



CHURIST

New Life in

A Discipleship Workbook
Compiled by New Covenant Church
Manchester



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SALVATION

Study 1

Salvation means deliverance from sin and all its consequences. Review and meditate on these truths until you can say with confidence, "I know I am saved. I have been born into God's family as His child, I now have eternal life"

Salvation is a total package which redeems us from the effect of the fall of man from grace. This brings a new life which is obtainable by simply accepting the sacrifice of Jesus (God's son) on the cross. Although we are saved once, there is an ongoing work where we are enjoined to work out our salvation with fear and trembling.

Before we are saved, all our attempts at good deeds are deemed as filthy rags before God; only the redemptive work of Christ can wholly save us. However, after being saved, our lives should be characterised by a zealousness to do good works"

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures

...And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for He shall save his people from their sins. **Matthew 1:21 (KJV)**

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:8 (KJV)**

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. **Ephesians 2:8-9 (KJV)**

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. **Romans 10:13 (KJV)**

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. **John 1:12, 13 (KJV)**

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. **John 3:16 (KJV)**

STUDY GUIDE

1. In the above Scriptures, what do we learn about salvation, becoming a child of God and Eternal life?
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize John 3:16.

SALVATION

Study 1

1. Mention 3 consequences of sin.

2. How can one be born again or become a child of God?

3. Fill the gaps with the following words (take, clear, sin, sinners, died, perform miracle, call, resurrect, save)

a) "And she shall bring forth a son and thou shall call his name Jesus, for He shall _____ his people from their _____" (*Matthew 1:21*)

b) But God commands His love towards us, in that while we were yet _____, Christ _____ for us (Romans 5:8)

c) Write down John 3:16 and memorise it.

4. Who are those that are given the power to become the sons of God? (*John 1:12*)

5. Briefly explain what you understand by the word "Salvation".

ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

Study 2

Having assurance means being certain in mind with a freedom from doubt. One of Satan's tricks is to cause believers to doubt their salvation. Meditate on the following Scriptures to enable you to have victory over your doubts and to be well assured of your salvation.

Having made the most important decision of accepting Jesus as our Saviour, we are sometimes plagued by doubts about our salvation. Can we really be truly sure? The enemy usually likes to trick us by making us use our feelings or other indicators as the reference for our salvation. But we cannot trust our feelings and God wants us also to be assured of our salvation. Just as much as we came to the faith through the Word of God, we will receive assurance and reassurance also by the Scriptures which teach us that "...as we believe in our hearts and declare with our mouths..." (*Romans 10:9*).

Memorize more scriptures such as 1 John 5:13 and when doubt comes knocking on your door, answer with the Word of God.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins according to the riches of His grace. *Ephesians 1:7 (KJV)*

...who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. *1 Peter 1:5 (KJV)*

...For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ our Lord. *Romans 8:38, 39 (KJV)*

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them to me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. *John 10:28-29 (KJV)*

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. *1 John 5:13 (KJV)*

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:6(KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about assurance of salvation in the following verses?
Ephesians 1:7; Romans 8:38, 39; 1 John 5:13; 1 Peter 1:5; John 10:27-29 & Philippians 1:6
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Philippians 1:6.

ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

Study 2

1) What in your own understanding is assurance of salvation?

2) Mention one of the lies of the devil which you personally overcame with the Word of God. (for example, when the devil said "You cannot make it", you told him, 'with God nothing shall be impossible and that His thoughts towards you are of good (Luke 1:37; Jeremiah 29:11)

3 a) Complete this statement.

"Being confident of this very thing that He which hath begun a good work in you will

(Philippians 1:6)

b) In the above verse, what assurance has God given to us as Christians?

4) "For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor Angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ our Lord (*Roman 8: 38-39*).

Briefly summarise this statement in less than 10 words.

5) What is eternal life? (John 17:3)

LORDSHIP

Study 2

When we place our faith in Jesus Christ He becomes not only our Saviour but also our Sovereign Lord and Master. We are under new ownership. We can only enjoy our new life in Christ as we daily seek His will and follow Him in obedience.

When we accept Jesus into our lives, he is not only our Saviour but Lord and his lordship is supposed to be of everything. Although the prayer of repentance unto salvation may take a few minutes, allowing him to reign and rule in our lives practically is a job of a lifetime. The Christian life is essentially about making sure all of our lives is brought under the lordship of Jesus Christ.

As the Holy Spirit reveals areas of our lives that have not been brought under the Lordship of Jesus, in other words areas of our lives that are not a witness to the master, we will do well to change knowing that our allegiance to him is not only for salvation but to his kingdom, so that he can truly be lord of all.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. ***1 Corinthians 6:19, 20 (KJV)***

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. ***Matthew 22:37, 38 (KJV)***

Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him, and he shall bring it to pass. ***Psalms 37:4, 5 (KJV)***

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. ***Matthew 6:33 (KJV)***

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. ***John 15:5 (KJV)***

STUDY GUIDE

1. From the above passages, what do we learn about new ownership, Obedience, Priorities, & Benefit?
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Psalm 37:4, 5

LORDSHIP

Study 2

1) Fill in the gaps with the words in brackets.

When we place our _____ in Jesus Christ, He becomes not only our _____ but also our Sovereign _____ and master. (Self, God, friend, saviour, faith, Lord)

2) What does 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, say our body is?

4) "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added"

List 5 other things that you perceive shall be added unto us as believers.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

5) a) Fill in the gaps.

"I am the vine, ye are the _____: He that abides in me and I in him, the same brings forth much _____: for without _____ ye can do _____"

b) From the above statement in 5a, who is the Vine? _____

c) Where can this verse be found in the bible? _____

REVERENTIAL TRUST

Study 4

As you study the Scriptures you will discover the blessing of placing your full trust in God. The following Scriptures speak about the "fear" of the Lord and what will result if we do have a reverential respect for His authority.

As we study the Scriptures, we discover two types of fear; the fear of God and the fear of man. As believers, we are encouraged to have a reverential fear of God. This "fear of the Lord" is an Old Testament phrase which means reverential trust which is to hate evil. It also means "profound awe, intense awareness of God's absolute holiness and hatred of sin, as well as his omniscience and omnipresence, and living in light of the certainty of facing him at his future judgements seat". No wonder Solomon concludes that the whole duty of man is to fear God and keep his commandments (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

The secret of the LORD is with them, that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant. ***Psalms 25:14 (KJV)***

Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy. ***Psalms 33:18 (KJV)***

The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him. ***Psalms 34:7, 9 (KJV)***

He will fulfill the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them. ***Psalms 145:19 (KJV)***

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about the neck. My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not. ***Proverbs 1:7 and 9: 10 (KJV)***

By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honour, and life.

Proverbs 22:4 (KJV)

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about reverential trust in the following passages?
Psalms 25:14 Psalms 145:19; Psalms 33: 18 Proverbs 1:7 and 9: 10; Psalms 34:7, 9; Proverbs 22:4
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Psalms 34:7, 9.

REVERENTIAL TRUST

Study 4

1) Mention at least 2 benefits that we derive if we fear the Lord. Support your answers with at least one bible reference.

2) Explain in your own words, what you understand by a Reverential Trust / Respect for God's authority.

3) Fill in the gaps

The _____ of the Lord is the beginning of _____; But fools despise
_____ and instruction. For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chain
about the _____
my sons, if _____ entice thee, consent thou not. (Proverbs 1:7, 9 & 10).

4) Scripturally, how can we obtain riches, honour and life?

DISCIPLESHIP

Study 5

By definition, a disciple is a "Learner - a follower of Christ". A true disciple will recognize Christ as Lord daily, and be willing to put Him ahead of every pursuit in life.

The word "disciple" is very closely linked to discipline. It is impossible to be a disciple without some measure of discipline and learning. A disciple is thus a learner and learning could take place in various forms. This discipline involves making personal sacrifice, usually on a daily basis.

A disciple is also one who follows in the step of his master. It is thus a clarion call to follow diligently in the steps of our master and this entails doing all that the master has commanded such as evangelising.

