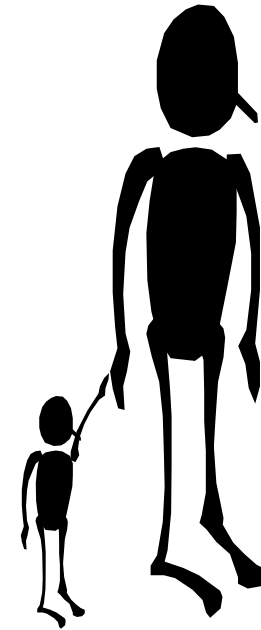


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January 2002



*Walking*  
*with*  
*God*

**ENGLISH**

**Written by Rev. Lindsay Cameron**

**Based on 6 studies by Paul Meeks –  
“God, You and New Life”**

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14. Read John 4:23-24.

- What is one of the purposes of the Church? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

15. Read Hebrews 10:25.

- What is it that we are not to neglect? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How can your church be involved in telling people about Christ? How can you help tell people in other countries?
2. What are some of the special blessings that come from meeting together with other Christians?
3. What are some ways that a Christian can participate in a church service?

It is important that you become a regular attender of a church that teachers the truth about Jesus. Ask advice from the church that gave you these studies. Go to church every week so that you can learn about God and grow to be like Jesus. Ask about membership classes so that you can take a more active part in the church organization.

Write the Memory Verse: Matthew 16:18

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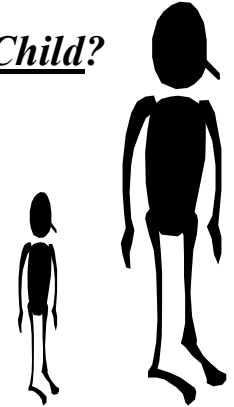
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## How Can I Be Sure That I Am God's Child?



**1 John 5** <sup>9</sup>We accept man's testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. <sup>10</sup>Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart. Anyone who does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

<sup>13</sup>I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. <sup>14</sup>This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. <sup>15</sup>And if we know that he hears us-whatever we ask-we know that we have what we asked of him.

<sup>19</sup>We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. <sup>20</sup>We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true-even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

### Memorize: 1 John 5:11-12

Being God's child is something you can be sure about. It is not based on your feelings, which will not always be the same. Sometimes you will feel very happy; and at other times you will not feel so good. But your assurance of salvation does not depend on how you feel. It is based on something far more dependable.

In this lesson you will know the basis of this certainty. May your mind be enlightened and your faith strengthened by the Holy Spirit as you read and study this lesson!

**I KNOW I AM GOD'S CHILD BY  
THE PROMISES OF GOD'S WORD**

1. Read Revelation 3:20. It says if we invite Christ into our heart, He will come in.
  - Did you ask Him into your heart? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Where is Christ now? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Read John 1:12.
  - According to this, those who receive Christ and believe Him have become what? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Did you truly receive Christ and believe in Him? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Therefore, whose child are you now? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Read 1 John 5:13.
  - How sure can we be that we have eternal life? \_\_\_\_\_

**I KNOW I AM GOD'S CHILD BY  
THE PRESENCE AND WITNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

4. Read 1 John 3:24.
  - How do we know that Christ is living in us? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Read Romans 8:16.
  - How do we know that we are God's children? \_\_\_\_\_

**I KNOW I AM GOD'S CHILD BY  
THE CHANGES IN THE WAY I NOW LIVE**

6. Read: 1 John 2:3-6.
  - On what basis can I claim that I know God? (verse 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**THE CHURCH HAS SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

9. Read Acts 1:8.
  - What were the believers to do for the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Where were they to go? \_\_\_\_\_
  - From where would they receive power for witnessing? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Read Mark 16:15.
  - Where were the disciples to go? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What were they to do? \_\_\_\_\_
  - To whom were they to preach? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Read Galatians 6:1-2.
  - What are the two special responsibilities Christians have toward other Christians? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Read Galatians 6:10.
  - We are to do good to all men, but especially to whom? \_\_\_\_\_

**THE CHURCH IS FOR THE FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS**

13. Read Acts 11:25-26.
  - Christians have the desire and privilege of meeting together for worship and study. Where did Paul and Barnabas meet with a group of believers? \_\_\_\_\_
  - How long did they stay in that place and meet with the Church? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Read Ephesians 5:23.
- Who is the head of the Church? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Read Ephesians 5:25.
- What did Christ do for the Church? \_\_\_\_\_

