELIEVERS

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I seek to live at peace with fellow Christians? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I try to solve any problem between myself and someone else? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Is my Christian faith evident by the way I love other Christians? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I live in peace with other members of my family? \_\_\_\_\_

## WITNESSING TO THE WORLD

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I pray regularly for lost persons by name? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I share my testimony with others when there is an appropriate opportunity? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I share God's plan of salvation each week by witnessing to those who are open to hear it? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I visit and encourage persons I have won to Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

## SERVING OTHERS

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I serve Christ by doing a job in my church? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I give at least a tithe through my church? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I do kind deeds for persons in need at least once a month? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I have goals for my life which I keep clearly in mind? \_\_\_\_\_

1. Are you happy with your spiritual life? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you think of some things you would like to change about your spiritual life?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Remember these questions. You will answer them again in MasterLife using the blanks on the right. You will see how you have grown in Jesus.

# THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS WORKSHEET

The circle in this page will be used to draw "The Disciple's Cross" as your leader explains it to you.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS

**THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS** is one of six very important presentations you will learn in MasterLife. It is a picture of MasterLife. It is also a picture of what the Christian's life should be.

Your leader will present **THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS** to you as follows. You will present it to other members and eventually to other people who are not in MasterLife. It is important for you to learn **THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS** in the same way as it is presented to you. The Bible verses should be memorized, but the wording and the explanations of the presentation do not have to be exactly as given. It is important that **THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS** become a part of your heart and not just your mind.

You will have many opportunities to share this presentation as you go into the world making new disciples for Jesus Christ. It will also be a guide for you to see how you are growing as a disciple.

## THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS

### 1. A DISCIPLE IS ONE WHO ALLOWS CHRIST TO BE LORD OF HIS LIFE.

(At the top of your large sheet of paper write the words, **THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS**, and **LUKE 9:23** underneath.)

Luke 9:23 says, "...If anyone wants to come with me, he must forget self, take up his cross every day, and follow me."

Notice that Jesus said you are to do three things:

- forget self
- take up your cross every day
- follow him

**The first commitment of a disciple is to forget self.** To forget self does not mean you reject yourself as a person. God has created you, and he has died for you. You are of great value. To forget self does mean you reject your self-centred life. I am going to draw a circle in the middle of this page. (Draw the circle, and show the member's the circle that has already been drawn in their books.) This circle represents **YOU**. It represents **YOU** who must reject your self-centred life and make way for Christ to take control.

## 2. THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS CHRIST LIVING IN YOU.

John 15:5 says, "I am the vine, and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me." Notice that I am writing CHRIST in the circle. (Write CHRIST in the circle.) Christ is to have priority over everything. As you live in him, he lives in you. He becomes your source of life. He makes it possible for you to bear fruit. Without him you can do nothing. (Write JOHN 15:5 underneath CHRIST.)

God has provided a way for Christ to be at the centre of your life. This is the second commitment we talked about, "take up your cross every day." Forgetting self is the negative side of becoming a disciple, but taking up your cross every day puts Christ in the centre of your life. This truth is illustrated by drawing a cross around the circle. (Draw a cross around the circle.)

Now what is involved in bearing your cross? You do more than forget self; you give yourself to Christ to be used in his ministry. This commitment is not easy.

## 3. BEARING YOUR CROSS AND SERVING OTHERS REQUIRE DISCIPLINE.

a. The first discipline is LIVING IN GOD'S WORD. (In the bottom part of the cross write WORD and JOHN 8:31-32.)

John 8:31-32 says, "So Jesus said to those who believed in him, 'If you obey my teaching, you are really my disciples; you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.'"

God's Word is food for you. It is necessary for your spiritual growth. Read it, study it, know it, share it and live it.

b. The second discipline is PRAYING IN FAITH. (In the top part of the cross above the circle, write PRAYER and JOHN 15:7.)

John 15:7 says, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, then you will ask for anything you wish, and you shall have it."

In addition to wanting you to live in his Word, God wants to listen to you and speak to you. This is done through prayer. Someone has said, "A prayerless Christian is a powerless Christian."

c. The third discipline is FELLOWSHIPING WITH BELIEVERS. (On the right part of the cross to the right of the circle, write FELLOWSHIP and JOHN 13:34-35.)

John 13:34-35 says, "And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples."

Living in Christ means you will try to live in fellowship with other believers. God has given you a perfect place to do that — his Church. The Church is the body of Christ. If you are living in Christ, you must live in his body, the Church.

- d. The fourth discipline is **WITNESSING TO THE WORLD**. (On the part of the cross to the left side of the circle, write **WITNESS** and **JOHN 15:8**.)

John 15:8 says, "My Father's glory is shown by your bearing much fruit; and in this way you become my disciples."

Witnessing is sharing Christ with others. If every day we are living in the Word, praying in faith and fellowshiping with God's people, then we will want to share Christ with others. Jesus said the way to show that we are his disciples is to bear much fruit. Bearing fruit is more than witnessing, but it always includes witnessing.

#### 4. AS YOU FOLLOW CHRIST YOU WILL BEAR FRUIT.

Following Christ is the third commitment of the disciple. As a disciple of Christ you will bear fruit. You will reach out to others in ministry. (Draw arrows at the ends of the arms of the cross.)

- a. **LIVING IN GOD'S WORD** leads to Ministering through **TEACHING** and **PREACHING**. (Write Ministering Through **TEACHING** and **PREACHING** at the bottom of the cross.)
- b. **PRAYING IN FAITH** leads to Ministering through **WORSHIP** and **INTERCESSION**. (Write Ministering through **WORSHIP** and **INTERCESSION** above the cross.)
- c. **FELLOWSHIPING WITH BELIEVERS** leads to Ministering by **NURTURING** members of the church. (Write Ministering by **NURTURE** at the right of the cross.)
- d. **WITNESSING TO THE WORLD** leads to Ministering by **EVANGELISM**. (Write Ministering by **EVANGELISM** at the left of the cross.)

- e. **SERVING OTHERS** is the result of witnessing and fellowshiping with believers. (Write **SERVING OTHERS** and **JOHN 15:13** over **WITNESS AND FELLOWSHIP**.)

John 15:13 says, "The greatest love a person can have for his friends is to give his life for them."

