

Christian Challenge

Discipleship Packet

Apologetics
Culture
Evangelism
Gospel
Knowing God
Ministry
Missions
Orthodoxy
Prayer
Relationships
Spiritual Gifts
Temptation
Worldview
Worship

“Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God”

Matthew 4:4

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Foreword: The Christian Challenge Ministry

The Christian Challenge Ministry

Christian Challenge is a ministry that encourages and equips college students to joyfully pursue Jesus and develop their vision, skills, knowledge, and character to become disciple makers through their churches, on campus, and among the nations. Christian Challenge engages students with the message of Jesus Christ so they come to know Him and live His challenge on campus and around the world. Affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, Christian Challenge is a ministry that is dedicated to bringing the gospel to college students. In Arizona, Christian Challenge organizes Bible studies and other special events at every state university and many community colleges. For more information about the Christian Challenge ministry see www.christianchallengeaz.com or www.christianchallengecc.weebly.com.

Our Values:

- ❖ We value the clear gospel message of the importance of salvation
- ❖ We value God's Word and the work of the Holy Spirit
- ❖ We value the worth of the individual
- ❖ We value learning for a lifetime
- ❖ We value laboring for the Gospel for spiritual reproduction
- ❖ We value a loving community
- ❖ We value lives of knowledge, character, skills, and vision
- ❖ We value a global perspective on Christian life and ministry

Our Commitments:

- ❖ Commitment to the authority and reliability of the Word of God (Proverbs 30:5; 2 Tim 2:16-17)
- ❖ Commitment to an atmosphere of love (Eph 4:15, 5:1-2)
- ❖ Commitment to change from the inside out (Rom 8:29, 12:1-2; 2 Cor 5:17-18)
- ❖ Commitment to the concept of spiritual multiplication
- ❖ Commitment to building community within the body of Christ (1 Cor 12:12-27; Heb 3:13, 10:24-25)
- ❖ Commitment to expanding our world vision—God's heart for the nations (Ps 96:3, Is 11:9; John 3:16; Acts 13:47; Rev. 7:9-10)
- ❖ Commitment to a radical faith and risk taking for Christ (Matt 11:12, 17:20; Luke 14:33, 9:23)

Our Core Elements:

Christian Challenge is committed to three core elements in its ministry. These elements involve being Christ-Centered, People-Focused, and Ministry-Oriented.

- ❖ Being **Christ-Centered** means putting Christ at the forefront of everything that we do as part of the Christian Challenge ministry. It also means turning to God for guidance and committing everything that we do to God for His honor and glory since it is our privilege to serve God in this way.
- ❖ Being **People-Focused** means focusing on being Christ to other people and giving them a taste of God's love through word and action. Helping others as God directs is an important part of the Christian life and therefore an important part of the Christian Challenge ministry.
- ❖ Being **Ministry-Oriented** means taking on the mind of Christ and viewing other people through the lens of God's love. It means being missionally minded and reaching out by sharing the gospel of Christ through evangelism and discipleship. It also means engaging in meaningful fellowship with other believers in the Body of Christ and following God together.

Foreword: The Discipleship Packet

About this Christian Challenge Discipleship Packet

This discipleship packet, prepared largely through the efforts of Christian Challenge campus minister Kyle Hall, is designed to be a teaching tool to assist students to deepen their walk with the Lord through a more comprehensive understanding of the God's Word. Designed to be taught in a small group environment by a knowledgeable Bible teacher, this study will help students grasp basic Bible doctrines and apply them to their lives, develop Bible reading and memorization plans, gain more from Bible studies, and serve God's kingdom through Christian ministry. The goal of this discipleship packet is to encourage students to take on the mind of Christ so they may be better prepared to go into the world, following God's call on their lives and ministering to others wherever God may lead. Our prayer is that the Lord may use the teachings contained in this Discipleship Packet for the benefit of His Kingdom in the lives of all who make use of this resource.

The Baptist Faith and Message

Since Christian Challenge is affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, we adhere to the Baptist Faith and Message, which is the statement of faith adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 2000. The Baptist Faith and Message can be viewed or downloaded in PDF formats on both the Southern Baptist Convention website and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary website. Additionally, the faculty of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, has prepared an insightful exposition of the Baptist Faith and Message (BFM) and a theology journal entitled the Southern Baptist Journal of Theology covering many difficult theological questions. The North American Mission Board and the International Mission Board provide information on missions opportunities at home and abroad. The Studentz website is tailored specifically to college-aged students. We trust that these resources will prove useful to you in your walk with the Lord.

Southern Baptist Resources

BFM in Online Viewing Format:	www.sbc.net/bfm/bfm2000.asp
BFM in PDF File Format:	www.sbc.net/bfm/pdf/The%20Baptist%20Faith%20and%20Message.pdf
BFM Exposition	www.sbts.edu/documents/bfmexposition.pdf
Southern Baptist Journal of Theology	www.sbts.edu/resources/publications/journal-of-theology/
Arizona Southern Baptist Convention	www.azsobaptist.org/
North American Mission Board	www.namb.net/
International Mission Board	www.imb.org/
	www.imbresources.org/
Studentz Website	www.studentz.com/

Bible Translations:

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- ❖ Unless otherwise noted, the Scripture translation used is NIV®. Christian Challenge does not prefer any individual Bible translation.

Disclaimer:

Since this discipleship packet was designed by laypeople to be an educational Bible teaching resource for use in a small group environment by an experienced Bible teacher, Christian Challenge will not be held liable in any way for any of its contents. However, we recognize that we can very easily make mistakes, so if you see a way to improve this resource, please contact Christian Challenge with your suggestions. Since Christian Challenge is a nonprofit organization affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, no material contained in this publication is to be sold, published, or otherwise used for profit in any way or under any circumstances.

Introductory Lesson

Memory Verse

"That if you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."—Romans 10:9

Scripture Reading

Romans 3:10-26

1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

Lesson

Introduce Bible reading challenge and prayer partners

Terms to Remember

Christian—a person who has placed his/her faith in the saving work of Jesus Christ

Faith—acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Saviour

Gospel—the message of salvation taught throughout the Bible

Repentance— a genuine turning from sin toward God. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace.

Sin—any transgression or deviation from God's perfect standard of absolute holiness

Sinner—anyone who violates God's perfect standard of absolute holiness

Salvation—turning from sin and trusting that Jesus Christ alone offers forgiveness from sin

Christianity 101: The Gospel Message

The gospel message is the central message found in the entire Bible. The Old Testament gives us a picture of the coming Savior and the problem of sin; the New Testament reveals the promised Savior and the hope of salvation that He brings. The gospel message can be explained in terms of four main truths.

Truth 1: God loves you and has a purpose for you

God loves you and wants you to experience His peace and life, which is victorious and eternal!

The Bible says *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*—John 3:16



Truth 2: Sin separates you from God

God created us in His own image to have everlasting life. He did not make us as robots to automatically love and obey Him. God gave us a will and freedom of choice. When we choose to disobey God and go our own way instead of His, this is sin, and our sin results in separation from God.

The Bible says *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."*—Romans 3:23



Truth 3: No bridge reaches God—except one

Jesus Christ died on the cross and rose from the grave. He paid the penalty for our sin and bridged the gap between God and people.