### **THE CHURCH IS CALLED THE BODY OF CHRIST**

4. Read Ephesians 1:22-23.
- What is the Church called? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Read Romans 12:5.
- If we are part of the Body of Christ, what is our relationship to other Christians? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Read Romans 12:10.
- What is our feeling towards one another in the Body? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Read 1 Corinthians 12:26.
- How do we feel toward believers who are suffering? \_\_\_\_\_

- How do we feel towards those who are rejoicing? \_\_\_\_\_

### **THE CHURCH SHOULD GROW AND DEVELOP**

8. Read Acts 2:41-47.
- In verse 41 how many were added to the Church? \_\_\_\_\_

- In verse 42 what were the four things to which they devoted themselves? \_\_\_\_\_

- In verse 46 how often did they go to the Temple (Church)? \_\_\_\_\_

- In verse 47 who added to the Church those who were being saved? \_\_\_\_\_

- How can we prove whether someone's claim of knowing God is true or false? \_\_\_\_\_

- If we claim to know God, but we are not keeping His commandments, what are we? (verse 4) \_\_\_\_\_

### **I KNOW I AM GOD'S CHILD BY THE WAY I NOW LIVE IN RELATION TO OTHERS**

7. Read 1 John 3:14 -15.
- How do we know that we have passed from death to life? \_\_\_\_\_

- What did John call a person who hates his brother? \_\_\_\_\_

- Does he have eternal life? \_\_\_\_\_

### **I KNOW I AM GOD'S CHILD BY THE WAY I NOW LIVE IN RELATION TO SIN**

8. Read: 1 John 3:4-10. In these verses the word sin refers to willful, intentional sins. It does not refer to mistakes that we commit.

- What is sin? (verse 4) \_\_\_\_\_

- What did Jesus come to the world to do? (verse 5) \_\_\_\_\_

- What did John say concerning the person who is sinning? (verse. 6) \_\_\_\_\_

- How may we know that someone is righteous? (verse 7) \_\_\_\_\_

- To whom does a person belong if he is committing sin? (verse 8) \_\_\_\_\_

- Can a person continue sinning and claim that he is born of God? (verse 9) \_\_\_\_\_

- How do we recognize the children of God and the children of the devil? (verse 10) \_\_\_\_\_ .

9. Read 1 John 2:1.

- Why did John write about these things? \_\_\_\_\_ .

10. Read 1 John 1:9.

- If we do commit sin, what must we do immediately? \_\_\_\_\_ .
- When we have confessed the sin to God, what happens? \_\_\_\_\_ .

When you have done something that you know is wrong and displeasing to God, you should confess it to God right away and ask Him to forgive it. Ask Him to help you to learn how to overcome that wrong habit and form a new pattern of life. God wants you to live a holy life, not a life of sin.

### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What is the work of the Holy Spirit with regard to my assurance of salvation?
2. What is the outward proof that I have truly become a child of God?
3. Can I claim to be a child of God even if I continue to sin willfully and intentionally?

Write the memory verse: 1 John 5:11-12

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## The Church



*Acts 2* <sup>41</sup>Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup>Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup>Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. <sup>46</sup>Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

### Memorize: Matthew 16:18

As Christians we are part of a wonderful fellowship of believers called the Church. The Church could be called God's family, with God as our heavenly Father and all other true Christians around the world as our brothers and sisters. In this fellowship of believers we find love and care, fellowship and worship, nurture and sharing. There are privileges as well as responsibilities in this new family; and it is a wonderful part of the Christian life.

### CHRIST IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH

1. Read Matthew 16 : 18
  - To whom does the Church belong? \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - Who will build the Church? \_\_\_\_\_ .

15. Read John 9:1-5

- Sometimes God asks us to show patience even through suffering. In this way we show the world that we have a hope beyond this world. What does John say we do by this? \_\_\_\_\_  
Read also John 21:18-19.

16. Read 1 Peter 5:8.

- Sometimes suffering is caused by whom? \_\_\_\_\_

Some people think that sickness is the result of sin in your life. This may be true, but it may not be true. Suffering can come for any of the reasons above. Jesus suffered, but He had no sin. Sometimes it is because God trusts you enough that He asks you to suffer for Him.