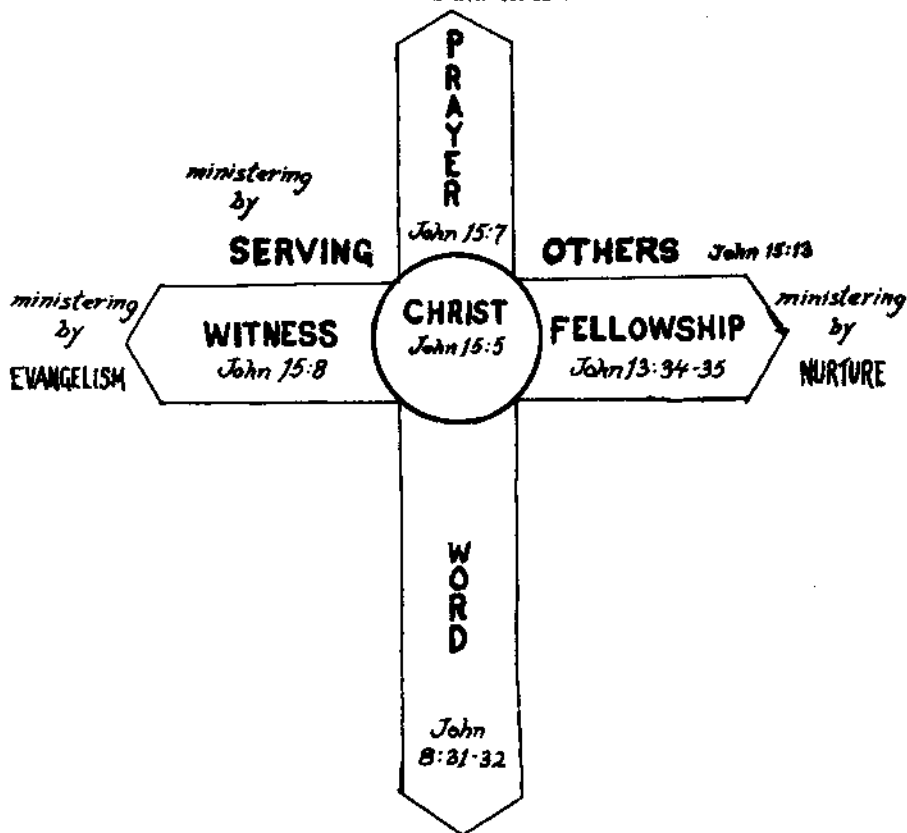
You can see that **PRAYER** and **GOD'S WORD** is a picture of the relationship between God and man. **WITNESSING** and **FELLOWSHIPING WITH BELIEVERS** is a picture of the relationship of people with people.

Your goal in discipleship is to become a vessel whom Christ, the Master, can use: You can do nothing unless Christ lives in you. As the **DISCIPLE'S CROSS** and its disciplines become a part of your life, you will become a Christian who is growing and developing in all areas of life, and you will bear fruit.

# THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS

Luke 9:23

*ministering through*  
WORSHIP and INTERCESSION



*ministering through*  
TEACHING and PREACHING

## Bible Study

# TAKE UP YOUR CROSS

Jesus came to earth and gave himself to bring man back to God by dying on the cross. This salvation is given freely to all who receive him.

When we receive Jesus, he asks us to follow him completely. In Luke 9:23 Jesus told his disciples to commit themselves to certain requirements. This study will help you understand the three basic commitments of a disciple.

When you have completed this study, you should be able to:

- name the three basic commitments of a disciple
- explain the reasons a disciple will want to make these commitments
- tell how a person who bears his cross will live and act

Read Luke 9:23. Jesus says a person must:

- forget self
- take up his cross every day
- follow me

These are the three basic commitments of a disciple.

## THE FIRST COMMITMENT OF A DISCIPLE IS TO FORGET SELF.

Jesus showed you what it means to forget self. He gave up his perfect life in heaven to save sinful men and make them like himself.

1. Read Luke 14:26-27. What two things in these verses must you do to become a disciple?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus was not teaching that you should reject yourself or your family. Jesus showed by what he taught and by the way he lived that each person is important and the family is important. There are religious groups who teach that it is right for a follower to forget about his responsibilities to his family. Jesus never intended that following him would excuse family members of their responsibility for each other.

Jesus was using very strong language to emphasize that he must be Lord of every part of the life of a disciple.

2. Read Luke 9:24-25.

a. What did Jesus teach about the results of loving yourself more than him? \_\_\_\_\_

b. How can a person save his life? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What can cause a person to forget self? A person can forget self because of a new source of life in the centre of his personality—that is, Christ. The person no longer thinks all the time of how he can serve and love himself. His service and love are directed toward Christ and other people. He has a new loyalty.

Read Galatians 2:19-20. Paul was able to forget self because Christ lived in him. Christ became the new source of life in his personality.

Explain in your own words what causes a follower of Christ to forget self.

---

## THE SECOND COMMITMENT OF A DISCIPLE IS TO TAKE UP HIS CROSS EVERY DAY.

Do not forget that Jesus carried his own cross to Calvary. In John 12:24 Jesus explained the purpose of his death. He compared it to a grain of wheat which must die so more wheat could be produced.

1. Read John 12:24. What happens when a grain dies? \_\_\_\_\_

---

Jesus was speaking about his death and our death to ourselves. Death to the old way of life brings forth new life.

2. A man without Christ always puts what he wants first. He is selfish. Forgetting self means to stop putting yourself first and to let Jesus be first. Taking up your cross means you turn with Christ to see the world in need. The first result is a new way of looking at yourself. The second result is a new way of looking at others. Bearing your own cross includes giving up your own desires when necessary in order to give loving service to others.

Read Luke 14:27. What happens to a person if he refuses to carry his own cross?

---

3. Bearing your cross includes serving others in love and sacrifice. Underline the following deeds that would result from bearing your cross.

- |                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| loving enemies    | befriending the lonely |
| forgiving others  | witnessing             |
| seeking revenge   | causing strife         |
| telling lies      | enduring hardships     |
| helping the needy |                        |

4. In Philippians 2:7-8 what are the two things about carrying your cross that you see from Jesus' example?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

These verses explain why Jesus was willing to take up his cross. Jesus was voluntarily obedient to God's will for his life even when it meant dying on a cross. Your reason for taking up your cross every day should be the same as that of Jesus. You should take up your cross voluntarily, and it should be an act of obedience.

c. What is one reason for taking up your cross? \_\_\_\_\_

---

### THE THIRD COMMITMENT OF A DISCIPLE IS TO FOLLOW JESUS.

Jesus followed his Heavenly Father. He was with his Father from the beginning. (John 1:1) As he grew, he learned all the truth he taught from his Father. He did all his work with the Father's power.