When Jesus commissioned his disciples to go and preach, he instructed them to "make disciples". They were to reproduce themselves by going further to make more disciples. This same call has been extended to us today. However, we can teach what we know but can only reproduce who we are.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

For whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. **Luke 14:27 (KJV)**

Herein is my father glorified that ye bear much fruit. **John 15:8 (KJV)**

By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. **John 13:35 (KJV)**

If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed. **John 8:31 (KJ.V)**

This disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his Lord. **Matthew 10:24 (KJV)**

STUDYGUIDE

1. What do we learn about discipleship in the following passages?
Luke 14:27, Luke 14:33 John 15:8 John 13:35 John 8:31.

2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.

3. Memorize Luke: 14:27.

DISCIPLESHIP

Study 5

1) Define briefly in your words 'who' a disciple is.

2) What will a true disciple recognise?

3) Write down a bible passage that best illustrates the topic "DISCIPLESHIP".

4) Can a disciple be above his master? Yes/No
Support your answer.

5) Give an example of a disciple/ master situation or circumstance in our present day Christian life.

WITNESS

Study 6

When we become children of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, we become responsible to tell others about Christ. Someone has said that John 3:16 is the gospel in a "nutshell". Memorize the verse and be prepared to share your faith with others.

Have you ever had good news that you found difficult to share? You possibly looked for an excuse to share it with everyone you knew. Sharing the good news about Christ is witnessing. When we become children of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, we become responsible to tell others. This does not need to be a lengthy sermon. Rather it could be as simple as sharing our testimony or using a verse. "John 3:16" is the gospel in a "nutshell". This verse can be memorized and used as a platform to share your faith with others. After a life changing encounter with Jesus, the Samaritan woman at the well went into her community to witness by sharing her own story and the whole city got saved.

Apart from verbally witnessing, a life of godliness and joy can serve as a witness especially in the home and workplace and thus provide a platform for further witnessing. We can also invite others to church programs both in formal and informal settings; this would expose them to the love of God shared in Christian communities which may serve as another source of witnessing.

We are all called to witness. It is not something for a selected few. Jesus's commandment is that we should go into all the world, and give freely as we have received.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures:

And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. **Matthew 4:19 (KJV)**

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. **Matthew 5:16 (KJV)**

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: **1 Peter 3:15 (KJV)**

For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard. And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. **Acts 4:20; 16:31 (KJV)**

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witness... **Acts 1:8 (KJV)**

Now then we are ambassadors for Christ... **2 Corinthians 5:20 (KJV)**

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about our responsibility as 'a witness' in the following passages?
Matthew 4:19; Matthew 5:16; 1 Peter 3:15; Acts 1:8; Acts 4:20; 16:31
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize 1 Peter 3:15.

WITNESS

Study 6

1) What does John 3:16 say?

2) How can we be a witness of the gospel?

3a) Why do we need to be a witness of the gospel?

b) Give a memory verse to support your answer in 3a above

4) Fill in the gaps.

But ye shall receive power, after that the _____ is come upon you and ye shall be _____ (Act 1:8) – {ambassadors, pastors, children, witness, Holy Ghost, power house, power}

5) When we become children of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, we become responsible to tell others about Christ.

Use one key word to summarise this statement:

THE SCRIPTURES

Study 7

To help us glorify God by our lives and be effective witnesses, we need to know and obey the Scriptures. Make it your habit to daily memorize and meditate on the Scriptures.

The word "Scriptures" refer to the Bible which includes both the Old and New Testament which contains 66 books and was written over a period of 1,600 years. The Old Testament was written before Jesus came and the New Testament was written after he came. Some of the books of the Bible were letters while others were songs, poems but they contain a variety of messages which the Holy Spirit caused to be recorded so that we can learn from them. It was inspired by the Holy Spirit and there is power in the Scriptures (*2 Timothy 3:16, Heb. 4:12*). A young boy in Africa overcame a witchdoctor's attack by God's word.

The Bible is also full of real stories of people who made mistakes, had struggles like us but who were still used by God, thus serving as a source of encouragement. There are several translations OF THE BIBLE and we can choose the one we can easily relate to. But it is important that we read it, study it and memorize some of it. Even in the Old Testament, God required that the Scriptures should be read on a daily basis (Joshua 1:8) and admonished the parents to teach it to their children at home, when travelling, in short to incorporate it into their daily lives (Deuteronomy 6:7;11:9)

The benefits of the Scriptures are innumerable and Paul summarizes it by telling Timothy that it is for the equipping of the man of God unto righteousness (2 Tim 3:16). It is the manual for our Christian walk (Colossians 3:16, Romans 12:2 The Message) and also the sword of the spirit (Ephesians 6:17).

Circle keywords or phrases in the following Scriptures.

But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. *Psalms 1:2, 3 (KJV)*

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. *Psalms 119:105 (KJV)*

The entrance of thy words giveth light: it giveth understanding unto the simple. *Psalms 119:130 (KJV)*

Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them. *Psalms 119:165 (KJV)*

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. *2 Timothy 3:15, 16 (KJV)*

But be ye doers, of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. *James 1:22 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about the value of the scriptures in the following passages?
Psalms 1:2, Psalms 119:165, Psalms 119:105, 2 Timothy 3:15, 119:130, James 1:22

2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.

3. Memorize James 1:22.

THE SCRIPTURES

Study 7

1) What do we need to do to be an effective witness?

2) "And that from a child thou hath known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. **2 Timothy 3:15-16 (KJV)**

Answer the following questions in relation to the above memory verse or scripture.

a) What are the values of scripture?

b) How can a person be saved?

c) How was the bible written?

d) Write out 4 keywords with reference to the theme.

3) Are the following true or false? (Answer YES or NO)

a) The word of God is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path (Psalm 119:105) YES/NO

b) Great sorrow have they which love thy law: and nothing shall help them (Psalm 119:165) YES/NO

c) The entrance of the word of God gives light; it gives understanding unto the learned (Psalm 119:130) YES/NO

4) Fill in the gap with the following: (word, joy, delight, wither, recite, meditate, memorise, prosper, shine, law, dry, commandment)

'But his _____ is in the _____ of the Lord, and in his law doth he _____ day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that brings forth his fruits in his season; his leaf also shall not _____; and whatsoever he doeth shall _____'

OBEDIENCE

Study 8

God gave us His Word not only to increase our knowledge but to change our lives. It is only as we apply truth to our lives i.e. by obeying the Scripture, that there will be any significant changes made.

Right from an early age, we learn in life the importance of obeying our parents and teachers. This prepares us for later obedience to our bosses and the laws of society. Obedience makes us stop at a red traffic light and hopefully not park wrongfully in a disabled car parking space. Sometimes we simply obey so as to avoid spanking, car park fines or trouble with the authority but as we mature as Christians, God expects our obedience to be because we love him. (*John 14:15*).

It is this love for God and trust in the love he has for us that should be the motivating factor for our obedience. Following the closing words of a testimony of a young Christian in a D.L. Moody crusade in 1887, John Simms the hymn writer developed the lyrics of the famous hymn "trust and obey" and the evidence of our trust in God is obedience to his instructions. It is God's will that we live in a state of unhindered obedience so that we can reap its numerous benefits (*Isaiah 1:19*).

Circle the key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

And why call you me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? *Luke 6:46 (KJV)*

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. *Ecclesiastes 12:13 (KJV)*

And thou shall love the Lord thy God with all your heart, and with all your might. And these words, which I command you this day, shall be in your heart. *Deuteronomy 6: 5, 6 (KJV)*

He that has my commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves me: and he that loves me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him and will manifest myself to him. *John 14:21.*

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. *1John5:3 (KJV)*

He that says, I know him, and keeps not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. *1 John 2:4(KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about obedience in the following verses?
Luke 6:46, Ecclesiastes 12:13, Deuteronomy 6:5,6, John 14:21, 1John 5:3, John 2:4
2. Do a verse study on one of the above scriptures.
3. Memorize Deuteronomy 6:5,6

OBEDIENCE

Study 8

1) Complete the statements:

a) To obey _____

b) And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and _____

2) What is the consequence of disobedience?