17. Read James 5:13-16.

- Does God want us to pray for healing? \_\_\_\_\_

It is good to ask God for healing, but don't insist on it. Trust Him. He has a better plan for us than we can ever imagine.

### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Consider the life of Job in the Old Testament. Was his suffering because of sin?
2. Which takes more faith: to be cheerful while suffering or to be healed.

Write the memory verse: 1 Peter 1:6-7

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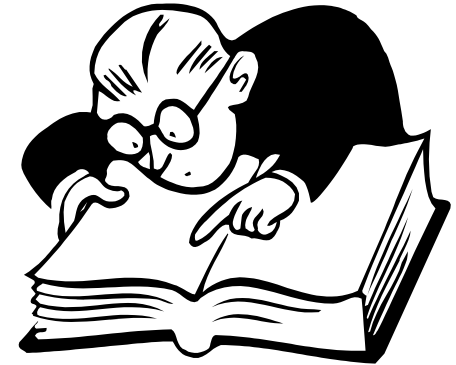
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## What Is Salvation?



*Eph 2* <sup>1</sup>As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup>in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. <sup>4</sup>But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup>made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions-it is by grace you have been saved. <sup>6</sup>And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God- <sup>9</sup>not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

### Memorize: Ephesians 2:8-9

God planned salvation for man even before the world began. Jesus Christ fulfilled the provisions of our salvation through His death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead. Salvation, then, is not an empty word. It is a wonderful reality that everyone can experience if he will repent of his sins and accept Christ through faith.

In this lesson you will learn some of the great things that took place in your life when you received Jesus Christ into your heart by faith.

## YOUR SINS WERE FORGIVEN

1. Read John 3:16.
  - For what purpose did God send His Son, Jesus, into the world? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
  - What did you receive when you believed in Jesus Christ? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Read 1 John 1:9.
  - What did the Lord do when you confessed your sins to Him? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Read Acts 3:19.
  - What happened to your sins when you repented? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Read Colossians 1:14.
  - How was your redemption and forgiveness provided? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
5. Hebrews 10:17.
  - Will the Lord remember your sins anymore? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

## YOU WERE JUSTIFIED BY GOD

6. Read John 3:17-19.
  - What is the reason that men are condemned or guilty before God? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
7. Read John 3:18.
  - What should we do so that we will not be condemned? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
8. Read Romans 5:1.
  - What is the result of being justified by faith? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
9. Read Romans 8:1.
  - Who is free from condemnation? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Absolutely, yes! Jesus has the power to heal anything. However...

9. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.
  - Does Jesus always heal? \_\_\_\_\_.

No! Why? Jesus does not always heal because He has a much better plan.

Jesus is not just another witch doctor! He is much more powerful than that. A witch doctor can only try to fix this world up a little – but Jesus is making a whole new world for us. This new world is called Heaven.

10. Read Revelation 21:1-4.
  - When will Jesus remove all suffering? \_\_\_\_\_.
11. Read John 14:1-4.
  - Who will Jesus take to Heaven? \_\_\_\_\_.

So, Jesus can heal us, but His first priority is to prepare us for the new world that He is creating.

12. Read Romans 8:28-29.
  - Who does God want to make us like? \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus suffered. If you don't suffer, you cannot become like Jesus. That is why Paul says, "We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." (Romans 5:3-5)

James says, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." (James 1:2-4)

13. Read Romans 8:18-19.
  - Which is more important, this world which will finish soon, or Heaven which will last forever? \_\_\_\_\_.

## REASONS FOR SUFFERING

14. Read Hebrews 12:7-11.
  - Sometimes suffering is discipline from God. What is God trying to do through discipline? \_\_\_\_\_.



This is sometimes difficult to understand. What might be even harder to understand, is that He calls all believers to follow after Him.

### JESUS SUFFERED

1. Read Isaiah 53:3 again. "He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering."
  - Was Jesus life on earth easy? \_\_\_\_\_ .
2. Read Luke 9:22.
  - Did Jesus know that He was going to suffer? \_\_\_\_\_ .
3. Read Hebrews 12:2-3.
  - Why did Jesus accept the suffering of the cross? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .

### PEOPLE WILL PERSECUTE US FOR FOLLOWING CHRIST

4. Read 1 Peter 4:12-14.
  - Should we be surprised by suffering? \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - When will we rejoice? (verse 13) \_\_\_\_\_ .
5. Read John 15:18-20.
  - How will some people react to you becoming a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .
6. Read Philippians 1:29.
  - When we are given life through Christ, what else are we granted? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .
7. Read Luke 23:34.
  - How did Jesus respond when people hurt Him? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ . He expects us to respond the same way.

### WE MAY SUFFER WITH PAIN OR SICKNESS

8. Read John 11:17-45
  - Can Jesus heal any sickness? \_\_\_\_\_ .

### YOU WERE BORN AGAIN AND MADE SPIRITUALLY ALIVE

10. Read John 3:3-7
  - <sup>3</sup>In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."*
  - <sup>4</sup>"How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"*
  - <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. <sup>7</sup>You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'*
  - Why do we need to be born again? \_\_\_\_\_ .
11. Read Ephesians 2:1-5.
  - In what condition were you before God made you alive? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .
12. Read John 5:24.
  - What do you have now which you did not have before? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .
13. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17.
  - How is a person described who is "in Christ Jesus"? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .

### YOU WERE MADE A CHILD OF GOD

14. Read John 1:12.
  - What power or right is given to all who have received the Lord Jesus Christ? \_\_\_\_\_ .
15. Read 1 John 3:1-2.
  - Because of God's great love to us, what are we now called? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .
16. Read Romans 8:14.
  - What is one of the signs that we are children of God? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .
17. Read Romans 8:17.
  - Who are the heirs of God? \_\_\_\_\_ .

Salvation is the greatest and most wonderful thing in the world. There is more to it than we have considered in this lesson. The salvation we are now enjoying is a continuing experience; and it will find its fullness on the blessed day of Christ's return.

**Titus 2** <sup>11</sup>For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. <sup>12</sup>It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

<sup>15</sup>These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.

### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How did Jesus Christ provide for our salvation?
2. Give examples from the Bible showing how the lives of people were changed when they were saved.
3. What changes have taken place in you since you accepted Christ as your personal Saviour?

Write the memory verse: Ephesians 2:8-9

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## Suffering



**Isaiah 53** <sup>1</sup>Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

<sup>2</sup>He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. <sup>3</sup>He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

<sup>4</sup>Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup>But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. <sup>6</sup>We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

<sup>7</sup>He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. <sup>8</sup>By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken. <sup>9</sup>He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

<sup>10</sup>Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer...

### Memorize: 1 Peter 1:6-7

Although Jesus was God living as a man, yet He allowed Himself to suffer. He suffered by leaving heaven, by living as a poor man on earth, by the rejection of those He thought were friends and by a cruel death. He did this for a purpose. He did this because He loved those who were lost, and because He wanted to bring glory to the Father.

12. Read Matthew 23:23

- Did Jesus believe that tithing should be practiced? \_\_\_\_\_ .
- What did he expect other than tithing? \_\_\_\_\_ .

13. Read Nehemiah 10:37. <sup>37</sup>Moreover, we will bring to the storerooms of the house of our God, to the priests, the first of our ground meal, of our [grain] offerings, of the fruit of all our trees and of our new wine and oil. And we will bring a tithe of our crops to the Levites, for it is the Levites who collect the tithes in all the towns where we work.

- What things should we tithe, other than money? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .

14. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-11.

- How does God help me to be even more generous? (verse 10) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .

### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Can we give more than a tithe?
2. Gifts above a tithe are called “freewill offerings”. You are free to give offerings to whatever you want. But before you give offerings, God expects you to bring your tithe to your local church. What gifts might be a “freewill offering”?
3. In what way could your kindness to others be a sign of how thankful you are to God for his kindness.

Write the Memory Verse: Romans 12 : 1

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## Prayer



When Jesus was dying on the cross, we are told about some things that happened...

**Matthew 27** <sup>45</sup>From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. <sup>46</sup>About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"-which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

<sup>47</sup>When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah."

<sup>48</sup>Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. <sup>49</sup>The rest said, "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him."