1. Read John 5:19, 30. What do these verses teach about Jesus' relationship to his Father? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Just as Jesus followed his Father, disciples are to follow Jesus. Read John 14:15 and John 15:11.

a. If you love Jesus, what will you do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. What will you receive? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Read the following Scriptures, and tell what each teaches about the results of following Jesus.

a. Matthew 11:28 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Mark 1:17 \_\_\_\_\_

c. Luke 9:1-2 \_\_\_\_\_

d. John 12:26 \_\_\_\_\_

4. These Scriptures tell you that you receive the following things when you follow Jesus:

a. knowledge of the truth

b. understanding of God's will

c. rest for the soul

d. power to do his work

e. authority to do Jesus' work on earth

Which of these five things do you need in your life right now?

\_\_\_\_\_ Tell why. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Why should Christians want to follow Jesus? The reason is clear. They love Jesus and want to be with him. Think about this statement and draw a line under the word that best describes why you want to follow Jesus.

fellowship

curiosity

respect

6. Think about the three commitments that are required of you as a disciple of Jesus and recall the reasons why you are willing to make these commitments.

**COMMITMENT**

- a. Forget self.
- b. Take up your cross daily.
- c. Follow Jesus.

**REASON FOR MAKING  
THE COMMITMENT**

- a. You have a new loyalty.
- b. You want to be voluntarily obedient
- c. You want fellowship with Jesus.

7. Are you committing yourself daily to Christ's requirements for a disciple? Think about these questions.
- a. Do I love Jesus more than I love myself or any other person or thing?
  - b. Is Christ the centre of my life?
  - c. Am I obedient to God's will?
  - d. Am I serving Jesus?
  - e. Do I feel Jesus' presence in my life?
  - f. Am I able to win and disciple others because Jesus lives in me?

# MY WALK WITH THE MASTER, LESSON 2

## SPENDING TIME WITH THE MASTER

Read "How to Have a Quiet Time."

Read "Guide to Praise."

## LIVING IN GOD'S WORD

Read your Bible daily.

Memorize John 15:7.

Revise Luke 9:23; John 15:5 and John 8:31-32.

Complete the Bible study, "Your Quiet Time."

## PRAYING IN FAITH

Set a time and pray with your prayer partner.

Pray for individual members of your MasterLife group.

## FELLOWSHIP WITH BELIEVERS

Try to develop a deeper friendship with one or more group members. Visit at least one of them. Tell them you are praying for them. Share any blessings or difficulties you are having with MasterLife.

## WITNESSING TO THE WORLD

Show God's love to a non-Christian, or tell him about God's love.

## SERVING OTHERS

Do something kind for another neighbour.

Turn to THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS presentation (p. 30). Find number 3. Under number 3 learn a and b.

Turn to the DISCIPLE'S CROSS presentation (pp. 30-31).

Find number 3. Under number 3 learn c and d.

## YOUR QUIET TIME

The time a Christian spends alone with God daily in reading the Word of God and in prayer is called his Quiet Time. This time is meant to give him strength and spiritual food for the day. The Quiet Time is necessary for any person who wants to grow as a Christian.

The Bible gives examples of great men of God who spent time alone with God. Moses spent time alone with God, speaking to him as a friend. (Exodus 33:11) The book of Psalms shows that David's one consuming desire was to spend time with God. Jesus, God's Son, spent time alone with God in a quiet place early in the morning. He had fellowship with his Father. (Mark 1:35 and Mark 6:46) If those men, and even Jesus himself, needed to spend time alone with God, you also need daily time with him. This will help you make him Lord of your daily life.

This study will help you to:

- discover why a Quiet Time is important every day.
- list four reasons for having a daily Quiet Time.
- explain three requirements for an effective Quiet Time.
- express a commitment to begin a daily Quiet Time.

1. Read 1 Corinthians 1:9. What does God call you to do?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Read John 17:3. What is eternal life?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. According to the above, what is the most important part of every Christian's life?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. You get to know a person by spending time with him, by talking with him and listening to him. Read Matthew 14:23 and Mark 1:35. From these verses what seemed most important to Jesus?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Read Luke 11:1. As the disciples watched Jesus, what did they want to learn?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Read and list God's promises found in the following verses:

a. John 15:5 \_\_\_\_\_

b. John 14:13-14 \_\_\_\_\_

c. 1 John 5:14-15 \_\_\_\_\_

d. Mark 11:24 \_\_\_\_\_

7. You talk to God by praying, but how does he talk to you? Read Hebrews 1:1-2 and 2 Timothy 3:16? \_\_\_\_\_

8. God's love for you does not depend on your returning that love. But, your love for God and for others will not grow unless it is nourished by daily fellowship with God. A daily Quiet Time is important. It is important because it enables you to enjoy the close relationship with God which was made possible by Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

Read Philippians 3:10. Underline the things Paul received from communion with God.

a. knowledge of Christ

c. fellowship in suffering

b. resurrection power

d. freedom from death

9. What are four reasons for having a daily Quiet time?

a. You get to know God through fellowship with him. Read 1 John 1:3. It says your fellowship with other Christians is based on your fellowship with whom? \_\_\_\_\_

b. You receive direction and guidance for the decisions you have to make each day. Read Psalms 143:8.

c. You will bear spiritual fruit. Read John 15:4-5.

- d. You will be able to bring your needs before God. Read Philippians 4:19. Read 1 John 5:14 to find God's response when you pray according to his will. \_\_\_\_\_

Needs and problems in our lives should make us realize our dependence on God. He wants to supply our needs. Write the promises given in the verses that follow.

- (1) Philippians 4:6-7 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- (2) Psalms 34:17 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- (3) Hebrews 4:16 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- (4) Isaiah 40:31 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. List the four reasons for a daily Quiet Time.

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_

11. Although Jesus was filled with God's Spirit, he felt the need to maintain regular, private worship. If Jesus felt a need for regular communion with the Father, you should feel an even greater need. However, any person who wants to have an effective Quiet Time must meet several conditions.

The first requirement for an effective Quiet Time is to schedule a regular time for it. Read the following verses and underline the time of day indicated for prayer: Psalms 5:3; 57:7-8; Mark 1:35.

morning                  noon                  night                  other

12. Having your Quiet Time in the morning provides a starting point for the day. You recognize your dependency on God and his sufficiency. It gives you an opportunity to submit your will to him and consciously dedicate the day to his glory.

a. What time do you usually get up in the morning? \_\_\_\_\_

b. When would you need to get up to give God fifteen minutes tomorrow morning? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Some Christians find that a Quiet Time at night helps them sleep well. The important factor is that the time be daily and regular so it becomes a habit. Do you have a certain time to pray every day? \_\_\_\_\_

14. A second requirement for an effective Quiet Time is a quiet place where you can be alone with God. In Matthew 6:6 where did Jesus encourage his followers to pray? \_\_\_\_\_

15. A third requirement is to follow a plan. Unless you consciously follow a plan that keeps your mind thinking on spiritual things you probably will find that you begin to think of other things.