Give an example of an important person or a set of people who disobeyed in the bible and make references by quoting relevant scriptures.

3) Why did God give us His word?

4) How can we bring significant change(s) to our lives?

5) Fill in the gaps using the word(s) in the bracket:

a) "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear _____, and keep his _____: for this is the whole duty of man" *Eccl. 12:13*. (God, me, Jesus, God, word, commandment)

b) For this is the _____ of God, that we keep His commandments: and His _____ are not grievous" – *1 John 5:3*. (Love, faith, commandments, spirit, hope)

SATAN THE TEMPTER

Study 9

From the day you received Jesus Christ as Saviour, you entered into a spiritual warfare. Your enemy is the devil and he will do everything in his power to make you a discouraged, doubting, defeated Christian. Be aware of his wiles and trust in the Lord for victory.

From the very time we begin our Christian walk, there is a battle that rages within our souls. Our enemy, the devil tries to lure us from the path of life by bringing temptations, using our own desires (James 1:14). These temptations could be in diverse forms for different people with the aim of making us fall into it and become discouraged, with a sense of defeat and doubt. Temptations by themselves are not sin and no one is exempt from temptation as we see even Jesus being tempted of the devil. The temptations of Jesus (Matthew 4:1-11) is an eye opener to the three broad categories of temptations; the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life (1 John 2:16). This was also the pattern in the Garden of Eden with Eve (Gen 3:6).

Unlike Adam and Eve who fell because they used their own knowledge, Jesus (second Adam) shows us the pattern for victory over temptation which is knowledge of the Word of God and being filled with the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit delights to help us but we should also remove ourselves as much as possible from environments that could lead us into temptation. (Give an example of this).

Circle key word or phrases in the following Scriptures.

And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, Being forty days tempted of the devil. *Luke 4:1, 2a (KJV)*

Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. *Matthew 26:41 (KJV)*

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. *1 Peter 5:8 (KJV)*

Submit yourself therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. *James 4:7 (KJV)*

Put on the whole armour of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. *Ephesians 6:11 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about Satan and temptation in the following verses?
Luke 4:1-2; 1 Peter 5:8; Luke 22:31-32; James 4:7; Matthew 26:41; Ephesians 6:11
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Matthew 26:41.

SATAN THE TEMPTER

Study 9

1a) Answer YES or NO and Support your answer with a brief statement.

As soon as we get born again, Satan can no longer tempt us. (YES/NO)

b) What is the mission of the devil in the world? (*1Peter 5:8; John 10:10*);

c) How do we as believers overcome the wiles of the devil? Support your answer with scriptural references.

2) Satan is a liar. Mention some of his lies.

3) What is a spiritual warfare? Support your answer with a verse from the Bible.

4) What do we do to avoid falling into temptation?

5) If we are full of the Holy Spirit, can we still be tempted (YES /NO).

Give an example of someone you know in the scripture, who was tempted of the devil though being full of the Holy Spirit; how did he overcome the temptation?

VICTORY

Study 10

As you will learn in the following Scriptures, all believers are subject to temptation. Victory can be yours if you use the resources available.

Have you ever watched a replayed football match which your team won? There is a difference as you watch knowing that no matter how many goals the opponents scored initially, your team eventually won. The tension and anxiety that usually accompany a live match is aborted and that is how God wants us to live.

It is God's desire that we his children walk in victory in all areas of our lives. Although this victory has been won on the Cross by Jesus, we daily have to work it out in our lives cooperating with the Spirit of God. Battles have to be fought for victory to be won, but we can fight from the standpoint of assured victory no matter what we face.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may able to bear it.
1 Corinthians 10:13 (KJV)

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.
1 John 4:4 (KJV)

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandment: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.
1 John 5:3, 4(KJV)

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.
Galatians 5:16 (KJV)

Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee.
Psalms 119:11 (KJV)

Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the Saviour of His knowledge by us in every place.
2 Corinthians 2:14.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about victory in the following verses?
1 Corinthians 10:13; Galatians 5:16; 1 John 4:4; Psalms 119:11; 1 John 5:3, 4
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Psalms 119:11

VICTORY

Study 10

1) As believers, how can we have victory over temptation?

2a) What do you understand by the term 'victory over temptation' according to the bible?

b) Write a memory verse to support your answer in (2a).

3) What makes a believer victorious?

4a) Complete the statement;

This I say then, _____ in the spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the _____ *Galatians 5:16.*

b) Fill in the gaps with the following suitable words in bracket (Satan, commandments, world, lust, God, Holy Spirit, faith, flesh, sin, law)

"For this is the love of _____, that we keep his _____, and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcomes the _____ and this is the victory that overcomes the world even our _____ (*1John 5:3*)

5) There hath no temptation taken you but such is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it? *1Corinthians 11:13.*

Explain briefly in your own words what you understand by the above statement?

GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Study 11

Although it is God's desire that every believer lives a victorious Christian life, He knows that there will be times when they will yield to sin and temptation. In His graciousness He has provided a way for us, through confession, to be forgiven and cleansed from all sin.

Forgiveness means to grant pardon for or remission of (an offense, debt). It is an act of overlooking the wrong or offence committed against God or man. Nothing can be as assuring and refreshing as for a remorseful offender to know he has been truly forgiven by the one he has offended. This is what God delights to do anytime a sinner repents (*Micah 7:18; Isa. 1:18*).

God, in addition to confession requires us to forgive others to facilitate His act of forgiveness (Matthew 6:15). Apparently God's heart is so large that He is ever ready to forgive anyone, no matter the dimension of his offence. God's forgiveness relatively fosters our continued relationship with God; hence should be coveted at all times.

Unlike man's forgiveness, God's forgiveness is whole and he can completely forget and remember our sins no more (Hebrews 8:12). Neither is he looking for a way to punish us. God's forgiveness however does not exclude us from facing the consequences of our sins sometimes. Although he has forgiven us, we may reap the harvest of seeds we may have wrongfully sown in the past. However we can trust God's mercy to help us.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. *1John 2:1 (KJV)*

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:15 (KJV)*

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but who so confesseth and forsake them shall have mercy. *Proverbs 28:13 (KJV)*

If we confess our sins; He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1John 1:9 (KJV)*

I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgression unto the Lord; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. *Psalms 32:5 (KJV)*

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us. *Psalms 103:12 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about forgiveness in the following verses?
1 John 2:1; John 1:9; Hebrews 4:15,16; Psalm 32:5; Proverbs 28:13; Psalm 103:12
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize 1 John 1:9.

GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Study 11

1) What is forgiveness?

2) What event brought God's forgiveness?

3a) Give examples of the time in your Christian life when you had to forgive someone

b) Did you forgive and forget or did you just forgive only?

c) Distinguish between these two words – Forgive & forget:

4) Do you think it is easy to forgive and forget people who have offended or sinned against us? Support your answer with a bible reference.

5) What do we need to do if we want God to forgive us? Support your answer with a verse from the bible.

PRAYER

Study 12

Prayer is your lifeline to God. Form the habit of starting each day with prayer, and then learn to pray throughout the day as the bible encourages us to pray without ceasing. (1Thessalonians 5:17).

Prayer is simply talking to God. This is simply in the same way we might talk to someone we really love. Prayer could take several forms and could sometimes be unuttered, simply a heart's sincere desire. We should not be intimidated by the amount of time others spend in prayer rather we should ensure that a daily consistent prayer life is our goal and this will eventually grow with time.

We could use a simple acronym **ACTS** to form a pattern for our prayers where **A** means adoration, **C** for confession of sins, **T** for Thanksgiving while **S** stands for supplication and intercession.

But it is very important to acknowledge the fact that it is a two way conversation hence after talking to God, we should be prepared to listen to him .It may not be one loud clear voice that we might hear but just a thought sometimes might be God speaking to us or even a line of a chorus or a verse from the Bible.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. *John 16:24 (KJV)*

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: *Matthew 7:7 (KJV)*

Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not. *Jeremiah 33:33 (KJV)*

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not and it shall be given him. *James 1:5 (KJV)*

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desire of him. *1John5:14, 15 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about prayer in the following verses?
John 16:24; Ephesians 3:20; Matthew 7:7; James 1:5; Jeremiah 33:3; 1 John5:14-15
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures
3. Memorize John 16:24.