The Bible says *"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"*—John 14:6



Truth 4: Trust Jesus

We must trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and invite Him into our life.

The Bible says *"That if you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."*—Romans 10:9



Will you receive Jesus Christ right now? Here is how:

1. Admit your need (I am a sinner).
2. Be willing to turn from your sins (repent).
3. Believe that Jesus died for you on the Cross and rose from the grave.
4. Through prayer, invite Jesus control your life through the Holy Spirit. (Receive Him as Lord and Savior.)

How to Pray:

"Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died for my sins. I want to turn from my sins. I now invite You to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow You as Lord and Savior. In Jesus' name, Amen."

If you decided to take that first step in following Jesus, let us know! We would love to encourage you as your new journey kicks off. And we are also more than happy to give you a Bible and some stuff that will help you figure out what to do next. If, on the other hand, you have already taken that first step in following Jesus, we encourage you to keep studying your Bible, praying, and moving ahead in your Christian walk.

Week 1

Memory Verse

"Then he said to them all: 'If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.'" – Luke 9:23 (NIV)

Scripture Reading

Philippians 3:1-16

Lesson

Review memory verse and weekly reading

Terms to Remember

Adoration—praising and rejoicing in the power and majesty of God

Baptism—immersion in water as a symbol of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ

Confession—seeking God's forgiveness for sin

Supplication—asking God for His help

Thanksgiving—thanking God for what He has done for us

Life Application

What barriers are holding you back from knowing God more personally?

In what ways can you remove these barriers from your life so that you can deepen your relationship with God?

Knowing God

There are four key hindrances to knowing Christ deeply, intimately, and personally.

1. Worry
2. Riches
3. Responsibility
4. Pleasures

Which of these is most hindering you?

We should have three general lifetime goals as we seek to know God better:

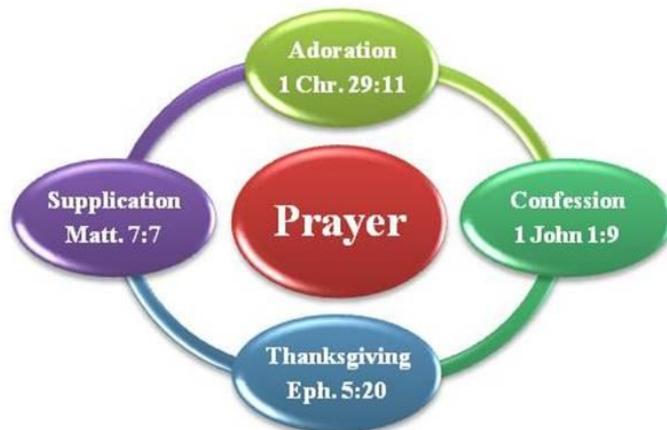
1. To know Him – Philippians 3:10
2. To glorify Him – 1 Corinthians 10:31
3. To be like Him – Romans 8:29

What does baptism mean?

It means immersion in water, which is a symbol of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. It is part of your testimony to the fact that you are a follower of Jesus and a sign of God's grace. It should not be taken lightly.

Why should we be baptized?

Jesus said: *"All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."* – Matthew 28:18-20



What does prayer look like?

Adoration

"Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. Everything in the heavens and on earth is yours, O Lord, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as the one who is over all things." - 1 Chronicles 29:11

Confession

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." - 1 John 1:9

Thanksgiving

"Always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father." - Ephesians 5:20

Supplication

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." - Matthew 7:7

*"Next to the wonder of seeing my Saviour, will be, I think, the wonder I made so little use of the power of prayer."
D L Moody*

Week 2

Memory Verse

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."
– Romans 8:28 (NIV)

Lesson

Review memory verse and weekly reading

Terms to Remember

Christian Meditation—a threefold concept consisting of pondering the truth, picturing what it means to me, and praying about ways in which I can apply that truth to my life.

False Prophet, False Teacher—an individual who misrepresents any part of God's Word

Hedonism—the pursuit of pleasure

Humanism—placing human thought over God's revealed Word

Legalism—placing emphasis strictly on following the law or a human standard instead of following God

Materialism—a preoccupation with acquiring goods, consumerism

Selfishness—desiring to please oneself

Skepticism—questioning or denying

Christian Living

What is Christian Meditation?

The words translated as "meditate" and "meditation" in the Old Testament come from Hebrew words meaning such things as ponder, pray, imagine, devotion, and reflection. The Christian idea of meditation is different from the concept developed in Eastern religions.

When we meditate we should do three things:

1. **Ponder**—Seriously think about this truth. What is God saying to me personally? How does it apply to me?
2. **Picture**—Form a mental picture of this truth. See yourself into the picture and imagine your response.
3. **Pray**—Talk to God about applying this truth. Pray this prayer back to God as my personal prayer of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication.



Qualities of true disciples:

- ❖ Teachable
- ❖ Passionate
- ❖ Available
- ❖ Willing to confront their sin
- ❖ Able to respond to adversity

Hearing God's voice among the many voices:

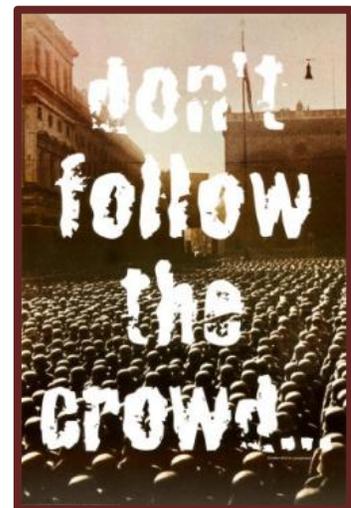
"See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ." – Colossians 2:8

Which of the following philosophies, traditions, and forces most often capture your attention and cause you to miss God's voice?

- ❖ Materialism
- ❖ Consumerism
- ❖ Humanism
- ❖ Hedonism
- ❖ Legalism
- ❖ Skepticism
- ❖ Friends
- ❖ Sexuality
- ❖ Selfishness
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Media
- ❖ Following the crowd
- ❖ False Prophets
- ❖ False Teachers

How to avoid these forces:

- ❖ Learn to recognize God's voice through prayer and Bible study.
- ❖ Abide in Christ by realizing He is the vine and you are a branch. (John 15:1-17)
- ❖ Seek counsel from other Christians when in doubt (Proverbs 13:10,14)



Characteristics of true disciples:

- ❖ Obedient
- ❖ Teachable
- ❖ Passionate
- ❖ Confessing
- ❖ Caring
- ❖ Compassionate
- ❖ Joyful
- ❖ Truthful
- ❖ Enthusiastic
- ❖ Resilient



Which characteristics of a true disciple do you have in abundance? Which of these do you most need to work on?

Characteristics that I have in abundance

Characteristics that I need to develop

Week 3

Memory Verse

“For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.” – Romans 8:29 (NIV)

Lesson

Review memory verse and weekly reading

Terms to Remember

Obedience—To follow the commands or guidance of another

Life Application

Where are the areas of my life in which I need to yield complete control over to God? What am I holding back?