In the space below explain why each of the three requirements listed are necessary for an effective Quiet Time.

a. a set time \_\_\_\_\_

b. a quiet place \_\_\_\_\_

c. a plan to follow \_\_\_\_\_

16. Many people find that beginning their Quiet Time with praise and thanksgiving helps them remember they are really talking to God. Follow praise and thanksgiving with a prayer of confession of sin. Name specific sins whenever you can and ask for forgiveness.

Why do you need to confess your sins? (Psalms 66:18) \_\_\_\_\_

17. After confessing your sins make your requests known to God. List some things you must do to have your prayers answered.

a. Mark 11:25 \_\_\_\_\_

b. John 14:14 \_\_\_\_\_

c. 1 John 3:22 \_\_\_\_\_

18. God has given you directions for your journey through life. It is foolish to take wrong turns without a reason. How does studying God's Word help you?

a. Psalms 119:11 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Psalms 119:130 \_\_\_\_\_

c. Psalms 40:8 \_\_\_\_\_

19. It cost God the sacrifice of his only Son in order to restore the fellowship that was broken when man sinned. The death of Christ saved man from eternal separation from God and made fellowship with him possible. Do you want your fellowship with God to grow deeper everyday? You will need to spend time with him in order for this to happen. Your salvation did not cost you anything. It was God's free gift. But the discipline of a daily time with God will cost you something. Is it costing you anything to have fellowship with God? \_\_\_\_\_ What is it costing you? \_\_\_\_\_

20. Are there things that are hindering you from having fellowship with God? \_\_\_\_\_

If you answered "Yes", write these things below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

21. Would you agree to use at least 15 minutes every day to be alone with God, beginning today? \_\_\_\_\_ This agreement will be between you and God, but it may help you to sign below.

I, _____, agree to give God at least 15 minutes every day starting today which is (date) _____.
---

## HOW TO HAVE A QUIET TIME

As a believer you realize that Christ must be the centre of your life. The circle in the centre of THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS shows that you want to forget self and make Jesus the Master of your life. Only as you spend time with him will you keep him at the centre of your life. The time you spend alone in prayer and Bible study is called your "Quiet Time." This is the most IMPORTANT part of your day.

Your Quiet time is the time you get your spiritual food. You would never go day after day without eating food for your body. You would die if you did. It is just as important to eat spiritual food as it is to eat physical food. You will become spiritually weak if you do not eat spiritual food. When you miss a meal, you do not say, "Oh, I missed food one time today, and yesterday I missed eating also. I think eating is just too much trouble. I will never eat again." No, you do not say that. When you miss eating one time you probably eat more next time.

Your Quiet Time is like that. If you miss your Quiet Time one or two times, do not say it is too much trouble. Spend more time with God on the next day.

Perhaps you are asking, "How can I communicate with the Master through a Quiet Time?" The answer is, by remaining in Christ, living in God's Word and praying in faith.

Here are some suggestions to help you as you begin to have your Quiet Time every day.

1. Make your Quiet Time the most important thing you have to do each day. Choose a time to spend with God that fits your schedule. Any time is good, but early morning is the best time because you are getting your spiritual food from God for your day. You would not want to wait until night to eat food for the first time each day.
2. Make preparations. If you have your Quiet time in the morning, it really begins the night before. You must go to bed earlier so you can get up earlier. Put your Bible, exercise book and pencil together the night before so you will not waste time the next morning trying to find them. Choose a place where you can be alone. If there are small children in your home, you may need to have your Quiet Time very early before they awake so you will not be disturbed.

3. Balance your Quiet Time by spending time in both Bible reading and in prayer.

-Pray for guidance during the Quiet Time.

-Follow a plan for reading your Bible. There are many different plans. Talk to your MasterLife group leader about them. There is a "Bible Reading Chart" in your book on which you can keep a record of the books and chapters you read.

-Make notes of what God is saying to you through his Word. Suggestions are given in this book to help you know how to do this. If you write down ideas, you will remember them better. Later you can look at these notes and think about what God has been showing you.

-Pray about what God has said to you through his Word. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 to find four areas in which the Bible helps you.

- a. Teaching the truth
- b. Rebuking error
- c. Correcting faults
- d. Giving instruction

When God speaks to you through Scripture in one of these ways, talk to him about it in prayer.

-Use these four words to help you remember how to pray.

**ADORATION.** Adore him because of WHO he is. (Revelation 5:11-14)

**CONFESSION.** Confess your sins. You deny yourself when you do. (1 John 1:9).

**THANKSGIVING.** Thank him for all he has done. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

**SUPPLICATION.** Make requests for your needs and for the needs of others. (1 Samuel 12:23)

4. Be consistent in your Quiet Time.

-It is better to have a short time every day than a longer time every other day. Remember that you are forming a habit you will want to follow the rest of your life. When you begin this discipline, allow 15 minutes each morning for your time alone with God. Increase the amount of time slowly.

-Expect interruptions. Satan will do everything he can do keep you from spending time with God. He is afraid of Christians who want to read the Bible and spend time in prayer. Do not become annoyed at the persons or events that interrupt your Quiet Time. Try to plan your time so you will not be interrupted. Ask God to give you wisdom.

5. Concentrate on the Person you are meeting rather than the habit. If you were meeting the president of your country at that time, you would not let anything hinder you. What about meeting God? Your fellowship with God is important to him as well as to you. He created you with the ability to have fellowship with him, and he saved you to restore that fellowship.

## QUIET TIME NOTES

When you finish reading your Scripture, look back over it and write in your exercise book what you feel God said to you. Then write what you want to say to him. Many Christians talk to God but do not listen to what he says to them.

Do not copy the Scripture, but write your own words. This is called your "Quiet Time Notes."

Writing down what God has said to you makes it clear in your mind and helps you remember it. When you write down what God has shown you, you will be able to share what you have learned with others.

The following is an example of how you can write your "Quiet Time Notes" in your exercise book:

### QUIET TIME NOTES

17 AUGUST

SCRIPTURE I READ: PSALMS 1

WHAT GOD SAID TO ME: Don't walk in the way of the ungodly. Don't stand and talk with known, bragging sinners. Don't sit and be company with those who scorn God.