PRAYER

Study 12

1) What is prayer?

2) Write out the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13):

[illegible]

3) Quote a memory verse, which gives assurance that if we ask in prayer, we shall be given.

4) List the different types of prayer you know about and support your answer with bible verses.

5) "If any lack wisdom", what does he or she need to do?

HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

Study 13

Does God hear and answer prayer? The answer is Yes, He hears and answers, though His answer may not correspond to what we are expecting as His thoughts are not our thoughts, neither are our ways His ways (Isaiah 55:8). Sometimes the answer is a long time coming – requiring patience. There are however certain hindrances to prayer which we may need to be aware.

There is a joy that comes from answered prayers that encourages us to pray the more. However there are times we do not experience this joy due to blocks on the path of prayer. Sometimes this can be done by ourselves inadvertently, hence the need to look at some of these hindrances so as to stop us from experiencing frustration.

Some of these hindrances include unbelief (James 1:6-8), unforgiveness (*Mark 11:25-26*), covetousness (*James 4:3*), pride (*1 Peter 5:5*) or interestingly enough, not asking (*James 4:2*). **Mention others.**

As these hindrances are recognized and removed, the felicity of answered prayers will be ours.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures

If I regard iniquity (sin) in my heart, the Lord will not hear me. *Psalm 66:18 (KJV)*

Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we received of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.
1 John 3:21-22 (KJV)

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you.
John 15:7 (KJV)

*Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and received not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lust. *James 4:2-3 (KJV)*

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.
2 Chronicles 7:14 (KJV)

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about hindrances to prayer in the following verses?
Psalm 66:18; John 15:7; James 4:2; 1 John 3:21-22, James 1:6, 7, 2 Chronicles 7:14
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize James 4:2-3.

HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

Study 13

1) Does God always answer prayer? (YES/NO) Justify your answer with a brief comment:

2) List 4 hindrances to answered prayers:

3) Why should we as Christians need to pray?

4) Fill the gaps with the words in brackets.

“Beloved, if our hearts condemn us not, then have we _____ towards God.
And whatsoever we _____, we receive of Him, because we keep His
_____, and do those things that are pleasing in His _____

(Assurance, confidence, demand, ask, give, commandments, seek receive, love, sight, conscience, spirit)

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Study 14

As you will note in the Scriptures, taking time for praise and thanksgiving pleases God. On some occasion, we ought to take all our prayer time to tell God how much we appreciate all that He is doing for us.

Someone once said that another way of changing the atmosphere of a room without painting it is to fill it with praise. This is because God delights in praise and inhabits it. In other words, another residential address for God is praise (*Psalms 22:3*). Taking time to praise God and worship God is a proof of our faith. It is the prescribed way to enter into his presence (*Psalms 100:4*). It is also evidence that we are not taking his many blessing in our lives for granted. An attitude of gratitude drives away heaviness and depression and is a sure antidote to murmuring. When we praise God, we thank him for what he has done and when we worship, we appreciate God for who he is.

Praising God should not be confined only to times of praise and worship sessions in church or dependent on music or melody. We can express our praise to God also by reading Psalms or even making our own Psalms which can be a journal where we record our testimonies so that we can remember to thank God specifically. This also serves as reminders of the faithfulness of God and will help us trust him in times of waiting. As we mature in our faith, our praise and thanksgiving will no longer be dependent on our emotions or circumstances (*Psalms 34:1*).

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God. *Psalms 50:23 (KJV)*

I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving. This also shall please the LORD better than an ox or bullock that hath horns and hoofs. *Psalms 69:30, 31 (KJV)*

Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good for his mercy endureth. *Psalms 106:1(KJV)*

Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children. *Psalms 107:8 (KJV)*

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. *Philippians 4:6(KJV)*

Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks to God in Christ Jesus concerning you. *1Thessalonians 5:16-18(KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about praise and thanksgiving in the following verses?
Psalms 50:23 Psalms 69:30-31 Psalms 107:8

2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.

3. Memorize 1Thessalonians 5:16-18.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Study 14

1) What pleases God most?

2a) Why do we as believers have to praise God?

b) Name two things that you need to be thankful to God for?

3) What are we doing when we give praises to God? Support your answer with some bible verses.

4) When do we need to thank God?

5) Complete the sentence

Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In _____, give _____ to God in Christ Jesus concerning you. (*1Thessalonians 5:16-18*)

HOLY SPIRIT - *HIS INDWELLING*

Study 15

God has not left us helpless and alone in the world. He indwells us by His Spirit, who daily ministers to our needs.

The Holy Spirit is the 3rd person in the Godhead, the other two being God the Father and God, the Son, Jesus Christ. These are usually referred to as the "Trinity" and although the word "Trinity" does not appear in the Bible, there are several scriptures that attest to its existence (*Matthew 3:16-18*).

It is indeed a mystery that the three are one. When Jesus was on earth, he promised his disciples the Holy Spirit and advised them to wait in Jerusalem for this gift. He referred to the Holy Spirit as a "Comforter" who would remind us of all things. Although there are several typologies of the Spirit such as "fire", "wind" or "dove", the Holy Spirit is a person and we can have a relationship with him. We are living in the dispensation of the Holy Spirit and his works are manifest on earth but he also dwells in us enabling us with the strength to live the Christian life.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit. *John 3:8 (KJV)*

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? *1Corinthians 3:16 (KJV)*

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. *Romans 8:16, 17(KJV)*

For as many as are led by the spirit of God, they are the sons of God. *Romans 8:14 (KJV)*

*For the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. *John 14:26(KJV)*

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit Himself maketh intercession for us with groaning which cannot be uttered. *Romans 8:26 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about the Holy Spirit in the following verses?
John 3:8; Romans 8:14; 1 Corinthians 3:16; John 14:26; Romans 8:16, 17.

2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.

3. Memorize John 14:26.

HOLY SPIRIT - *HIS INDWELLING*

Study 15

1a) Explain what you understand by the indwelling of God by His Holy Spirit?

b) From our study on Holy Spirit – His indwelling, Name 5 things the Holy Spirit can accomplish through us as believers.

2a) Circle the correct answer:

Where does the Holy Spirit live or dwell? (In us, in the air, in the church, over water, in heaven)

b) Holy Spirit is a member of the trinity – *Yes/No*

c) Explain briefly what you understand by the phrase ‘Unity in Trinity’?

3. Answer *YES* or *NO*

a) Jesus Christ the Son, God the Father and the Holy Spirit are all one (*YES/NO*)

b) God the father and the Holy Spirit are not equal (*YES/NO*)

c) Only Jesus Christ can perform miracles (*YES/NO*)

4) Underline only one best correct answer.

Who does the bible refer to as the Comforter? (God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, Evangelist) Who does the bible refer to as the Word of God (God the Father, Jesus Christ, The Holy Spirit, Pastors)

Who is at the right hand of the Father interceding for the Church? (Believers, Jesus Christ, Satan, Holy Spirit)

5) “God has not left us helpless and alone in the world”

a) What do you understand by this statement?

b) Who has God sent to be with us believers as our helper?

HOLY SPIRIT - *HIS WORKS*

Study 16

God indwells us by His Spirit who will, if we allow Him to control our lives, give us a dynamic (vibrant, energetic and self-motivated) life and makes us more like Jesus each day.

When we become born again, the Holy Spirit indwells us. It is through the work of the Holy Spirit and the conviction he brings that make us decide to accept the gospel. He then continues to indwell us and work out changes in our lives so that we bear fruit. He is not just a force but a person, in short the third person in the Trinity. Like every other person, he has feelings, he can be grieved, hurt, insulted. He can also feel when we likewise have these same emotions and one of his jobs is to comfort us and remind us of things that he has spoken about.