<sup>50</sup>And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. <sup>51</sup>At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. <sup>52</sup>The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. <sup>53</sup>They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus' resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

<sup>54</sup>When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

In the Old Testament people could not go into the temple. Only priests were allowed into the temple, and only the High Priest was allowed to go behind the temple curtain to talk directly to God. However, when Jesus died for our sins, he removed God's anger. Now all people can be forgiven and speak directly to God. That is why the curtain tore in half. It was God's invitation to us to come and speak directly to Him. We do not need to go through a priest to speak to God anymore.

**Memorize: Matthew 7:7**

## GOD CALLS US TO PRAYER

1. Read John 16:24.
  - Talking to God develops our relationship with Him. What happens when we ask? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Read Matthew 7:7.
  - What does God want to do for us when we ask, seek, or knock? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Read Matthew 26:41.
  - What is another reason for us to pray? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Read Luke 11:1-4.
  - What sorts of things should we pray for? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## REGULAR PRAYER LIFE

5. Read Mark 1:35 and notice Jesus' example of praying.
  - At what time did He pray? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Read Luke 6:12-16.
  - How important was prayer to Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Read Luke 10:38-42.
  - Martha was working hard, but Mary was doing an even better thing. What was Mary doing? \_\_\_\_\_
  - How is "sitting at Jesus' feet" similar to praying? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## HOW TO PRAY

8. Read Luke 18:9-14.
  - Why did Jesus not like the Pharisee's prayer? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## OUR MONEY BELONGS TO GOD

The bible gives us clear instructions on handling money for God. One of the earliest examples of this is found in Genesis.

9. Read Genesis 14:18-20. <sup>18</sup>Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, <sup>19</sup>and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. <sup>20</sup>And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

- How did Abraham show his thanks to God? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

This practice of giving a tenth of your income to God became known as giving a **TITHE**. It is the way you show that everything you have belongs to God and that your whole life depends on him.

10. Read Genesis 28:20-22. <sup>20</sup>Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear <sup>21</sup>so that I return safely to my father's house, then the LORD will be my God <sup>22</sup>and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth."

- How did Jacob show his loyalty to God? \_\_\_\_\_

11. Read Malachi 3:8-12. <sup>8</sup>"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me." But you ask, "How do we rob you?"

"In tithes and offerings. <sup>9</sup>You are under a curse-the whole nation of you-because you are robbing me. <sup>10</sup>Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. <sup>11</sup>I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the LORD Almighty. <sup>12</sup>"Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the LORD Almighty.

- When we don't bring our tithes to the church, what are we doing? (verse 8) \_\_\_\_\_
- When tithes are forgotten, what happens? \_\_\_\_\_
- What happens when we tithe properly? \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus recognized tithing as just a small part of what we owe God.

- Where are you going to be when Christ appears? \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - Where should our thinking be? \_\_\_\_\_ .
2. Read Romans 12:1
    - How should you think of yourself as now? \_\_\_\_\_ .
  3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-15
    - The life we now have on earth belongs to whom? \_\_\_\_\_ .
  4. Read Galatians 2:20
    - I am living for whom? \_\_\_\_\_ .

Christian stewardship means that we recognize God as the absolute owner of our entire life, body, mind, talents, time, and possessions. These things are not actually ours, for they have all come from Him. Therefore, we are responsible to Him for how we live and what we do with everything He has given us.

In effect, when Christ died for us, he changed places with us. He took our sin and we took his righteousness. We have his life, and he has our lives. If you belong to Christ, you do not own your life anymore. He owns your life now, and you just look after it for him. It is something like a person who manages a store for the owner. The manager does not actually own the store, but he is responsible to the owner and must give an account to him.

### OUR BODIES AND OUR ABILITIES ARE HIS

5. Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.
  - Who lives in our bodies? \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - How should we glorify God? \_\_\_\_\_ .
6. Read Romans 12:1.
  - What should we do with our bodies? \_\_\_\_\_ .
7. Read Romans 12:6-8.
  - What should we do with the gifts or abilities God has given us? \_\_\_\_\_ .
8. Read Ephesians 5:16.
  - Of what else are we stewards? \_\_\_\_\_ .

- Why did God like the second man's prayer? \_\_\_\_\_ .
9. Read Matthew 6:5-8.
    - How does Jesus advise us to pray here? \_\_\_\_\_ .
  10. Read Acts 4:31.
    - Where were the disciples when they prayed in this passage? \_\_\_\_\_ .