WHAT I SAID TO GOD: Father, help me to be an example, to live the way you want me to live.

## GUIDE TO PRAISE

Praising and giving thanks are two different ways to glorify God. You praise God for who he is. You thank him for what he has done. Thanking him leads to praising him. It is often easier to thank him than to praise him. But worship should include both praise and thanksgiving. You should thank God in everything and praise him at all times.

### WHY SHOULD I PRAISE THE LORD?

1. You should praise him because he is holy. Read Psalms 22:3.
2. Praise is your gift to God. Read Hebrews 13:15.
3. God saved you to glorify him. Read Ephesians 1:5-6; Isaiah 43:21; Psalms 50:23.
4. He commands you to praise him. Read 1 Chronicles 16:28-29.
5. Praise prepares you for what you will do in heaven. Read Revelation 5:8-14; 7:9-17.
6. Praise defeats the devil. Read Acts 16:25-34.

### HOW SHOULD I PRAISE THE LORD?

1. Praise, bless, glorify and adore God using your own words. The use of words such as "Praise the Lord!" should only express sincere praise. Do not use them carelessly.
2. Use Scripture to glorify God. Read Psalms 8, 9, 19, 24, 30, 65, 92, 108, 138, 139.
3. Use Scripture songs and hymns to praise him. Read Ephesians 5:19.
4. Praise him with musical instruments if you have them. Read Psalms 150:3-6.
5. Remember glorious acts which God has done in the past. Praise him for them. One example is that God divided the Red Sea and let his children walk through on dry ground. Read Exodus 14:21-22.

### WHAT SHOULD I SAY WHEN I PRAISE THE LORD?

1. Use words like: I worship, adore, bless, exalt, magnify, glorify, honour.
2. Use praise words like: Hallelujah! Hosanna! Praise God!

**WHEN SHOULD I PRAISE THE LORD?** Continually

**WHERE SHOULD I PRAISE THE LORD?** Everywhere

**WHO SHOULD PRAISE THE LORD?** Everyone

**EVERYONE** should **CONTINUALLY** praise the Lord **EVERYWHERE!**

# MY WALK WITH THE MASTER, LESSON 3

## SPENDING TIME WITH THE MASTER

- Have a Quiet Time every day during the week. Use "How to Have a Quiet Time" (p. 45).

## LIVING IN GOD'S WORD

- Read your Bible daily, and do not forget to write in your exercise book what you feel God says to you and what you want to say to him.
- Complete the Bible study, "Do God's Will."
- Memorize John 13:34-35.
- Revise John 15:5; Luke 9:23; John 8:31-32; John 15:7 every day.

## PRAYING IN FAITH

- Read "My Prayer List."
- Pray with your prayer partner at least one time.
- Use "Guide to Praise" in your Quiet Time.
- Pray for God to show you the person he has for you to disciple.

## FELLOWSHIPING WITH BELIEVERS

- Tell someone what your Quiet Time has meant to you.

## WITNESSING TO THE WORLD

- Share your faith with a lost person.
- Read "Stewardship of Time" and "How To Be a Steward of Your Time."

## **SERVING OTHERS**

- Learn and be able to teach number 4 of THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS to someone in your group.

Do something special for a member of your family this week.

Teach THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS to someone at home or in your neighbourhood this week.

## Bible Study

# DO GOD'S WILL

Jesus said he chose you and called you to do his will. (John 15:16) You decided to accept him as your Saviour. You have done what he said you must do to be his disciple, that is: forget self, take up your cross every day and follow him. (Luke 9:23) Have you let him become the Master of your will, giving direction to your life? In this Bible study you will learn what God's will is, how to find it and some guidelines for doing it. When you have completed this study, you should be able to:

- understand the difference between God's will and man's will
- state God's purpose or reason for your doing his will
- explain the ways God provides for his will to be done in your life
- apply these teachings to finding and doing God's will for your own life

1. The Bible teaches that God has made man with the ability to plan and choose. This ability to choose is called the will. Read 2 Peter 3:9 and 1 Timothy 2:3-4. What is God's will for man?

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2. God's will includes a plan for your life, but he gives you the freedom to live in his will or to choose to do your own will. Read Deuteronomy 30:19-20.

a. Name the choices God gives. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b. Also name four commands. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. Now read Romans 7:18 and write why you think it was difficult for Paul to do God's will. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

d. Do you think it will be easy for you? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Jesus is our example in living. Read John 4:34 and John 5:30. What did Jesus say about his doing God's will?

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4. What does Matthew 12:50 say to you about the importance of your doing God's will?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

---

In Romans 12:2 what does God need to do so you will know his will?

b. \_\_\_\_\_

---

5. Jesus wants to teach you how God reveals his will and how you can do his will. Doing God's will begins with an understanding or vision of God's purpose for your life. Read Ephesians 1:5-6, 12, 14 and then tick (✓) the statement below that is God's main purpose for your life as shown in these verses.

- \_\_\_ a. to win the lost
- \_\_\_ b. to be a good example
- \_\_\_ c. to bring glory to God

6. Our whole purpose for living is to bring glory to God so his name will be praised. We can see this purpose in the life of Jesus. Read the following Scriptures and write what each says about how Jesus felt about doing God's will.

- a. John 5:30 \_\_\_\_\_
- b. John 6:38 \_\_\_\_\_
- c. John 17:4 \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Luke 22:42 \_\_\_\_\_

7. Your Christian growth and ministry depend on your commitment to God's purpose. Write in your own words God's purpose for your life.

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8. Doing God's will depends on a commitment of your whole self (personality) to God. Even when you give yourself to God you learn that doing his will is not easy. Read 1 John 2:15-17. These verses tell you some things which keep you from doing God's will. Which one of these most often keeps you from doing his will? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Troubles and temptations continue even after you give yourself to God. Even Jesus had to struggle with temptations. (Hebrews 4:5; Matthew 26:38-44) God makes a way for you to do his will if you give your whole self to him. Read the following verses, and write in your own words how God makes it possible for each part of you to be committed to him and his will.
- a. Will (Philippians 2:13) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. Mind (Romans 12:2) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. Body (Romans 12:1; Matthew 26:41) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d. Emotions (Galatians 5:22-25) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- e. Life (Galatians 2:19-20) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. The following three statements sum up what you have been studying about God's will:
- a. Doing God's will begins with an understanding of God's purpose for your life.
- b. Doing God's will depends on a commitment of your whole personality to God (giving your whole self to God).
- c. Doing God's will requires actions based on the knowledge that God provides a way for you to do his will.