As we develop a more intimate relationship with him, we will be more likely filled over and over again with the Spirit as Paul enjoins that we should be drunk in the Spirit and not with wine.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. *Acts 4:31(KJV)*

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and of love, and of a sound mind. *2Timothy 1:7(KJV)*

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. *Galatians 5:22-23(KJV)*

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. *2 Corinthians 3:18 (KJV)*

If we live in the spirit, let us also walk in the spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another. *Galatians 5:25(KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about the Holy Spirit in the following verses?
Ephesians 5:18; Galatians 5:22-23; Acts 4:31; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 2 Timothy 1:7, Galatians 5:25-26
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Galatians 5:22-23

HOLY SPIRIT - *HIS WORKS*

Study 16

1. How does God indwell a believer?

2. If we allow God to live in us,

a) What does He give us?

b) What does He make us?

3. Name the 9 fruits of the Spirit as stated in Galatians 5: 22-23

Fill in the gaps

Gal 5:25 "If we live in _____ let us also _____ in the spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain _____, provoking one another, _____, one another"

5. What do we learn about the Holy Spirit in the following verses?

a) Act 4:31

b) Ephesians 5:18

GUIDANCE

Study 17

Do you want to save a lot of heartache, wasted time, dead-end roads and wrong turns in your Christian life? Then let God direct your daily path. He sees things from a different perspective.

God delights to guide us (Psalms 32:8). Sometimes we could experience frustration by claiming we do not receive guidance but God has made provision for guidance primarily by the Scriptures. Guidance could also take other forms such as of dreams, counsel, and circumstances. **Mention others.**

To be guided by God, it is necessary that we first of all follow already laid down principles as depicted by the Scriptures which we must read regularly. These principles are not subject to our feelings or emotions and require a full commitment to receiving the entire Bible as the Word of God (2 Tim 3:16). We should use the Scriptures as the litmus test to every form of guidance we receive, like the Berean Christians who still searched the Scriptures after Apostle Paul preached. (*Acts 17:11*). We must also have an attitude of trust and be ready to obey, demonstrating humility as it is only the meek he will teach his way (*Psalms 25:9*). But with every form of guidance God gives us, there is a need for us to walk in the light we have already received. God will not give us step 2 if step 1 has not yet been done and the guidance of God is usually in steps. No wonder the Scriptures says the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord (*Psalms 37:23*) and the Word is a lamp unto my feet (*Psalms 119:105*). A lamp usually shows just enough light for the next step. We walk by faith as we take one step after the other as God leads and guides us to his purpose and our destiny.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

Show me thy ways O LORD; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my Salvation; on thee do I wait all the day. *Psalms 25:4-5 (KJV)*

The meek will he guide in judgment', and the meek will he teach his way. *Psalms 25:9 (KJV)*

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the ways which thou shall go: I will guide thee with mine eye. *Psalms 32; 8(KJV)*

Cause me to hear thy loving kindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee. *Psalms 143:8 (KJV)*

*Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. *Proverbs 3:5, 6(KJV)*

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. *Romans 8:14(KJV)*

And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. *Isaiah 58:11 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about guidance in the following verses?
Psalms 25:4-5; Psalms 143:8; Psalms 25:9; Proverbs 3:5-6; Psalms 32:8 Romans 8:14; Isaiah 58:11
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Proverbs 3:5-6.

GUIDANCE

Study 17

1. How can we save ourselves from the worries of life, dead ends and time wasting efforts?

2. “The meek will he guide in judgment; and the meek will he teach his way” *Psalms.25: 9*
Explain in your own words, what you understand by this verse?

3. How does God talk to you as an individual? Mention instances when you know you heard God talk to you and you were led by the Spirit of God. Justify your answers with scriptures from the bible.

4. Complete this memory verse from Isaiah 58:11’

“And the Lord shall guide thee continually and satisfy thy soul in drought and make fat thy bones and thou shall be like

5. Write out a memory verse that can support the theme of this study – “Guidance”

ADVERSITY

Study 18

In many respects, the Christian life is a life of testing. God, through adverse situations, purifies and takes out of our lives those things that are not pleasing to Him. Trials are to be expected but should never be viewed as punishment because the trial of our faith produces patience.

Adversity connotes amongst several things calamity, misfortune and trouble. The Bible says in this world we shall have trouble (**John 16:33**). This is not brought by God but usually as a result of the fall due to the free choice of man. We also have an enemy, the devil who is seeking our downfall. Adversity usually serves as a purifier and helps us to be more conformed into the image of God's son with increasing dependence on God (**Job 23:10**). Just as God causes his rain to fall on both the righteous and the unrighteous (Matthew 5:45), both Christians and non Christian alike face challenges in this world. A non Christian will not only face his troubles by himself but also face a godless and damnable eternity.

However, the blessing of being a Christian is that you are not in it alone. When Jesus told his disciples to go to the other side, there arose a storm, but because Jesus was with them in the boat, they could call on him and he calmed the storm (**Mk 4:35-41**). God's grace is sufficient for everything we go through (**2 Corinthians 12:9**) and he will not allow us to be tried or go through adversity longer than necessary. We see this in the life of Joseph. (**Psalms 105:17-22**).

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into diverse temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. **James 1:2-4(KJV)**

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience, and patience, experience; and experience, hope. **Romans 5:3, 4(KJV)**

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. **Romans 8:28 (KJV)**

The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. **Job 1:2b and 23:10 (KJV)**

We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed. **2 Corinthians 4:8, 9 (KJV)**

For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. **2 Corinthians 4:16, 17 (KJV)**

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about adversity in the following verses?

James 1:2-4; Romans 8:28; 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 Romans 5:3-4; Job 1: 2b; 23:10; 2 Corinthians 4:16-17

2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.

3. Memorize Romans 8:28

ADVERSITY

Study 18

1. As born again Christians, should trials still come our way? (YES/NO)

Support your answer with a brief comment and bible references.

2. How are we supposed to view trials and challenges?

3. What do we derive when we allow patience to have her perfect work?

4. Fill in the gaps with the following words (some, the, all, better, best, good, enjoy, love, seek, way, purpose, will, according, in).

“And we know that _____ things work together for _____ to them that
_____ God to them who are called _____ to his _____ (Roman 8:28)

5. “We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed, we are perplexed but not in despair, persecuted, but not forsaken, cast down, but not destroyed” *2 Corinthians 4:8-9*.

Discuss.

CHASTENING

Study 19

To chasten means to correct or to discipline. There are times when God because of His love for us, must bring a measure of discipline into our lives.

As children, we were corrected by our earthly parents and parent figures so that we can become mature and responsible adults. This was hardly ever pleasant (*Hebrews 12:11*) but it was a proof that they loved us and we were part of the family (*Hebrews 12:9-10*). Likewise also, God our heavenly father because of His love for us must bring a measure of discipline into our lives (*Hebrews 12:5-6*). God's discipline should be welcomed by His children for it is a sign that we belong to His family (*Hebrews 12:7-8*).

God uses various means to correct His children. He sometimes uses Scriptures (*2 Tim3:16*) or even instructive experiences to chasten His people. We see the latter depicted in his dealing with the Israelites all the way in the wilderness for forty years after they left Egypt to the promised land of Canaan. He humbled and tested them, causing them to hunger and thirst to know what was in their hearts (*Deuteronomy 8:2; Psalms 106:9*). He wanted them to live by His Word and not by physical things.

As Christians, we have also left the spiritual Egypt of sin and are on our way to heaven, the Promised Land. The criteria for entry is holiness which befits God's purpose for discipline which is given so that we might share in his holiness (*Hebrews 12:10*). Believers should thus respectfully submit to His discipline.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty. *Job.5:17(KJV)*

Blessed is the man who thou chastenest, O Lord, and teachest him out of thy law. *Psalms 94:12 (KJV)*

My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every one whom he received. *Hebrews 12:5- 6 (KJV)*

For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world. *1 Corinthians 11:31, 32 (KJV)*

Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word. I know, O Lord, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulness has afflicted me. *Psalms 119:67, 75(KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about discipline (chastening) in the following verses:
Job 5:17; Hebrews 12: 5-6; Psalm 94:12; 1 Corinthians 11:31- 32, Proverbs 3:11-12; Psalm 119: 67, 75
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize 1 Corinthians 11:31- 32

CHASTENING

Study 19

1. What is Chastening?

2. a) How does God chasten us as believers?

b) Why does God sometimes need to chasten us?