Sometimes we pray alone, sometimes together. It is not important how we pray – what is important is that we have a humble attitude when talking to God.

11. Read Romans 8:26-27.
  - How does God help you when you don't know the right words to pray? \_\_\_\_\_ .

### ANSWERED PRAYER

12. Read John 15:7.
  - What must we do to have our prayers answered? \_\_\_\_\_ .
13. Read Matthew 21:21-22.
  - How much power does prayer have? \_\_\_\_\_ .

Some people get confused when God says “No” to their prayers. There are some conditions on answered prayer though.

14. Read Matthew 26:39.
  - What did Jesus want not to happen? \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - However, what would He prefer over his own desire? \_\_\_\_\_ .
15. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-9.
  - Why was Paul's prayer not granted? \_\_\_\_\_ .

16. Read James 4:1-3.

- Why are the prayers of these Christians not answered? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

We are encouraged to ask God for our desires in prayer, but we must always be willing to submit our prayers to His will. As we grow in our understanding of God's ways, we will learn to know what prayers are more pleasing to God.

17. Read Matthew 6:33.

- When we are praying, what should our first priority be? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What prayers would it always God's will to answer? What sorts of prayers will He never answer?
2. God has torn open the curtain and invited us to come and talk to Him. Are we insulting Him if we chose not to pray?
3. God is more powerful than the President of any country. If the President of your country invited you to tell Him what your needs are, would you do it? Shouldn't we be even more excited about telling God our needs? Why do you think people fail to pray?

Write the memory verse: Matthew 7:7

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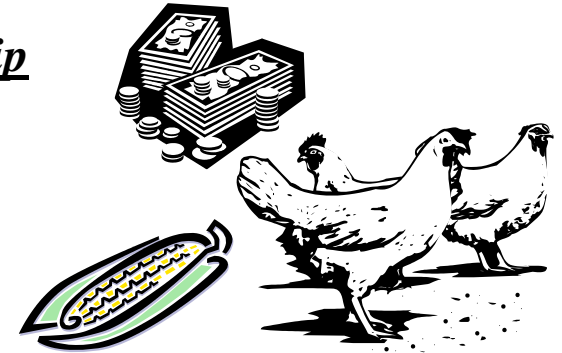
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## Christian Stewardship



**Matthew 6** <sup>19</sup>"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. <sup>20</sup>But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also...

<sup>24</sup>"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.

<sup>25</sup>"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? <sup>27</sup>Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? <sup>28</sup>"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. <sup>29</sup>Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. <sup>30</sup>If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? <sup>31</sup>So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' <sup>32</sup>For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. <sup>33</sup>But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. <sup>34</sup>Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

**Memorize: Romans 12:1**

### WE OWE EVERYTHING TO GOD

1. Read Colossians 3:1-4

- Where is Christ now? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How will the fruit of the Spirit be seen in our lives?
3. When we have the fruit of the Spirit in our lives, will people notice?

Being filled with the Spirit results in an exciting life of victory and blessing. Have you been experiencing failure when you try to be obedient to Christ? Have you been weak and afraid in witnessing? If so, these are signs that you need the cleansing and filling of the Holy Spirit. Would you like to have this life that is Spirit-filled? The following instructions can help you.

Pray. Admit your need for cleansing from the carnal self. Give your entire self to God with all that you are and all that you have. Romans 12:1-2 says, "I urge you therefore, brethren by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

Ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit as He has promised to do. Romans 6:19 says, "I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness."

Receive the Holy Spirit in His fullness by faith right now. Thank God for filling you with the Holy Spirit.

Write the memory verse: Ephesians 5 : 18

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## Bible Reading



**John 15** <sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup>He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup>You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup>"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. <sup>8</sup>This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

<sup>9</sup>"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

### Memorize: John 15:10

When a baby is born, it is very important to see that he not only continues to live, but that he grows. The same is true in the Christian life. After we become God's child, we must continue living as God's child and grow towards maturity. Our Heavenly Father is not pleased if we remain as Christian babies but is pleased when we grow to become mature Christians. In this lesson you will learn some of the things you must do to help you grow in your Christian life.