11. No Christian can do God's will by himself. Only God is able to do exactly what he intends. The following Scriptures describe God's way of doing his will in his followers. Write the main truth of each verse on the lines below:

a. Philippians 1:6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. Philippians 2:13 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. 1 Thessalonians 5:24 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Romans 8:29 describes the result of working out God's will in your life. Meditate on these verses and think about what God will have to do in your life to make you like Jesus. Summarize your thoughts on these lines.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. Read Hebrews 13:21. Apply this Bible study to your life by writing your personal response to each of the following:

a. My vision of God's purpose for my life is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. When I say I commit my whole personality to God, that means I \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. Read Hebrews 13:20-21 concerning God's will. What does God provide you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## MY PRAYER LIST

1. Open your exercise book and write at the top of the page, "My Prayer List."
2. On these pages, write prayer requests for yourself and for others. Begin with the prayer requests made by those in your MasterLife group.
3. Always write the date you start praying, and always be specific when you write the request. For example do not pray "that God would bless my friends, John and Mary," but "save my lost friend, John" and "give my friend, Mary, real peace since her mother died." Only when we pray specific prayers can God give specific answers. In that way God is given much glory.
4. Also ask the Lord for a Scripture verse to claim for that person. For a lost person like John, you might claim 1 Timothy 2:5-6. For Mary you might claim John 14:27. God is always faithful to his Word, and you honour him by basing your prayers on his truths.
5. As the days pass, you will begin to see God answering your prayers. When God answers your prayer, write in the date, and write how he answered. Some prayers will be answered soon. Others may take years, but God will answer all your prayers. Because of his wisdom, he sometimes does not answer according to your desires.
6. Why do you write out your requests and answers? This will help you remember what God has done about your prayers. Satan causes you to forget God's answers to prayers very quickly. These pages will become a great encouragement to you and a witness to all your friends in the days ahead. Also, they will be a source of victory over Satan in your life. You can also use these pages as your witness to show that God is YOUR Heavenly Father, and he cares about YOU.
7. Copy the "My Prayer List Form" in your exercise book and begin your prayer adventure today.

# My PRAYER LIST

<u>DATE</u>	<u>REQUEST</u>	<u>BIBLE PROMISES</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>ANSWER</u>
11/8	Send rain to my country	2 Chronicles 7:13-14	16/8/84	It rained!
11/9	Salvation of John, my unsaved friend	1 Timothy 2:4	12/3/85	John received Christ as Saviour.

# STEWARDSHIP OF TIME

## Culture Affects View of Time

The members of your MasterLife group may come from different cultures. If this is true, you will not all think about time in the same way. Some will think of time in terms of events that happen during one's life. For them the past is very important. Present time is less important and future time is not important at all. Others will think of time as the minutes and hours of a day and what they can do during those hours. These people do not think much about the past, but they emphasize the present and future. They set goals and plan what they will do many months from the present.

## Biblical View of Time

There is a biblical view of time that is important to every Christian regardless of how he thinks about time. According to the Bible, time is an opportunity given to us by God to discover and to carry out his purposes.

The Christian belongs to God. His time belongs to God. Each person must decide how he can best use his time to serve and honour God.

## How Should a Christian View Time?

When you became a Christian, you said you were giving your life to Christ. You live your life in what man calls "time." You have mornings, afternoons and nights. You have minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and years. Life is time and life is the things you do during your time here on earth. If you believe Christ is Lord of your time, you can believe he has a plan for this day as well as for your entire life. To know and do God's will for your life begins with knowing and doing God's will for this day in your life.

Read the following Scriptures and answer the questions.

1. Read James 4:13-17. How long is life in comparison to eternity?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Ephesians 5:15-16: How can you live like a wise person? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Acts 17:21: Do you know any people today like those mentioned in this verse? \_\_\_\_\_ Are they doing things that would be pleasing and useful to God? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Colossians 4:5: How can you be wise in the way you act? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Read the following verses and tell how Jesus used his time in each situation.
  - John 4:1-26 \_\_\_\_\_
  - Mark 8:27 \_\_\_\_\_
  - John 14:5-10 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - Mark 10:46-52 \_\_\_\_\_
  - Luke 5:16 \_\_\_\_\_

Did Jesus ever seem to be in a hurry? \_\_\_\_\_ Did he ever neglect anyone because of his time schedule? \_\_\_\_\_ Did he use his time to accomplish God's purpose for his life? \_\_\_\_\_

Below is a summary of STEWARDSHIP OF TIME.

1. Time is God's gift to you. You are responsible to him for every minute you are given.
2. Time is an opportunity given to you by God to discover and carry out his purposes.
3. God wants you to use time wisely. He wants you to be available for every opportunity for Christian witness and ministry.
4. Jesus took time to be alone with the Father. A time alone with God is good for your own spiritual life.
5. Jesus always had time for people and their problems. Every Christian should take time to help people.

## HOW TO BE A STEWARD OF YOUR TIME

A steward is someone who has been given the responsibility of caring for that which belongs to another person. Christians are stewards of all God has given them. God has given you time, and you are responsible to him for how you use your time. The Bible helps you understand how you can be a good steward of your time.

1. **Trust the Lord to direct you in all you do.** Read Proverbs 3:5-6. Be sure what you plan to do is directed by God. Read Matthew 6:33.
2. **Plan the things you have to do under the leadership of Jesus Christ, your Master.** Read Proverbs 16:9.
  - a. Always list the major tasks you have to do, whether for a day or week. You can use a plan similar to the one on the next page to help you.
  - b. Write down the time of day you plan to do each task.
  - c. List the tasks in the order of importance that they need to be done.
3. **Ask the Lord to bless your plans.** Read Proverbs 16:3.
4. **Depend on the Lord to direct your actions.** Read Proverbs 16:1.
  - a. Do the things you must do in the order you have planned to do them. Doing this will save time and help you know what to do next.
  - b. When God directs you to change your plans, follow his leading.
5. **Let God control your interruptions.**
  - a. Interruptions and unplanned events are sometimes God's way to get you to do his will even though you had not planned to do these things. Ask for God's leadership, because Satan also uses interruptions to stop you from doing God's will.
  - b. You may ask the following questions to help you decide the importance of the interruption.
    - Is this one of God's priorities that I have not considered?
    - Does it help me accomplish my main plans (goals)?
    - Is it really important, or does it only seem to be important?
    - Is this the best time to do this task, or could it be done some other time when I plan for it?
    - Am I the one who should handle this interruption, or can someone else do it?



# MY WALK WITH THE MASTER, LESSON 4

## SPENDING TIME WITH THE MASTER

- Have a daily Quiet Time.
- Be prepared to tell the group how you used the chart on page 61 to help you make better use of your time this past week.