Allowing Jesus to Be the Center and Lord of My Life

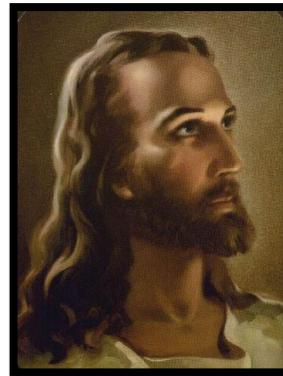
The key to living a victorious, Spirit-filled Christian life is Jesus Christ as the center and Lord of all we do. Just as the driving force of a wheel comes from the hub, so the power to live the Christian life comes from Jesus Christ as the center. With Christ in control life is balanced and effective.

What does this mean?

It simply means that I voluntarily yield to God’s control of my life, and no longer desire to independently run my own life. Self is taken off the throne in my heart, and Jesus is crowned Lord.

Why allow Jesus to be the center and Lord of my life?

1. Jesus is center and Lord of all creation
2. Jesus created me
3. Jesus bought me at a high price
4. Jesus rewards me with abundant life
5. Jesus is the key to living a victorious life here on earth
6. Jesus can and will do a better job of running my life than I can



“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For it was the Father’s good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him” – Colossians 1:15-19

“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body” – 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

How can I allow Jesus to be the center and Lord of my life?

1. Determine to live just one day at a time
2. Apply the formula he has given us for finding his direction and success

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight” – Proverbs 3:5-6

Week 4

Memory Verse

"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life." – John 5:24 (NIV)

Lesson

Review memory verse and weekly reading

Terms to Remember

Love—a strong affection and personal attachment, a response to the love that Christ showed us

Marriage—the God-ordained, lifelong union of one man and one woman to each other until death

Purity—the action of living out God's command to abstain from sexual activity until marriage in all areas of life, chastity

Sexuality—a glorious gift from God to be offered back to Him either in marriage for procreation, union and mutual delight or in celibacy for undivided devotion to Christ

Sexual Immorality—any sexual activity occurring outside of a marriage relationship, includes premarital and extramarital sex

Building Godly Relationships

"What commandment is the foremost of all?" Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." – Mark 12:28-31

God calls us to a personal relationship with Himself through fellowship with Jesus. He also calls us into relationships with others including our family, the body of Christ, and onto the people in the world around us. Some relationships will be more intimate than others and the most intimate of these is marriage, which is also a symbol of how Christ relates to his church here on earth.

Sin Resolution within the Church

"If your brother sins go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector." –Matthew 18:15-17

Three Steps to Problem Solving in the Body of Christ:

Confront The Person One On One

Don't discuss the problem with others; go directly to the person involved. Together, determine how you can resolve the problem so the ministry of Christ will not be further damaged.

Take Someone With You

If Step 1 brings no resolution, tell the person you will bring someone else along. Ask your pastor for guidance and carefully select an appropriate person in the church to go with you.

Bring The Issue Before The Church

If Step 2 fails, go before the church. The church body must be informed and asked to help resolve the problem. Otherwise, the person may need to be removed from the church. Jesus is serious about unity and purity in the body of Christ.

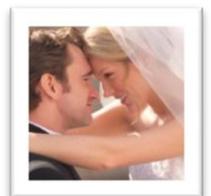
Other possibilities: Pray about the situation, fast if necessary, confess your own sins if you have any part in the problem, carry out the meeting in love, think through what you will say, be sure you act on correct information, pray with the person

Preparation for Marriage

The most important preparation relates to who you are in Christ and how you are seeking to become like him in attitudes, priorities, and daily life. Christ loved the Church, his bride, and gave himself for her. This is a model for how we are to care for our partners. As you become like Christ, you develop the capacity for a meaningful and lasting marriage.

Marriage Checklist

I need to work on the following areas:



- Knowing the Bible better
- Learning how to resolve conflict
- Controlling my finances
- Spending more time in prayer
- Listening Skills
- Communication Skills

Character qualities that I need to develop:

- Love
- Thriftiness
- Purity
- Dependability
- Faithfulness
- Patience
- Honesty
- Humility
- Openness
- Self-Control

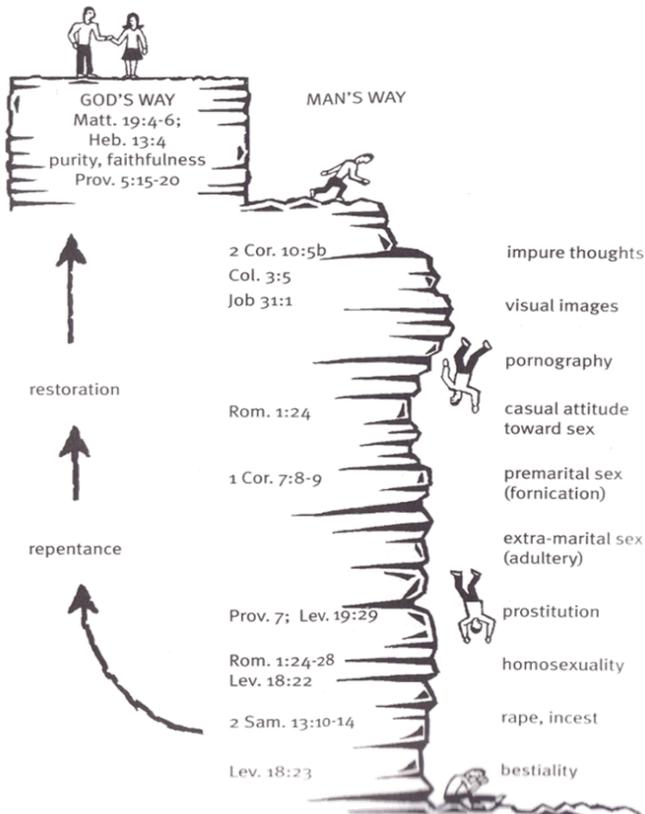
I am going to:

- Trust God to bring the right person into my life at the right time
- Determine to marry only a believer who is also committed to becoming more like Jesus
- Remain sexually pure until and after marriage
- Once I decide on a marriage partner, give quality time for preparation including pastoral counseling

A Biblical View of Sexuality

GOD'S WAY

Sex between a man and a woman within a covenant marriage relationship (Matt. 19:4-6; Heb. 13:4)



Week 5

Memory Verse

"No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it."
– 1 Corinthians 10:13 (NIV)

Lesson

Review memory verse and weekly reading

Terms to Remember

Evangelism—sharing the gospel message

Ministry—the full scope in applying the gospel to every situation in your life

Involvement in Christian Ministry

What is ministry?

Ministry may be defined as the full scope in applying the gospel to every situation in your life. Evangelism is a key part of this and would refer more specifically to sharing the message of the gospel. Ministry is becoming involved in touching the lives of people in your daily circle of influence. Four major points of ministry will be through your workplace, your home, your church, and your school.

Ministry in the Workplace

Which character qualities is God seeking to build in you at work?

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| ❖ Honesty | ❖ Dependability | ❖ Submission | ❖ Patience |
| ❖ Trustworthiness | ❖ Loyalty | ❖ Countenance | ❖ Tactfulness |

What are some specific ways you can identify with Christ?

How can God use an unpleasant workplace situation for good?

Who are some non-Christians at your work?

Who are some Christians in your workplace needing encouragement or discipling?