## THE BIBLE IS GOD'S WORD TO US

1. Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17
  - What value did reading the Bible have for Timothy? (verse 15)  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - What are the Scriptures good for? (verse 16)
    - a) \_\_\_\_\_
    - b) \_\_\_\_\_
    - c) \_\_\_\_\_
    - d) \_\_\_\_\_
  - What do the Scriptures do for the man of God? (verse 17) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Read 2 Peter 1:19-21
  - Peter tells us that the Bible is like a light shining in a dark place. What should we do with it? (verse 19) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Where does the bible come from? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Read Matthew 5:18.
  - How much of the Bible changes? \_\_\_\_\_

So, we know that the Bible comes from God. It is God's word to us. It is one of the main ways that He speaks to us today. We also know that we can trust that the Bible has not changed over the years.

4. Read Acts 17:11.
  - The people of Berea were considered noble because they did what?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Read Romans 15:4.
  - Why was the Bible written? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Read Romans 6:6.
  - The sinful nature in the heart is called our "old man" or "old self". According to this verse, what has happened to this old nature? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Read Romans 6:7.
  - When the old nature is dead, what is the result? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Read Galatians 2:20.
  - After Paul was "crucified with Christ", who was living in him? \_\_\_\_\_

## THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES POWER

11. Read Acts 1:8.
  - We will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon us. What is the purpose of receiving this power? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Read Acts 4:31.
  - What was the result of being filled with this power? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Read Acts 19:1-7.
  - How important did the Apostle Paul think it is to receive the Holy Spirit? \_\_\_\_\_

## THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

14. Read Galatians 5:22-23.
  - When we have been filled with the Holy Spirit, we will have the fruit of the Spirit manifested in our lives. List the nine characteristics that are called the "Fruit of the Spirit". \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What are some of the "fruit" of the carnal self? Galatians 5:19-21.



When we are first saved from our sins, we receive the Holy Spirit, who guides us into God's truths and begins the work of making us like Christ. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, he takes us to a new level of victory in our Christian walk. He gives us a new **freedom from the power of sin** and there is a new **power to witness** for Christ.

### THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GIVEN TO BELIEVERS

1. Read John 16:7.
  - What did Jesus promise to send to believers? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Read Ephesians 5:18.
  - What command did believers receive? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Read John 16:8.
  - What will the Holy Spirit do when He comes? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Read John 16:13.
  - What is another work of the Holy Spirit? \_\_\_\_\_

### THE HOLY SPIRIT CLEANSSES THE HEART

5. Read Acts 15:8-9.
  - What does the Holy Spirit do to the heart? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-3.
  - This tells us why the heart needs to be purified, even after we have been forgiven of our sins. What was the condition of the Christians in Corinthians? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:23.
  - How complete is this cleansing, or sanctification? \_\_\_\_\_

### REGULAR READING AND STUDY OF GOD'S WORD

6. Psalm 119:11 says, "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."
  - Can you give an example of when knowing God's Word will keep you from sinning? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Read John 15:7.
  - What must we do for our prayers to be answered? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Psalm 119:105, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."
  - How is God's Word like a light to you? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Read 1 John 5:13.
  - What advantage is there in reading the bible? \_\_\_\_\_

### CONTINUAL OBEDIENCE AND COMPLETE TRUST IN GOD

10. Read John 15:9-15.
  - What must we do continually in order to abide in the love of Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What has Jesus made known to us? (verse 15) \_\_\_\_\_
11. Read 1 John 1:7.
  - In order for a Christian to have continuous fellowship with God and cleansing from all sin, what is required? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Read 2 Timothy 4:7.
  - What did Paul know? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Read Romans 12:1-2.
  - When you give yourself to God and study the Bible you come to know His ways. What does Paul say is transformed? \_\_\_\_\_

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. The Bible was written over a period of 2000 years, from the time of Moses to the last of the Apostles. The authors had different levels of education and experiences, yet it was the same Holy Spirit who guided them all. Can you see places where the character of the various authors shows through in the writing style? Can you see how the message stays the same though.
2. How does personal Bible study help us in our Christian growth?

## SUGGESTIONS FOR YOUR PERSONAL DEVOTIONAL LIFE

You should have a time every day to read the Bible and talk with God in prayer. Find a time and a place where you can be alone and quiet, if possible. A good idea is to begin reading at the Gospel of John. Read a chapter each day, taking time to think about the meaning of the verses and what they are saying to you personally. God wants to speak to you from His Word (the Bible). It is often helpful to have a notebook where you can write down thoughts or questions that come to you while reading.