3. Are we condemned of the world, when chastened of the Lord? (YES/NO) Support your answer with scriptural references

4. "Blessed is the man who thou chastens, O Lord, and teaches him out of thy law" (*Ps 94:12*)

What do you understand by this statement or memory verse?

SUFFERING

Study 20

The apostle Paul had a permanent infirmity which he prayed earnestly that the Lord should take away, but He said His grace is sufficient unto him. Paul suffered from beatings and imprisonment. Job had boils from head to foot. Stephen gave his life for the faith. We too can expect suffering in this life. However we should not view suffering as punishment.

Although suffering is universal, it presents in many forms to different people. Sometimes we may suffer directly as a consequence of our actions or inactions or that of others but there are also some suffering that comes through no fault of ours. It is just life. Whatever may be the cause of our suffering, it is essential that we do not waste the experience but gain from our pain. God is able to work well through our sufferings and the comfort which we receive can be shared with others to encourage them.

Circle key word or phrases in the following Scriptures.

For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on Him, but also to suffer for his sake.
Philippians 1:29 (KJV)

That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death. ***Philippians 3:10 (KJV)***

For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.
1 Peter 4:12,13 (KJV)

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ***Romans 8:18 (KJV)***

But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, establish, strengthen, settle you. ***1 Peter 5:10 (KJV)***

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about suffering in the following verses?
Philippians 1:29; 1 Peter 4:12-13; Philippians 3:10; Romans 8: 18; 1 Peter 2:20-21; 1 Peter 5: 10
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Romans 8:18.

SUFFERING

Study 20

1. Mention 2 good examples of people in the scripture who had suffered in one way or the other for their faith and belief in God.

2. With reference to question 1 above, briefly summarize the suffering of one of the people you have mentioned and indicate God's intervention is sustaining them through the suffering or delivering them from it.

3.a) Can we as Christians expect suffering in this life? (YES/NO)

If you answer Yes to (a), mention what kinds of suffering can a believer expect to encounter?

c) How can we differentiate a suffering of this present age from an affliction of the devil (use scriptural references to substantiate your answer)

4. "For I reckon that the suffering of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Roman 8:18) Briefly explain what you understand by this verse.

5a. Answer **YES or NO** to the following;

What does God expect us as human beings to do with His Son, Jesus Christ?

Believe in Him _____	Suffer for His sake _____
Accept Him _____	Betray Him _____
Persecute Him _____	Deny Him _____

5b) Briefly write a short bible story of any of the above you answered NO to in 5a.

SELF DENIAL

Study 21

As Christians, we have mainly two natures. To grow in Christ, we must learn to say "No" to the flesh, the old nature, and say "Yes" to Christ and the Holy Spirit who lives within us.

The Christian walk is one of self-denial where we are continuously called to deny ourselves to please the Lord. This is because we have two natures, the human nature (the flesh) and the new born nature of the Spirit. These two are constantly at war with each other. The more we succumb to one, the lesser the power of the other. The extent to which we are used of God will depend on the yield of our surrender (our yes to the Spirit), which God desires to be total.

This clarion call to self-denial is a daily one, and the battle continues as long as we are on this side of eternity. This is not always easy or pleasant. God has made provisions through the Holy Spirit that indwells us to empower us to say "No" to the persistent pressure of the flesh and "yes" to Christ and the Holy Spirit that indwells us.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lived in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. **Galatians 2:20(KJV)**

Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul. **1Peter 2:11 (KJV)**

That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lust; and that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. **Ephesians 4:22, 24 (KJV)**

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof. **Romans 13:14 (KJV)**

*And He said to them all, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow me. **Luke 9:23 (KJV)**

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: let that by any means. When I have preached to others, I myself should be a cast away. **1 Corinthians 9:27 (KJV)**

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about self-denial in the following verses?

Galatians 2:20 Romans 13:14 1 Peter 2:11 Luke 9:23 Ephesians 4:22-24; 1 Corinthians 9:27

2. Do a verse study on the one of the above Scriptures.

3. Memorize Luke 9:23.

SELF DENIAL

Study 21

1. Complete the sentence.

In order for us to grow in Christ, we must learn to say NO to _____ YES to _____

2. "That ye put off concerning the former conversation, the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lust; And that ye put on the new man which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness
(*Ephesians 4:22-24*)

a) Distinguish between the two underlined keywords (old man & new man).

b) Give some examples to support your answer

3. "And He said to them all, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow me " *Luke 9:23*

Explain in your own words what you understand by the statement.

4. Give 5 examples of fleshy lusts.

5. Man is a spirit, living in a body and having a soul. Can you arrange these 3 words in accordance to good Christian living? Rating 1 as the one we should pay much attention on and 3 as least.

Body _____
Soul _____
Spirit _____

GENEROSITY

Study 22

The Bible says, "God loves a cheerful giver," We should give for no other reason than that. The Scriptures below will give you many more reasons for giving generously.

According to the Oxford Dictionary, Generosity is the quality of being kind and generous. To be generous means showing a readiness to give more of something, especially money than is necessary. Contrary to popular opinion, we are not depleted by giving, rather we are increased (*Proverbs 28:27, Luke 6:38*).

As long as we are alive, we all have something to give. Money is not the only thing we can give, several others include time, talent, and food. (Mention others) Even when we die, the lives we lived could still be a source of inspiration to others and serve as a gift.

The story of the Good Samaritan as well as God by giving his son are examples of generous giving (*Luke 10; 25-37, John 3:16*). God also wants us to be generous givers and to do so cheerfully following the pattern of Jesus as this usually gives glory to God (*2 Corinthians 9:6-7*).

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? For all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee. *1 Chronicles 29:14 (KJV)*

Honour the Lord with thy substances, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty. *Proverb 3:9; 10 (KJV)*

There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself. *Proverbs 11:24, 25 (KJV)*

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again. *Luke 6:38 (KJV)*

But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; according as he purposed in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity for God loveth a cheerful giver. *2 Corinthians 9:6, 7 (KJV)*

...Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, "it is more blessed to give than to receive". *Acts 20:35b (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about generosity in the following verses?
1 Chronicle 29:14; Luke 6:38; Proverbs 3:9, 10; 1Corinthians 9:6, 7 Proverbs 11:24, 25; Acts 20:35 b
2. Do a verve study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Proverbs 11:24- 25.

GENEROSITY

Study 22

1. As children of God, what should be our disposition to giving?

2. Mention 3 types of giving to God?

3. Answer **YES or NO**

- a) Tithe is 5% of our income _____
- b) We should give reluctantly _____
- c) We should give generously _____
- d) Tithe is a type of giving _____
- e) We should give cheerfully _____

4. Differentiate between tithe and offering

5 a) What is God's promise to a cheerful giver?

b) Support your answer in (a) with a bible reference

PROVIDENTIAL CARE

Study 23

In spite of all the trials, testing and suffering, God sovereignly watches over us and meets our every need.

One of the several names of God is "El-shaddai" which means the God that is more than enough (*Gen 17:1*). We see this right in the garden of Eden (delight) where God provided all that Adam would ever need before creating him. We also see this care of God as he provided for the children of Israel in the wilderness for 40 years. They never lacked food, their clothes and shoes grew with them.

This goodness of God still extends to us as his children today. In one of Jesus's mission statement, he declared that he had come so we could have life and have it more abundantly (*John 10:10*).

This is confirmed in Peter's second epistle, where he says that God has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3). It is God's delight to provide for us as his children and in his economy, abundance is the minimum. (*Ephesians 3:20*).