Ministry in your Home

"A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul. And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay.'" – Acts 16:14-15

What are some of the basic needs you have noted in your neighborhood?

What are some possible ways you can use your home for ministry?

Who are some people who live around you that could be ministered to?

If a neighbor came to your home, what evidence would they see that you are a Christian?

Ministry in your Church

Are you a member of a church?

Are you involved with being a part of or leading a small group?

Do you have any position of leadership?

What are some Strengths and/or Weaknesses of your church?

How can you better minister and serve within your church?

What are your unique talents? How can you apply them in a way that benefits your church body?

Ministry at your School

How can you share Christ with your classmates?

What people or groups of people at your school are you praying for?

In what areas of the school are you best connected to reach people?

Are you currently discipling anyone from your school?

What position or positions of leadership in Christian Challenge are you suited for?

Week 6

Memory Verse

"But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me." – 2 Corinthians 12:9 (NIV)

Lesson

Review memory verse and weekly reading

Terms to Remember

Worldview—a set of presuppositions which we hold about the basic makeup of our world, a point of view, a frame of reference

Developing a Biblical Worldview

A **worldview** is a set of presuppositions which we hold about the basic makeup of our world, a point of view, a frame of reference. If we are to be effective in our witness to others, we must understand more clearly the worldviews of others. How we view the world will make an enormous difference in the way we set goals and priorities and how we live each day.

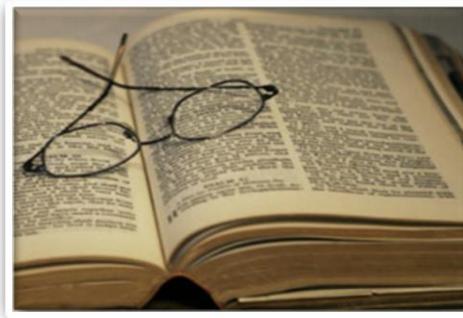
Developing a Christian worldview begins with a commitment to follow Christ alone and to immerse yourself in the scriptures for all your life. You will not know how Jesus viewed the world without knowing the scriptures.

"See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ." – Colossians 2:8

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect." – Romans 12:2

Consider these ways we can slip into a non-Christian worldview:

1. **Fuzzy Thinking:** We listen to just about anybody or anything and believe what is said without checking it out. We allow false information to enter our minds unchallenged. We are in danger of becoming a generation of non-thinkers.
2. **Sloppy Theology:** We don't know what the Bible says. We are unclear on key life issues. We are tentative in our discipleship, following Christ only when it is convenient or without pain. Some such as those in the emergent church movement purposely have a loose or ungrounded theology. We are in danger of becoming a generation of biblical illiterates.
3. **Careless Living:** Secondary issues consume our time. We sometimes live in ignorance of God's purpose or outright disobedience toward it. We do our own thing and fall into sinful life patterns. We are in danger of becoming a generation of "believers" who do not practice what we say we believe.



Now consider these ways to move toward a Christian worldview:

1. **Learn to think in Biblical categories:** Check everything you hear or do with Scripture. Learn what the Bible teaches about crucial issues of ethics and morality. Learn to recognize the voice of the Shepherd.
2. **Learn to recognize non-biblical ideas and move away from them:** Put everything you hear through the filter of the Word of God. When it doesn't measure up, raise the red flag. Always look for unbiblical presuppositions in books, magazines, news, movies, music, TV, Internet, media, and the classroom.
3. **Set goals and priorities according to biblical principles:** As a believer, consider the calling you have received from God to help fulfill the Great Commission through your home, work, school, and church.

Rate Your Biblical Worldview

Directions: In each of the three areas, circle the correct number to rate where you stand on the 1-to-5 scale shown below.

Fuzzy Thinking

1 I believe whatever I hear

2

3

4

5 I evaluate what I hear based on God's Word

Sloppy Theology

1 I don't know much about God's Word

2

3

4

5 I am always learning more about God's Word

Careless Living

1 I am not living for God and seeking His Will

2

3

4

5 I am living for God and seeking His Will

Now, identify solutions that will bring you closer to a Biblical worldview and behavior patterns that you will need to modify or change in each of the three areas shown above.

Fuzzy Thinking

What behavior patterns are God-honoring?

What behavior patterns need to change?

Sloppy Theology

What behavior patterns are God-honoring?

What behavior patterns need to change?

Careless Living

What behavior patterns are God-honoring?

What behavior patterns need to change?

Week 7

Memory Verse

*"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
– Romans 3:23 (NIV)*

Lesson

Review memory verse and weekly reading

Terms to Remember

Witnessing—sharing your faith in God's Word, telling others how God can deliver them from their sins

Sharing Christ with Others

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." – Acts 1:8

As believers we are all called and commissioned to bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ.

Here are some preliminary steps we can take as we prepare to share our faith:

- ❖ **Live a Christ-like life**– Let your life show the truth in everything you do. Your actions, attitudes, relationships, and how you spend your time.
- ❖ **Publicly identify with Christ**– Let others see and know that you follow Christ by publicly saying so with love and gentleness.
- ❖ **Pray for opportunities to share**– Be alert for any chance to share and God will open opportunities.
- ❖ **Build relationships with people**– Spend time with non-Christians, get to know them and show interest in their lives.
- ❖ **Spend time in prayer**– Pray for those who you are witnessing to or about to witness to. Even if you don't know their name or even who they will be, just pray anyway!

There is no one way every person must witness. The way you witness may also vary depending on the person you are talking to. Despite this, it is good to have some sort of method you use frequently and are familiar with.

Some good witnessing principles:

- ❖ Use the law (Ten Commandments) to convict someone of their sin. These commandments are God's principles for holiness and we all have broken each commandment. When we examine our own conduct in light of God's perfect standard, we see that we are dreadfully sinful.
- ❖ Help people to understand that failing to meet God's perfect standard of absolute holiness means that God will have to declare them guilty on the Day of Judgment. His righteous judgment for all who do not meet his standards is Hell.
- ❖ Share the good news of Jesus death on the cross. That by repentance and faith in Him, God declares us not guilty. Jesus righteousness is imputed to us, and our sins washed away.
- ❖ Let the Holy Spirit do his work. You are not responsible for bringing someone to Christ, but only for sharing the good news with them.



The Witnessing Command and the Witnessing Promise

God commands us to go into the world and preach the gospel. Yet He promises us that He will be with us every step of the way.

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." –Mark 16:15

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." –Matthew 28:19-20

"I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you." – Matthew 10:16-20

Remember that witnessing is NOT...

- ❖ Talking someone into something
- ❖ Forcing someone to believe
- ❖ Making people listen to you
- ❖ Attacking someone's beliefs
- ❖ Winning an argument
- ❖ Depending on how smart you are

Remember that witnessing is...