After reading, you should then spend time praying. Begin by thanking Him for the verses you have just read. Thank Him for His love and His many blessings. Pray for your family and friends, and for those who are not yet saved. Pray for yourself and ask God to help you in your Christian life. Tell Him about any problems which you have and ask Him to help you to know Him better.

As you continue your devotional life day by day, you will become a stronger Christian.

Write the memory verse: John 15:10

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## The Spirit-Filled Life



**Romans 8** <sup>1</sup>Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup>because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup>For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, <sup>4</sup>in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

<sup>5</sup>Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. <sup>6</sup>The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; <sup>7</sup>the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. <sup>8</sup>Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

### Memorize: Ephesians 5:18

Being forgiven of your sins and having peace with God is a wonderful experience. However, there is something more that God wants to do for you. He wants to fill you with His Holy Spirit. When Jesus left this world to return to His Father, He promised that He would send the Holy Spirit to abide with us always. God wants to fulfill this promise in your life. This is sometimes called "the Spirit - filled life."

15. Read 1 Corinthians 12:11.
- Are there some Christians who have no gifts? \_\_\_\_\_.
16. Read Ephesians 4:11-13.
- What are the gifts to be used for? (verse 12) \_\_\_\_\_.

### MY PERSONAL PLAN FOR WITNESSING

17. Write the names of three people who you will pray for and witness to.  
\_\_\_\_\_.
18. Plan how to share your own story of what Christ has done in your life. Practise how to lead someone in a prayer to ask Jesus for forgiveness.

### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Considering your natural abilities, your spiritual gifts, and your training, what kind of service can you give to the Lord?
2. Are you directly responsible to God for leading some certain persons to Christ?
3. Who was responsible for leading you to Christ? What should you do, now that you also are a Christian?

Write the Memory Verse: Acts 1:8

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## Telling Others



**John 4** <sup>4</sup>Now he had to go through Samaria. <sup>5</sup>So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. <sup>7</sup>When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

<sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

<sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

<sup>11</sup>"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?" <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?"

<sup>13</sup>Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

<sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup>He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." <sup>17</sup>"I have no husband," she replied.

Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. <sup>18</sup>The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true." <sup>19</sup>"Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet."

<sup>20</sup>Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

<sup>21</sup>Jesus declared, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit

and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

<sup>25</sup>The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

<sup>26</sup>Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he."

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

<sup>28</sup>Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people,

<sup>29</sup>"Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?"

<sup>30</sup>They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

<sup>39</sup>Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did."

### Memorize: Acts 1:8

As the Samaritan woman went and told her friends about Jesus, so we are to tell others as well. In praying to His Father for the disciples, Jesus said, "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world." We are sent into the world to witness of Christ, so that the world might believe on Him. Witnessing is telling what Jesus has done for you -- how He has changed your life. We have something wonderful to share!

### THE WORLD NEEDS TO HEAR THE GOSPEL

1. Read Ephesians 2:12.
  - How does it describe those who have not been born again? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Read John 3:18.
  - What is the reason for being condemned? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Read Luke 19:10.
  - What was the purpose of Jesus in coming to the world? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Read John 3:16  
What must people have to do to be saved? \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Read John 14:6
  - Are there other ways to be saved besides believing on Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_.

### CHRISTIANS ARE TO BRING PEOPLE TO CHRIST

6. Read John 1:40-42.
  - After Andrew started following Jesus, what did he do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
7. Read John 1:42.
  - To whom did Andrew bring Simon? \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Read Luke 8:39. After Jesus healed the demon-possessed man,
  - Where did Jesus send him? \_\_\_\_\_.
  - What did Jesus tell him to do? \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Where else did he tell about Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Read Acts 1:8.
  - What does Jesus want us to do after we receive power? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
  - We will receive power to enable us to witness. Where does this power come from? \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Read John 4:7.
  - How many people did Jesus witness to? \_\_\_\_\_.
11. Read Acts 8:26-39.
  - To whom was Philip witnessing? \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Read Acts 5:42.
  - Where did the disciples teach and preach? \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-11.
  - Which gifts help in witnessing? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
14. Read Romans 12:3-8.
  - Which gifts are mentioned here. \_\_\_\_\_.

### THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES SPECIAL GIFTS FOR SERVICE