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

When thou passeth through the waters. I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not over-flow thee: when thou walketh through fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. *Isaiah 43:2 (KJV)*

Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; I will help thee; yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. *Isaiah 41:10 (KJV)*

Many are the afflictions of the righteous; the Lord delivereth him out of them all. *Psalms 34:19 (KJV)*

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. *Psalms 55:22 (KJV)*

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. *1 Peter 5:7 (KJV)*

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. *Matthew 11:28, 29 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about God's care in the following verses?
Isaiah 34:2, Psalms 55:22, Isaiah 41:10, 1 Peter 5:7, Psalms 34:19, Matthew 11:28, 29.
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize 1 Peter 5:7

PROVIDENTIAL CARE

Study 23

1. What do you understand by God's Providential Care?

2. "In spite of all trials, testing and suffering, God sovereignly watches over us"

Can you give an example of a trial, testing or suffering that you have passed through and God intervened. If none, you can otherwise give an example of a child of God you know of, who might have gone through this process instead.

3. "Many are the afflictions of the righteous; the Lord delivers him out of them all" Psalm 34:19

Do you think God delivers the unrighteous people as well? Support your answer with a brief explanation.

4. Circle the correct answer

a) Whom do you cast all your care upon?

1. God
2. Jesus
3. Holy Spirit
4. All of the above

b) What does God do when we cast all our care on Him?

1. He cares for us only if we live right before Him
2. He cares for us without any condition
3. 1&2 above
4. He chastens us
5. He ignores us

5. List 5 other things we can cast on the Lord

LOVE

Study 24

A popular song states, "What the world need is love". People all around us are starving for love and affection. May our love reach out and help to meet that need.

Love is one of the basic needs of human beings and also an integral part of God (*1John 4:7*), who loves us so much. He demonstrated this love by sending his son Jesus to die on the cross to redeem us (*John 3:16*). This love of God is shed into our hearts by the Holy Spirit (*Romans 5:5*) and we demonstrate our love for an unseen God by loving people we see.

As human beings, we have several ways that we communicate love which are known as our love language. Research by christian psychologist, Gary Chapman, has shown that there are five basic love languages through which people demonstrate and receive love. (The 5 Love Languages-Gary Chapman). All of these require sacrifice and action. Love can be expressed by affirming people with words or appropriate touch, spending time with them, giving gifts and helping them by doing practical things for them. We see this expression of love in the early church (*Acts 4:32, 34*) and can also experience it in our local church. **Mention ways you have experienced love in the local church.**

Jesus said that it is through love that all men will know that we are his disciples and John, the Apostle of love further reiterates this by saying that a proof of our knowledge of God is our love (*John 13:35; 1 John 4:8*). Love is a decision and it is possible to love people without liking them or liking what they do. They in our estimate might not deserve it but it is this unconditional kind of love that God demonstrates (*Romans 5:8*) and asks us to reciprocate. We all have a debt of love to everyone (*Romans 13:8*) and by the help of the Holy Spirit, we will pay this debt daily.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures

A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. *John 13:34 (KJV)*

Let love be without dissimulation Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another. *Romans 12:9, 10 (KJV)*

We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. *1 John 3:14 (KJV)*

But whoso hath this world's good, and sees his brother have need, and shuts up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwells the love of God in him? My little children let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but indeed and in truth. *1 John 3:17, 18 (KJV)*

And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. *Colossians 3:14 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about love in the following verses? *John 13:34; 1 John 3:14; Romans 12:9, 10; 1 John 3:17, 18; 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13; Ephesians 4:2, 3; Colossians 3:14.*
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Romans 12:9, 10

LOVE

Study 24

1. "What the world needs is Love"

a) Explain in your own words, what you understand by the statement?

b) What kind of love are we talking about?

2. "May our love reach out and help to meet that need"

In what ways can our love reach out to people around us as Christians?

3. Complete the verse

Love thy

4. Fill in the gaps:

A new commandment I give unto you, that ye _____ one another, as I have _____
you, that ye also love _____ another. (*John 13:34*)

HUMILITY

Study 25

It is natural for a person to want recognition and to achieve in this life. The following Scripture will give you some real insights as to how this can become a reality.

Humility is the quality of being humble; a modest opinion or estimate of one's own importance, rank etc. This quality attracts God to us and the opposite (pride) makes him resistant to us.

Naturally we all have a tendency to be proud in one way or the other, maybe of our wealthy status or even our spiritual activities. But an important antidote for pride is the recognition that everything we have or have ever received have come from God. He is the ultimate source of all we possess (including our looks) and achieve. It is by acknowledgement of this, we receive more of his grace.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom. Pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall. **Proverbs 13:10; 16:18 (KJV)**

A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit. **Proverbs 28\9:23 (KJV)**

For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted. **Luke 14: 11 (KJV)**

But He giveth more grace. Wherefore He said, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble...Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up. **James 4:6, 10 (KJV)**

By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honour, and life. **Proverbs 22:4 (KJV)**

For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been saith the Lord; but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word. **Isaiah 66:2 (KJV)**

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about humility in the following verses?
Proverbs 13:10; 16:18; James 4:6,10; Proverbs 29:23; Proverbs 22:4; Luke 14:11; Isaiah 66:2
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize James 4:6, 10

HUMILITY

Study 25

1. What is humility?

2. What is the reward of being humble and having the fear the Lord; as stated in Proverbs 22:4?

3. Is it natural for a person to be humble or can it be developed through learning and the help of the Holy Spirit? Support your answer with a brief explanation on how a believer can develop humility.

4. What do you understand by this statement or bible reference?

Proverb 29:23 "A man's pride shall bring him low; but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit"

5. Fill the gaps:

For whosoever exalted himself shall be _____, and he that humbled himself shall be _____.

HONESTY

Study 26

Credibility is most essential in building strong personal relationships. We must believe in each other to develop a trust. Credibility is especially important in our witness. If our life does not back up our witness, very little is likely to happen.

A pastor was overpaid by a bus driver on his way back home one evening. On noticing this, the pastor promptly returned the excess money to the bus driver who nodded his head in apparent satisfaction while acknowledging to him that it was a test and the overpayment was deliberate. He also said that he would henceforth begin to attend Church.

Every Christian should be credible. Not only is it necessary for building strong interpersonal relationships, it also adds validity to our faith. We must walk the talk. This is because we may be the only Bible some people will ever read and what a powerful witness it can be when our walk matches our faith.

Our faith should affect the way we do business. Even God is concerned about how we act in the market place (Proverbs 11:21). He hates dishonest scales (Proverbs 20:23). After Jesus met Zacchaeus, an exploitive tax collector, he repented and on his own declared "...and if I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore him four-fold" (*Luke 19:8*).

Circle key word or phrases in the following Scriptures.

But we have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. *2 Corinthians 4:2 (KJV)*

Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds. *Colosians 3:9(KJV)*

Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. *Romans 12:17 (KJV)*

Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.
2 Corinthians 8:21 (KJV)

A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight. The integrity of the upright shall guide them but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them. *Proverbs 11:1, 3 (KJV)*

The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips: but the just shall come out of trouble. He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit. *Proverbs 17:13, 17 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about honesty in the following verses?
2 Corinthians 4:2; 2 Corinthians 8:21; Colosians 3:9; Proverbs 11:1, 3 Romans 12:17; Proverbs 12:13, 17
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
- 3 Memorize 2 Corinthians 8:21

HONESTY

Study 26

1. Name some essential things that are needful in our witness as believers.

2. Why are those things you mentioned in question 1 very important? Describe briefly on an experience which you may have had when one of these essential attributes was very useful either to a work colleague or to a neighbor.

3. "If our life does not back up our witness, very little is likely to happen" Explain briefly.

4. "Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honestly in the sight of all men" *Roman 12:17*.

a) What does the statement imply?

b) Has there been any exception to this rule?

c) Give an example of how our Lord Jesus Christ demonstrated this.

5. Fill the gaps with the following words (witness, truth, wicked, just, false, righteousness)

"The _____ is snared by the transgression of his lips, but the _____, shall come out of trouble. He that speaks _____ shows forth _____, but a false _____ deceit.