- ❖ Talking about something meaningful to you
- ❖ Answering questions
- ❖ Giving a clear explanation of the gospel
- ❖ Showing the sufficiency and uniqueness of Christ
- ❖ Allowing the Holy Spirit to work

Illustration From Agriculture		Application To Witnessing
1. CULTIVATING 	plowing the ground preparing the soil	meeting people discovering needs demonstrating love being an example
2. PLANTING 	sowing the seed	sharing the gospel listening to questions telling your story
3. WATERING 	watering the ground	answering questions following through by continu- ing a good relationship staying faithful
4. WEEDING 	pulling up weeds and other pests	correcting wrong information supporting when problems arise confronting with the truth
5. HARVESTING 	picking the fruit and reaping the harvest	leading to a decision following up nurturing in the faith
6. MARKETING 	making the fruit avail- able to others	discipling-mentoring enjoying the fruit involved in ministry

Evangelism Resources

Terrified CD

Week 8

Memory Verse

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” – Romans 6:23 (NIV)

Lesson

Review memory verse and weekly reading

Terms to Remember

Sermon Notes—notes taken during a sermon, composed of the speaker’s name, the date and time, the location, the main text, and the sermon title

Tithe—the traditional amount given to God (literally a “tenth” of one’s resources) in support of the work of churches and other ministries here on Earth

Sermon Notes and Giving to Gospel Ministry

Benefits of Taking Sermon Notes

Taking notes during a sermon can be helpful in strengthening our walk with God. When we take notes we are able to review bible teaching at any time and allow the message of God’s Word to grow within us. It also can help us to remember the content of a sermon better.

Some basic things to make note of should include:

- ❖ Speaker’s Name
- ❖ Date and Time
- ❖ Location
- ❖ Main Text
- ❖ Sermon Title

The main body of your sermon notes should include:

- ❖ Sermon Outline
- ❖ Main Points
- ❖ Scripture References
- ❖ Quotes and Illustrations

When you review your sermon notes:

- ❖ List the truths God has revealed to you through the message
- ❖ Ponder, Picture, and Pray over these truths

Giving to Gospel Ministry

A **tithe** means literally a “tenth” and is the traditional amount given to God to support the work of churches and ministries here on earth. The first biblical example of a tithe is found in Genesis 14:20 when Abraham gave a tithe of his goods to Melchizedek. In Old Testament times it was customary to give a tenth of your harvest or goods for God’s use.

“Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, ‘How have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation of you! Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this, says the LORD of hosts, I will open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows.” – Malachi 3:8-10

“Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” –2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Financially supporting gospel ministry is one way we can help fulfill the Great Commission. We must use our finances to promote the work of advancing God’s kingdom here on earth.

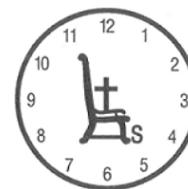
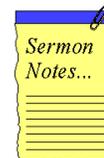
Another point to consider--We may give God our money but do we give God enough of our time?

The Acquisition of Wealth:

There are three different ways that we can look at the acquisition of wealth:

1. You can steal to get
2. You can work to get
3. You can work to get in order to give

Almost all of the forces in our culture urge us towards the second viewpoint. The Bible is unrelenting in pushing us towards the third.



Week 9

Memory Verse

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." – 1 John 1:9 (NIV)

Scripture Readings

Lesson

Review memory verse and weekly reading

Terms to Remember

Arminianism—a theological system where God elects believers on the basis of foreseen faith, man and God work together to achieve salvation

Calvinism—a theological system where God elects believers on the basis of his own choice, God alone is the one who achieves salvation

Hyper-Calvinism—the belief that evangelism is not necessary and the call to repent and believe is not universal

Inerrancy—exemption from error

Orthodoxy—belief in the generally accepted Christian doctrines taught in the bible

Open Theism—the belief that God does not exercise meticulous control of the universe and does not know the future

Using Time Wisely, Inerrancy of Scripture, Issues That Divide

Using Time Wisely

"Teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom." – Psalm 90:12

"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil." – Ephesians 5:15-16



Have you ever thought of time as having a high market value? Time is a treasure, and everyone has only 168 hours per week including sleeping hours. How will you *invest* those hours? The real difficulty is not the lack of time, but what we do with the time we have.

Interesting fact: The average American watches January 1 – March 13 worth of TV.

- ❖ Pray for godly perspectives & priorities in your life.
- ❖ Be sure to spend time in the word and prayer.
- ❖ Get rid of the non-essentials that eat your time away.

What are some steps that you can take to use your time more wisely for Christ?

Inerrancy of the Scriptures

Does the Bible make mistakes? This question is one that must be answered. Different views on the inerrancy of scripture exist, and some of these views lie on the extreme ends of this spectrum and should not be taken. Here are some select theories on the inerrancy of the Bible.

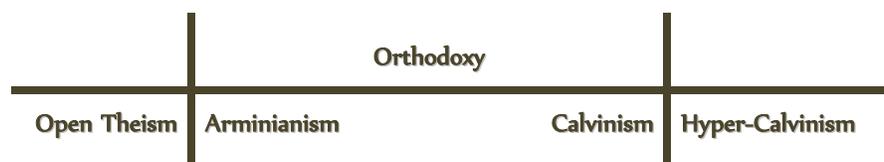


- ❖ **Naïve Inerrancy** – Based on the dictation theory of inspiration. Loathes any critical methodologies.
- ❖ **Absolute Inerrancy** – God is perfect. The Bible is God's Word. Therefore the Bible is perfect. Apparent difference in biblical accounts can be smoothed over by adding all biblical viewpoints.
- ❖ **Critical Inerrancy** – "Whatever statements the Bible affirms are fully truthful when they are correctly interpreted in terms of their meaning in their cultural setting and the purpose for which they were written", seaming errors are not errors in light of the filters of cultural, language, and future interpretive abilities.
- ❖ **Limited Inerrancy** – The Bible is inerrant in salvific and theological points, but NOT in historical ones.
- ❖ **Functional Inerrancy** – The Bible is inerrant in what it intends to do. Inerrant in that it leads a person to God, but that's about it.

Issues That Divide

Orthodoxy

Shifting gears, one of the most difficult theological questions you will encounter is the debate over Calvinism or Reformed Theology vs. Arminianism. As you deal with this issue, consider what have traditionally been the boundaries of orthodox Christian thought. Remember to show grace to a fellow believer who is of a different opinion but within orthodoxy.



Week 10

Memory Verse

"For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." – Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

Lesson

Review memory verse and weekly reading

Terms to Remember

Worship—exclaiming who God is, taking pleasure in Him, and seeking to bring glory to His Name

Escaping Sinful Life Patterns, God-Honoring Worship

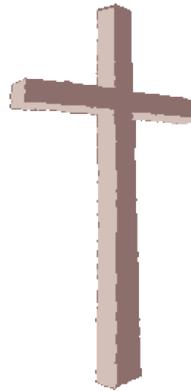
Escaping Sinful Life Patterns

"How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers! But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night." – Psalm 1:1-2

As a consequence of the Fall, all of us will struggle with sin and temptation for as long as we are alive on Earth. Here are some ways to resist:

1. Recognize your weak and vulnerable areas, blind spots, or possible strongholds of the enemy.
2. Stay away from places and people who prey upon your weaknesses.
3. Think of the possible consequences of a sinful action. Would you do this if you knew it would be publicly displayed?
4. Remember God's promise of power to overcome in 1 Corinthians 10:13.
5. Use God's powerful weapons in your fight.
6. Become accountable to an individual or small group.
7. Immerse yourself in the word of God.
8. Ask for forgiveness and cleansing and walk in the power of the Spirit.