## LIVING IN GOD'S WORD

- Read your Bible daily, mark it and write in your exercise book what God says to you. Also write what you say back to him.
- Complete the Bible study, "Renew Your Mind."
- Memorize John 15:8.  
Memorize John 15:13.
- Revise all verses on THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS.

## PRAYING IN FAITH

- Pray with your family two times this week.
- Add to your prayer list in your exercise book any other requests you have.
- Pray for the person God has for you to disciple.

## FELLOWSHIPING WITH BELIEVERS

- Say something kind to someone in your church who is not a close friend. Begin to develop a friendship with that person.

## WITNESSING TO THE WORLD

- Add lost persons to your prayer list until you have at least five. Begin praying regularly for them. Speak to them about Jesus when the Spirit leads you.

## **SERVING OTHERS**

Be prepared to teach all of **THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS** to a group member at your next lesson.

Say correctly all of **THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS**. Have someone in your group tick your "Master Completion Chart."

Read "How to Memorize Scripture" and underline parts that have a special meaning to you. Answer the questions. Read each Scripture.

Visit in the home of a needy person and encourage him. Pray with that person before you leave.

**"TO OBEY IS BETTER THAN TO SACRIFICE" (1 Samuel 15:22).**

## Bible Study

# RENEW YOUR MIND

Did you know that when you received Jesus as your Saviour and Lord, you became a new person? "When anyone is joined to Christ, he is a new being; the old is gone, the new has come" (2 Corinthians 5:17). You can be transformed inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Have you ever asked Jesus to be your own personal teacher who guides your thoughts in every situation? In this study you will discover how to let Christ renew your mind.

At the end of this study you should be able to:

- describe the difference between the mind of the person without Christ and the mind of the person controlled by Christ (renewed mind).
- explain what it means to have the mind of Christ in you.

1. The person whose mind is not controlled by Christ depends on human reason only. Read 1 Corinthians 2:14 which describes this person. What do the following verses tell you about the mind of the person without Christ?

a. 2 Corinthians 3:14 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. 2 Corinthians 4:4 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. Romans 1:28 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Give four words from Ephesians 4:17-18 which describe people whose minds are not controlled by Christ.

a. \_\_\_\_\_ b. \_\_\_\_\_ c. \_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Read Romans 12:2.

a. What does God want to do to your mind? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. Why is this important? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Christ can renew a person's mind. Romans 12:2 states that you can be transformed inwardly by a complete change of your mind. This is the mind that is able to know with certainty how trustworthy and correct the will of God is. The mind of the person without Christ and the mind of person controlled by Christ have the same basic functions: thinking, judging, reasoning, evaluating. The primary difference is related to who is in control.

The renewed mind is obedient to Christ. It thinks as Christ would think. The mind of the person without Christ thinks in a selfish and sinful way.

4. Read Romans 8:1-14. List four differences in the person whose mind is controlled by the Spirit and the person whose mind is controlled by the sinful human nature (flesh).

**Mind controlled by the Spirit**

**Mind controlled by the flesh**

a. \_\_\_\_\_

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

5. In 2 Corinthians 10:5 Paul described Christ's plan for mastering the human mind. Read this verse, and write two things you must do to keep Christ in control of your mind.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

6. As a disciple, your goal is to have the "mind of Christ." This means you should have the same attitude as Jesus. Read Philippians 2:5-8.

a. What attitude did Jesus have? (verse 8) \_\_\_\_\_

b. How did Jesus show his humility?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

7. What should you do when you begin to think evil thoughts? Read Philippians 4:8. \_\_\_\_\_

Perhaps you have tried to renew your mind by trying to put worldly thoughts out of your mind. Please do this. Think of a dog. See it in your mind. Now, stop thinking about a dog. Were you able to do it? You probably were not able to do this because you were trying so hard NOT TO THINK about the dog. You do not stop bad thoughts by trying not to think about them. Renewing your mind is accomplished by filling it with NEW thoughts from the Bible.

8. Now consider how Christ renews your mind. What can you begin doing every day that will help renew your mind? You just tried to stop thinking about a dog and could not. But if you had thought about a goat instead of a dog you would have forgotten the dog. You would have replaced the old thought with a new thought.

John 16:13 explains how Christ renews our minds. Write how he does this.

- a. John 16:13 \_\_\_\_\_

Write from these following three Scriptures what you are supposed to do to have a new mind:

- b. Colossians 3:2 \_\_\_\_\_

- c. Philippians 4:8 \_\_\_\_\_

- d. Psalms 1:2-3 \_\_\_\_\_

9. Read Colossians 3:1-4. How do these verses speak to you?

10. You should not let your mind keep thinking evil thoughts. When you realize you are having worldly thoughts turn your thoughts to spiritual things quickly. Tick (✓) the things that would help you turn your worldly thoughts to spiritual thoughts.

\_\_\_ a. singing songs of praise

\_\_\_ b. meditating on Scripture

\_\_\_ c. talking to someone about the weather

\_\_\_ d. praying

\_\_\_\_\_ e. commending someone for a good deed or attitude

\_\_\_\_\_ f. thinking of nothing

11. When you study the Bible you learn about Christ. You hear him and learn his truth. Read John 8:31-32.

a. What term does Jesus use to describe the person who obeys his teachings? \_\_\_\_\_

b. What does living in God's truth do for the enslaved mind?  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. The process of renewing one's mind involves more than simply reading the Bible. It involves the Spirit of God who gives you understanding and renews your mind with the Word of truth. God's revealed truth alone has the power to change lives. The Spirit renews your mind with the mind of Christ when you meditate on God's Word.

Use the following questions to evaluate how much your mind is being renewed daily:

a. Are you really a disciple of Jesus? If so, how do you know? Read John 8:31 and 1 Corinthians 2:12. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. If you are Jesus' disciple, what source of power is renewing your mind daily? \_\_\_\_\_

c. Are you willing to make a commitment to get God's Word into your daily life? If so, write out a specific goal you have set for yourself. I will  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# HOW TO MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE

## REASONS FOR MEMORIZING SCRIPTURE

1. God commands you to memorize his Word. Read Deuteronomy 6:6; 11:18 and Colossians 3:16.
2. Scripture memory helps you tell others about Christ.
  - a. You will always be ready to give an answer about your faith. (1 Peter 3:15)
  - b. The Holy Spirit can bring to mind the Word that is needed for any situation. (John 16:13)
  - c. Understanding the Word will make you bold in your witness. (Acts 4:31)
3. It provides you with a strong defense against temptation, sin and Satan.
  - a. How did Jesus defeat Satan? Read Matthew 4:4,7,10.