THE HEART

Study 27

In many Scriptures, the word "heart" "thoughts" "mind" or "affections" are one and the same. What we are or do daily will be greatly determined by what is in our heart, because what is there will lead to action, good or otherwise.

The "heart" is the centre from which all our actions spring and depicts who we really are (*Proverbs 27:6*). It is the seat of our affections. Several other synonyms for "heart" used in Scriptures include mind, thoughts. When we become born again, our spirits are born again but there is a need for renewing and cleansing our hearts daily by the Word of God so it can be aligned correctly. (*Romans 12:2*).

The mirror of the Word of God put against our lives on a daily basis can help us to live righteously and shun sin (*Psalms 119:11, 2 Corinthians 3:18, Psalms 119:11*). It is only the pure in heart that will see God (*Matthew 5:8*) and this pureness comes from the application of the Word of God (*Psalms 119:9*).

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? *Jeremiah 17:9 (KJV)*

...That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. *Mark 7:20-22 (KJV)*

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. *Proverbs 4:23 (KJV)*

If we have forgotten the name of our God, or stretched out our hands to a strange god; Shall not God search this out? For he knoweth the secrets of the heart. *Psalms 44:20,21 (KJV)*

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and lead me in the way everlasting. *Psalms 139:23,24 (KJV)*

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. *Psalms 51:10 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about the heart in the following verses?
Jeremiah 17:9; Psalms 44:21, 21; Mark 7:20-22; Psalms 139:23, 24 (KJV); Proverbs 4:23; Psalms 51:10
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Psalms 139:23, 24

THE HEART

Study 27

1. Mention other words that can be used in place of heart.

2. "What we are or do daily will be greatly determined by what is in our heart – Discuss.

3. "Search me O God-----" (Psalm 139:23)

a) Where does God need to search? _____

b) Complete the above statement in the space below.

4. What do we learn about the heart in the following scriptures:

(Jeremiah 17:9, Psalm 44:21, Mark 7: 20-22, Ps 139:23, Ps 51:10 & Proverbs 4:23)

THE TONGUE

Study 28

You will learn in the following Scriptures that the tongue, though a very small member of the body, has enormous power for good or evil and must be continually controlled.

It may be one of the smallest members of the body but with it words are spoken that have resulted in wars both locally and internationally. Just like the steering wheel controls the whole car, the tongue controls our lives (James 3:5). In short, our lives today are a product of the good and evil words that have been spoken over it.

According to Solomon, the wisest man that ever lived, life and death are in the power of the tongue, (*Proverbs 18:21*) hence the need to ensure that whenever we use the tongue, we are speaking in line with God's word, giving life and declaring blessings over our future. Rather than cursing, we are enjoined to use the tongue to speak well about ourselves, our spouses, our children, our bosses, our church and our nation. Why? Because Jesus declares that we shall have what we say (*Mark 11:23*).

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. *James 3:7, 8 (KJV)*

There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is healthy. Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop: but a good word maketh it glad. *Proverbs 12:18, 25 (KJV)*

Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles. *Proverbs 21:23 (KJV)*

For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile. *1 Peter 3:10 (KJV)*

He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction. *Proverbs 13:3 (KJV)*

Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought-to answer every man. *Colossians 4:6 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about tongue in the following verses?
James 3:7, 8; 1 Peter 3:10; Proverbs 12:18, 25; Proverbs 13:3; Proverbs 21:23; Colossians 4:6
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Colossians 4:6.

THE TONGUE

Study 28

1. What does the scripture say about our tongue in terms of the following; taming of the tongue, a little fire spark setting up a wild fire in the forest and praises and curses proceeding from the same source.

2. Why do we need to control the use of our tongue?

3. “For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil and his lips that they speak no guile” (1 Peter 3:10)

Discuss in your own words what you understand by the above verse?

FORGIVING OTHERS

Study 29

If you want to be forgiven and be at peace with God and your fellowman, then learn to forgive others. An unforgiving attitude can lead to your ruin.

As long as we have relationships, we will become offended by people at one time or the other. Forgiveness is not to be dependent on whether or not an apology is rendered. Contrary to popular opinion, when we forgive, we do ourselves a favour. Not only do we experience peace, we make ourselves suitable recipients of God's own forgiveness. We also sow a seed which we will reap as it is inevitable that we will offend others also. Living in unforgiveness is deeply rooted in pride and is a cause of unanswered prayer. It can breed bitterness and serve as a foothold for the devil, defiling many (*Hebrews 12:15*). It is also a denial of the grace from God which we have received.

Forgiveness does not necessarily mean that the memory of the incident is wiped out. Rather, when it is relived, it is so without the pain of the hurt. Neither should forgiveness make us put ourselves back in a position where we are vulnerable as it may be necessary to curtail or end some relationships so we are not hurt again. An example of this is removing ourselves from people who have molested us in the past. We should also leave room for trust to be built again in some cases and not have unrealistic demands on people who may still be healing as a result of our offence. We make it easier for people to forgive us by apologizing sincerely and showing by our actions that their feelings are a priority of ours.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. *Luke 23:34 (KJV)*

Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, until seven times: but, until seventy times seven. *Matthew 18:21,22 (KJV)*

Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven. *Luke 6:37 (KJV)*

And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have hurt against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. *Mark 11:25 (KJV)*

*And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. *Ephesians 4:32 (KJV)*

Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. *Colossians 3:13 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about forgiving others in the following verses?
Luke 23:34; Mark 11:25; Matthew 18:21, 22; Ephesians 4:32; Luke 6:37 Colossians 3:13
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Ephesians 4:32.

FORGIVING OTHERS

Study 29

1. Explain what you understand by the word 'Forgiveness' as a born again Christian?

2. What can an unforgiving attitude lead us to?

3. Write out the Lord's Prayer

4. Quote a bible reference, apart from the Lord's Prayer that supports forgiveness.

5. Complete the following with the most appropriate word; (another, retaliate; forget; God;

a) Forgive and _____

b) Forgive one _____

c) Forgive for _____ sake

PROPER PERSPECTIVE

Study 30

One day, we do not know the day or hour; Jesus Christ is coming again to take us to be with Him forever. The Scripture clearly tell us how we should live daily as we await His coming.

Having the right perspective is crucial to our lives as Christians. This is because there is always a tendency as human beings to see the present as final. This not only robs us of the awareness that our work will eventually be judged and rewarded (*1 Corinthians 15:58*) but also the joy and peace that could also be ours when we know that God has everything under his control.

Circle key words or phrases in the following Scriptures.

Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Titus 2:12, 13 (KJV)*

For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 3:20 (KJV)*

When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry. *Colossians 3:4, 5 (KJV)*

And now, little children, abide in Him; that when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. *1 John 2:28 (KJV)*

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In I my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. *John 14:1-3 (KJV)*

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do we learn about perspective in the following verses?
Titus 2:12, 13; Colossians 3:4, 5; 1 John 3:2, 3; Philippians 3:20; 1 John 2:28 John 14:1-3
2. Do a verse study on one of the above Scriptures.
3. Memorize Titus 2:12. 13.

PROPER PERSPECTIVE

Study 30

1. What do you learn about proper perspective in Titus 2:12-13?

2. And now, little children, abide in Him; that when He shall appear, we may have confidence; and not be ashamed before Him at His coming (*1 John 2:28*)

a) Who is being referred to as Him in the above paragraph?

b) Explain briefly what you understand by the statement.

3. Personally as a believer what preparations are you making towards the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ?

4. Complete the statement

John 14:1-3 "Let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to

where I am, there you may be also"



New Covenant Church, Manchester

Weekly Programmes

Sunday Celebration Service

10.00am - 2.30pm

Sunday Evening Service

4.00pm - 5.00pm

Friday Bible Study/Prayer meeting

7.00pm - 8.30pm

Solemn Assembly (In depth teaching & prayer)

Every last Wednesday of the month

6.30pm-9.00pm

Weekly prayer meeting Every Wednesday

6.30pm-7.30pm

*Please feel free to worship with us on any of these days
or Contact us for any enquiries;*

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