"No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it." –1 Corinthians 10:13



Worship

What is worship? Usually when we think about worshiping God we picture standing and singing songs in church. This can be a form of worship, but this is only part of the picture. Worship is about bringing the greatest Glory to God. Worship is exclaiming who God is, taking pleasure in Him, and truly believing that "To live is Christ".

What are some ways in which you worship God?

"Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name." – Hebrews 13:15

"God is most glorified in you, when you are most satisfied in Him." – John Piper

"The chief end of man is glorify God and enjoy him forever" – Westminster Confession

"A man can no more diminish God's glory by refusing to worship Him than a lunatic can put out the sun by scribbling 'darkness' on the wall of his cell" – C.S. Lewis

Is your heart a heart of worship? That is, does your heart treasure Christ above all?

The Armor of God

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." –Ephesians 6:10-18



THE ARMOR OF GOD EPH. 6:10-17

The helmet of salvation
The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?
Ps. 27:1

The sword of the Spirit
For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword...
Heb. 4:12

The shield of faith
Who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.
1 Peter 1:5

The breastplate of righteousness
...be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ... Phil 3:9

The belt of truth
If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. John 8:31-32

The shoes of the Gospel
How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace..
Is. 52:7

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Week 11

Memory Verse

"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." – Genesis 50:20 (NIV)

Lesson

Review memory verse and weekly reading

Terms to Remember

Apologetics— the process of giving a well-thought-out and reasoned defense of God's Word in a way that lovingly answers the crucial questions asked by an unbelieving world and removes barriers that keep an unbeliever from Christ.

Spiritual Gift— a gift given by God for the furtherance of His Kingdom

Life Application

Do you have a clear idea of what you believe such as a statement of faith? Consider checking out the Baptist Faith and Message (BFM) adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in Appendix D. What would your personal statement of faith look like?

Developing Your Spiritual Gifts, Mastering Apologetics

Spiritual Gifts

"As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." – 1 Peter 4:10

The purpose of spiritual gifts is to build up the body of Christ, not for individual or personal glory. Note the following descriptions as to how each gift performs this function.



Spiritual Gifts in the Body of Christ	
Apostleship	Being sent out by God to blaze trails or missions and minister to others
Prophecy	Speaking God's message without fear and keeping the body of Christ aligned with the truth of God's Word
Evangelistic	Explaining the gospel to those who are unsaved and helping lead them to faith in Christ
Pastoring	Leading and shepherding the flock and providing overall guidance and direction for a body of believers
Teaching	Communicating the word of God and equipping members for ministry
Administration	Organizing and guiding the internal affairs of the church
Wisdom	Knowing how to apply spiritual truth to give guidance and godly counsel to other Christians
Discernment	Distinguishing truth from falsity and protecting the church from doctrinal errors
Encouraging	Uplifting and bringing joy to others through a word or deed of encouragement
Tongues and Interpretation	Speaking or interpreting a message from God in a language not previously studied or understood
Serving	Ministering to members of the Church in practical ways through simple activities

You can identify your spiritual gifts through:

- ❖ **Inner Awareness**— You gain an inner sense of God's work in your life through prayer and Bible study.
- ❖ **Outer Evidence**— As you minister to others, people respond to your use of gifts.
- ❖ **External Affirmation** – Others in the body note these results and give you affirmation of what they see and sense from God.

Apologetics

Apologetics is the process of giving a well thought out explanation of the gospel and answering some of the critical questions asked by an unbelieving world. Through apologetics we can work for God to help remove barriers that unbelievers have towards understanding Christ.

"Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence." – 1 Peter 3:15



Some common apologetical questions to be answered:

1. How can you prove that God really exists?
2. How do you know that Jesus is the Son of God?
3. How do you know that the Bible is reliable?
4. Can Jesus really be the only way to salvation?
5. Why does God allow suffering and pain?
6. What about those who have never heard about Jesus?
7. How can the Bible be relevant to me?
8. Is there conflict between science and the Bible?

How to deal with questions:

1. Avoid arguing
2. Discern whether a question is really a smokescreen
3. Seek to draw the conversation back to human sin and Christ crucified
4. Avoid dismissing questions or giving “pat” answers
5. Don’t be afraid to say “I don’t know”
6. Invest time in studying questions related to apologetics

Apologetics Resources

Alpha and Omega Ministries

www.aomin.org

Week 12

Memory Verse

“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” – Romans 12:2 (NIV)

Lesson

Review memory verse and weekly reading

Terms to Remember

Culture—the customs, value systems, and achievements of a particular nation, tribe, or people group

Evangelism—sharing the gospel message

Missionary—an individual who spreads the gospel message by serving peoples of other cultures, often in a foreign country

Understanding and Responding to Culture, Catching the Vision for World Evangelism

Understanding Culture

People develop a lifestyle as a result of specific influences, including:

1. **Birth**— Each person is born with certain “givens” such as sex, ethnicity, family, etc
2. **Culture**— Each person grows up in a world of different influences. These begin to shape the way we think and act
3. **Goals**— We set goals that we think will bring fulfillment in our lives



Specific life influences: Family, friends, church, poverty, secularism, religion, alcohol, drugs, materialism, self-sufficiency, community, business, crime, success, selfishness, school, Bible, media, television, internet, violence, music, books.

The final result is living a certain way, with all its consequences, negative and positive. We can begin to understand the chosen lifestyles of others by simply checking out the sources of influence in their lives. As believers we must we must attempt to live in the culture and relate to a society that is generally opposed to us.

Responding to Culture

Ways we can respond to culture:

1. **Attack Mentality**—Society is so corrupt we must avoid it except to fight it and protest the things with which we don’t agree
2. **Absorption Mentality**—We become absorbed in society, fit in, and become conformed to it
3. **Circled-Wagon Mentality**—We live in the society, but we relate only to those like us, developing our own music, TV, radio, etc
4. **Withdrawal Mentality**—We remove ourselves entirely from the world and actually form our own closed community, such as a commune or monastery
5. **Transformer Mentality**—We live in the world, not allowing the culture to shape our lives, but becoming salt and light within society to bring it the transforming power of Christ

A Heart for World Evangelism

Does the thought of a group of people who have never heard the name of Christ concern you? As Christians we are called to fulfill the great commission near and far.

“You shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” – Acts 1:8



As Christians we are called to take the name of God everywhere, yet we ourselves can only minister in one place at a time. How can we insure that the good news reaches “the remotest part of the earth” when our current ministry is in Jerusalem?