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Satan has not changed. You must learn to follow Christ's example by meeting temptation with God's Word.

b. How can you defeat sin? Read Psalms 119:9, 11.

---

c. How is the Word described in Ephesians 6:17?

---

4. The following verse tells you another reason for memorizing Scripture. Read it and write the fourth reason for Scripture memory: Psalms 119:105.

- 
5. A fifth reason is given in Psalms 119:48.
-

## **PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE**

- 1. Choose a verse that speaks to your need or a verse from your MasterLife studies.**
- 2. Be sure you know the meaning of the verse. If you do not understand it, ask someone to explain it to you.**
- 3. Find the verse in your Bible, and read the verses before and after it.**
- 4. Choose a subject word for each verse. This helps you remember the verse. (For example, choose HEAVEN for John 14:3.) The following will help you:**
  - a. Learn the subject word.**
  - b. Learn the place where the verse is found (reference).**
  - c. Learn the verse.**
  - d. Learn to say the reference again.**
- 5. Learn the verse by breaking it into natural phrases.**
  - a. Repeat the subject word, reference, and first phrase aloud many times from memory.**
  - b. Continue doing this, but add another phrase until the verse is complete.**
  - c. Finally, repeat many times from memory in this order: subject word, reference, verse, reference.**
- 6. Make sure you learn each new verse well before you begin another one.**

**CAUTION: SAY THE VERSE ALOUD TO SOMEONE AS MANY TIMES AS YOU CAN. DO NOT TAKE A SHORT CUT. EVEN THOUGH YOU MAY FEEL YOU KNOW THE VERSE IN YOUR MIND, SAYING IT TO SOMEONE SHOWS YOU THE PARTS YOU NEED TO STUDY MORE.**
- 7. Place the written verse in a place where you can see it during the day. Or carry the verse in your pocket so you can revise it while you walk or when you are waiting for someone.**
- 8. Advantages of learning the verse word-perfect:**
  - a. It will be set in your memory.**
  - b. It will be easier to revise.**

## 9. Remember! Scripture memory is HARD WORK.

Set a goal for the number of verses you will memorize each week. Do not try to learn too many verses so fast that you will confuse them.

## 10. Determine the time when you should memorize your Scripture.

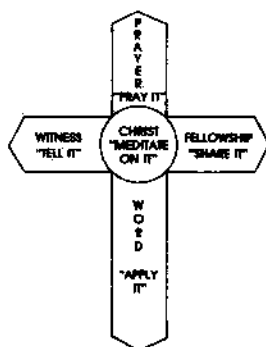
- Memorize your verses when your mind is clear and rested.
- Do not try to memorize when you are tired. You will forget quickly.
- Experiment and find out which time of the day is best for you. Every person is different.

## 11. Read your Bible every day and ask the Holy Spirit to point out special verses to you. Make a list of these verses on a page in your exercise book. You can return to this page and find verses to memorize after you have completed MasterLife.

## 12. REVISE, REVISE, REVISE

This is the most important secret of Scripture memory. You should revise a new verse at least once a day for six weeks. Revise the verse weekly for the next six weeks and then monthly for the rest of your life.

## 13. Use THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS to help you memorize Scripture: meditate on the verse, pray it, tell it, apply it, share it.



## WHAT IS NEXT?

You have finished the first book, lessons 1-4 of MasterLife. There is much more! The next five lessons are in *MasterLife Book Two: The Disciple's Personality*. You will be given *MasterLife Book Two* so you can continue in your programme of spiritual growth and action.

# MASTER COMPLETION CHART ONE

## SPENDING TIME WITH THE MASTER

Had a regular Quiet Time and wrote Bible reading insights in my exercise book. \_\_\_\_\_

## LIVING IN GOD'S WORD

1. Quoted these verses:

a. Demands of Discipleship: Luke 9:23 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Abiding in Christ: John 15:5 \_\_\_\_\_

c. Word: John 8:31-32 \_\_\_\_\_

d. Prayer: John 15:7 \_\_\_\_\_

e. Fellowship: John 13:34-35 \_\_\_\_\_

f. Witness: John 15:8 \_\_\_\_\_

g. Service: John 15:13 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Recorded thoughts several days each week about what God said to me and what I said to God \_\_\_\_\_

3. Completed four Bible studies:

a. "Take Up Your Cross" \_\_\_\_\_

b. "Your Quiet Time" \_\_\_\_\_

c. "Do God's Will" \_\_\_\_\_

d. "Renew Your Mind" \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAYING IN FAITH

1. Prayed with my prayer partner \_\_\_\_\_

2. Prayed for each member of my MasterLife group \_\_\_\_\_

3. Used "Guide to Praise" \_\_\_\_\_

## **FELLOWSHIPING WITH BELIEVERS**

1. Became better acquainted with someone in my  
MasterLife group \_\_\_\_\_

2. Read "Commitment to MasterLife" (Introduction, p. 16). \_\_\_\_\_

## **WITNESSING TO THE WORLD**

Showed God's love to a non-Christian or told him about  
God's love \_\_\_\_\_

## **SERVING OTHERS**

1. Did something kind for a neighbour \_\_\_\_\_

2. Mastered THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS \_\_\_\_\_





Cut out these verse cards for convenient use. Take them with you and use spare minutes to study them.

		<p><b>Service</b></p> <p>"The greatest love a person can have for his friends is to give his life for them" (John 15:13).</p>
<p><b>Witness</b></p> <p>"My Father's glory is shown by your bearing much fruit; and in this way you become my disciples" (John 15:8).</p>	<p><b>Fellowship</b></p> <p>"And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples" (John 13:34-35).</p>	<p><b>Word</b></p> <p>"So Jesus said to those who believed in him, 'If you obey my teaching, you are really my disciples; you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free'" (John 8:31-32).</p>
<p><b>Prayer</b></p> <p>"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, then you will ask for anything you wish, and you shall have it" (John 15:7).</p>	<p><b>Abiding in Christ</b></p> <p>"I am the vine, and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me" (John 15:5).</p>	<p><b>Demands of Discipleship</b></p> <p>"And he said to them all, 'If anyone wants to come with me, he must forget self, take up his cross every day, and follow me'" (Luke 9:23).</p>

Now you are ready for the second book in the *MasterLife* series, *The Disciple's Personality*.

God has made you in a marvelous way. You are a living soul. Even so, there is a war going on inside each person. Learn how Christ can give you victory and wholeness.