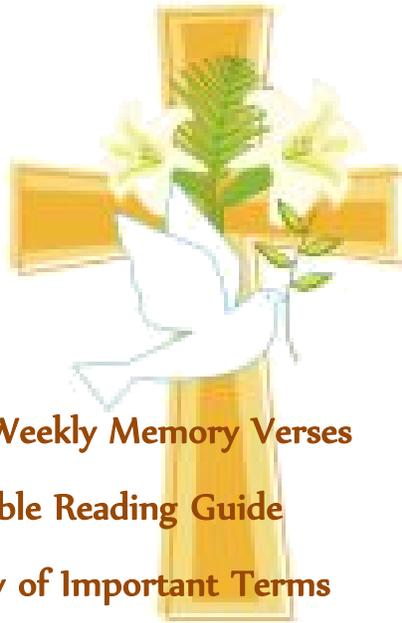
As Christians, we can take one of three actions when it comes to reaching the least reached people groups of the earth with the gospel:

1. Go on missions to reach them
2. Support those missionaries who go
3. Be disobedient to God

Missions Information And Resources

International Mission Board	www.imb.org
International Mission Board Resources	www.imbresources.org
North American Mission Board	www.namb.net
Operation World	www.operationworld.org
The Joshua Project	www.joshuaproject.net

Appendices



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Weekly Bible Memory Verses

Introduction	<p>"If you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." —Romans 10:9</p>
Week 1	<p>"Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." – Luke 9:23</p>
Week 2	<p>"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." – Romans 8:28</p>
Week 3	<p>"For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers." – Romans 8:29</p>
Week 4	<p>"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life." – John 5:24</p>
Week 5	<p>"No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it." – 1 Corinthians 10:13</p>
Week 6	<p>"But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me." – 2 Corinthians 12:9</p>
Week 7	<p>"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." – Romans 3:23</p>
Week 8	<p>"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." – Romans 6:23</p>
Week 9	<p>"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." – 1 John 1:9</p>
Week 10	<p>"For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." – Hebrews 4:12</p>
Week 11	<p>"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." – Genesis 50:20</p>
Week 12	<p>"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." – Romans 12:2</p>

Appendix B: Daily Bible Reading Guide

Jan 1	Genesis 1-3	Feb 16	Numbers 25-27	Apr 3	2 Samuel 16-18	May 19	Esther 4-6
Jan 2	Genesis 4-6	Feb 17	Numbers 28-30	Apr 4	2 Samuel 19-21	May 20	Esther 7-10
Jan 3	Genesis 7-9	Feb 18	Numbers 31-33	Apr 5	2 Samuel 22-24	May 21	Job 1-3
Jan 4	Genesis 10-12	Feb 19	Numbers 34-36	Apr 6	1 Kings 1-3	May 22	Job 4-6
Jan 5	Genesis 13-15	Feb 20	Deuteronomy 1-3	Apr 7	1 Kings 4-6	May 23	Job 7-9
Jan 6	Genesis 16-18	Feb 21	Deuteronomy 4-6	Apr 8	1 Kings 7-9	May 24	Job 10-12
Jan 7	Genesis 19-21	Feb 22	Deuteronomy 7-9	Apr 9	1 Kings 10-12	May 25	Job 13-15
Jan 8	Genesis 22-24	Feb 23	Deuteronomy 10-12	Apr 10	1 Kings 13-15	May 26	Job 16-18
Jan 9	Genesis 25-27	Feb 24	Deuteronomy 13-15	Apr 11	1 Kings 16-18	May 27	Job 19-21
Jan 10	Genesis 28-30	Feb 25	Deuteronomy 16-18	Apr 12	1 Kings 19-22	May 28	Job 22-24
Jan 11	Genesis 31-33	Feb 26	Deuteronomy 19-21	Apr 13	2 Kings 1-3	May 29	Job 25-27
Jan 12	Genesis 34-36	Feb 27	Deuteronomy 22-24	Apr 14	2 Kings 4-6	May 30	Job 28-30
Jan 13	Genesis 37-39	Feb 28	Deuteronomy 25-27	Apr 15	2 Kings 7-9	May 31	Job 31-33
Jan 14	Genesis 40-42	Mar 1	Deuteronomy 28-30	Apr 16	2 Kings 10-12	Jun 1	Job 34-36
Jan 15	Genesis 43-46	Mar 2	Deuteronomy 31-34	Apr 17	2 Kings 13-15	Jun 2	Job 37-39
Jan 16	Genesis 47-50	Mar 3	Joshua 1-3	Apr 18	2 Kings 16-18	Jun 3	Job 40-42
Jan 17	Exodus 1-3	Mar 4	Joshua 4-6	Apr 19	2 Kings 19-21	Jun 4	Psalms 1-5
Jan 18	Exodus 4-6	Mar 5	Joshua 7-9	Apr 20	2 Kings 22-25	Jun 5	Psalms 6-10
Jan 19	Exodus 7-9	Mar 6	Joshua 10-12	Apr 21	1 Chronicles 1-6	Jun 6	Psalms 11-15
Jan 20	Exodus 10-12	Mar 7	Joshua 13-15	Apr 22	1 Chronicles 7-9	Jun 7	Psalms 16-20
Jan 21	Exodus 13-15	Mar 8	Joshua 16-18	Apr 23	1 Chronicles 10-12	Jun 8	Psalms 21-25
Jan 22	Exodus 16-18	Mar 9	Joshua 19-21	Apr 24	1 Chronicles 13-15	Jun 9	Psalms 26-30
Jan 23	Exodus 19-21	Mar 10	Joshua 22-24	Apr 25	1 Chronicles 16-18	Jun 10	Psalms 31-35
Jan 24	Exodus 22-24	Mar 11	Judges 1-3	Apr 26	1 Chronicles 19-21	Jun 11	Psalms 36-40
Jan 25	Exodus 25-27	Mar 12	Judges 4-6	Apr 27	1 Chronicles 22-25	Jun 12	Psalms 41-45
Jan 26	Exodus 28-30	Mar 13	Judges 7-9	Apr 28	1 Chronicles 26-29	Jun 13	Psalms 46-50
Jan 27	Exodus 31-33	Mar 14	Judges 10-12	Apr 29	2 Chronicles 1-3	Jun 14	Psalms 51-55
Jan 28	Exodus 34-36	Mar 15	Judges 13-15	Apr 30	2 Chronicles 4-6	Jun 15	Psalms 56-60
Jan 29	Exodus 37-40	Mar 16	Judges 16-18	May 1	2 Chronicles 7-9	Jun 16	Psalms 61-65
Jan 30	Leviticus 1-3	Mar 17	Judges 19-21	May 2	2 Chronicles 10-12	Jun 17	Psalms 66-70
Jan 31	Leviticus 4-6	Mar 18	Ruth 1-4	May 3	2 Chronicles 13-15	Jun 18	Psalms 71-75
Feb 1	Leviticus 7-9	Mar 19	1 Samuel 1-3	May 4	2 Chronicles 16-18	Jun 19	Psalms 76-80
Feb 2	Leviticus 10-12	Mar 20	1 Samuel 4-6	May 5	2 Chronicles 19-21	Jun 20	Psalms 81-85
Feb 3	Leviticus 13-15	Mar 21	1 Samuel 7-9	May 6	2 Chronicles 22-24	Jun 21	Psalms 86-90
Feb 4	Leviticus 16-18	Mar 22	1 Samuel 10-12	May 7	2 Chronicles 25-27	Jun 22	Psalms 91-95
Feb 5	Leviticus 19-21	Mar 23	1 Samuel 13-15	May 8	2 Chronicles 28-30	Jun 23	Psalms 96-100
Feb 6	Leviticus 22-24	Mar 24	1 Samuel 16-18	May 9	2 Chronicles 31-33	Jun 24	Psalms 101-105
Feb 7	Leviticus 25-27	Mar 25	1 Samuel 19-21	May 10	2 Chronicles 34-36	Jun 25	Psalms 106-110
Feb 8	Numbers 1-3	Mar 26	1 Samuel 22-24	May 11	Ezra 1-3	Jun 26	Psalms 111-115
Feb 9	Numbers 4-6	Mar 27	1 Samuel 25-27	May 12	Ezra 4-6	Jun 27	Psalms 116-120
Feb 10	Numbers 7-9	Mar 28	1 Samuel 28-31	May 13	Ezra 7-10	Jun 28	Psalms 121-125
Feb 11	Numbers 10-12	Mar 29	2 Samuel 1-3	May 14	Nehemiah 1-3	Jun 29	Psalms 126-130
Feb 12	Numbers 13-15	Mar 30	2 Samuel 4-6	May 15	Nehemiah 4-6	Jun 30	Psalms 131-135
Feb 13	Numbers 16-18	Mar 31	2 Samuel 7-9	May 16	Nehemiah 7-9	Jul 1	Psalms 136-140
Feb 14	Numbers 19-21	Apr 1	2 Samuel 10-12	May 17	Nehemiah 10-13	Jul 2	Psalms 141-145
Feb 15	Numbers 22-24	Apr 2	2 Samuel 13-15	May 18	Esther 1-3	Jul 3	Psalms 146-150

Appendix B: Daily Bible Reading Guide

Jul 4	Proverbs 1-3	Aug 19	Jeremiah 25-27	Oct 4	Zechariah 1-3	Nov 19	Romans 7-9
Jul 5	Proverbs 4-6	Aug 20	Jeremiah 28-30	Oct 5	Zechariah 4-6	Nov 20	Romans 10-12
Jul 6	Proverbs 7-9	Aug 21	Jeremiah 31-33	Oct 6	Zechariah 7-10	Nov 21	Romans 13-16
Jul 7	Proverbs 10-12	Aug 22	Jeremiah 34-36	Oct 7	Zechariah 11-14	Nov 22	1 Corinthians 1-3
Jul 8	Proverbs 13-15	Aug 23	Jeremiah 37-39	Oct 8	Malachi 1-2	Nov 23	1 Corinthians 4-6
Jul 9	Proverbs 16-18	Aug 24	Jeremiah 40-42	Oct 9	Malachi 3-4	Nov 24	1 Corinthians 7-9
Jul 10	Proverbs 19-21	Aug 25	Jeremiah 43-45	Oct 10	Matthew 1-3	Nov 25	1 Corinthians 10-12
Jul 11	Proverbs 22-24	Aug 26	Jeremiah 46-48	Oct 11	Matthew 4-6	Nov 26	1 Corinthians 13-16
Jul 12	Proverbs 25-27	Aug 27	Jeremiah 49-52	Oct 12	Matthew 7-9	Nov 27	2 Corinthians 1-3
Jul 13	Proverbs 28-31	Aug 28	Lamentations 1-3	Oct 13	Matthew 10-12	Nov 28	2 Corinthians 4-6
Jul 14	Ecclesiastes 1-3	Aug 29	Lamentations 4-5	Oct 14	Matthew 13-15	Nov 29	2 Corinthians 7-9
Jul 15	Ecclesiastes 4-6	Aug 30	Ezekiel 1-3	Oct 15	Matthew 16-18	Nov 30	2 Corinthians 10-13
Jul 16	Ecclesiastes 7-9	Aug 31	Ezekiel 4-6	Oct 16	Matthew 19-21	Dec 1	Galatians 1-3
Jul 17	Ecclesiastes 10-12	Sep 1	Ezekiel 7-9	Oct 17	Matthew 22-24	Dec 2	Galatians 4-6
Jul 18	Song of Songs 1-4	Sep 2	Ezekiel 10-12	Oct 18	Matthew 25-28	Dec 3	Ephesians 1-3
Jul 19	Song of Songs 5-8	Sep 3	Ezekiel 13-15	Oct 19	Mark 1-3	Dec 4	Ephesians 4-6
Jul 20	Isaiah 1-3	Sep 4	Ezekiel 16-18	Oct 20	Mark 4-6	Dec 5	Philippians 1-4
Jul 21	Isaiah 4-6	Sep 5	Ezekiel 19-21	Oct 21	Mark 7-9	Dec 6	Colossians 1-4
Jul 22	Isaiah 7-9	Sep 6	Ezekiel 22-24	Oct 22	Mark 10-12	Dec 7	1 Thessalonians 1-5
Jul 23	Isaiah 10-12	Sep 7	Ezekiel 25-27	Oct 23	Mark 13-16	Dec 8	2 Thessalonians 1-3
Jul 24	Isaiah 13-15	Sep 8	Ezekiel 28-30	Oct 24	Luke 1-3	Dec 9	1 Timothy 1-3
Jul 25	Isaiah 16-18	Sep 9	Ezekiel 31-33	Oct 25	Luke 4-6	Dec 10	1 Timothy 4-6
Jul 26	Isaiah 19-21	Sep 10	Ezekiel 34-36	Oct 26	Luke 7-9	Dec 11	2 Timothy 1-4
Jul 27	Isaiah 22-24	Sep 11	Ezekiel 37-40	Oct 27	Luke 10-12	Dec 12	Titus 1-3
Jul 28	Isaiah 25-27	Sep 12	Ezekiel 41-44	Oct 28	Luke 13-15	Dec 13	Philemon
Jul 29	Isaiah 28-30	Sep 13	Ezekiel 45-48	Oct 29	Luke 16-18	Dec 14	Hebrews 1-3
Jul 30	Isaiah 31-33	Sep 14	Daniel 1-3	Oct 30	Luke 19-21	Dec 15	Hebrews 4-6
Jul 31	Isaiah 34-36	Sep 15	Daniel 4-6	Oct 31	Luke 22-24	Dec 16	Hebrews 7-9
Aug 1	Isaiah 37-39	Sep 16	Daniel 7-9	Nov 1	John 1-3	Dec 17	Hebrews 10-13
Aug 2	Isaiah 40-42	Sep 17	Daniel 10-12	Nov 2	John 4-6	Dec 18	James 1-3
Aug 3	Isaiah 43-45	Sep 18	Hosea 1-3	Nov 3	John 7-9	Dec 19	James 4-5
Aug 4	Isaiah 46-48	Sep 19	Hosea 4-6	Nov 4	John 10-12	Dec 20	1 Peter 1-5
Aug 5	Isaiah 49-51	Sep 20	Hosea 7-10	Nov 5	John 13-15	Dec 21	2 Peter 1-3
Aug 6	Isaiah 52-54	Sep 21	Hosea 11-14	Nov 6	John 16-18	Dec 22	1 John 1-3
Aug 7	Isaiah 55-57	Sep 22	Joel 1-3	Nov 7	John 19-21	Dec 23	1 John 4-5
Aug 8	Isaiah 58-60	Sep 23	Amos 1-3	Nov 8	Acts 1-3	Dec 24	2-3 John, & Jude
Aug 9	Isaiah 61-63	Sep 24	Amos 4-6	Nov 9	Acts 4-6	Dec 25	Revelation 1-3
Aug 10	Isaiah 64-66	Sep 25	Amos 7-9	Nov 10	Acts 7-9	Dec 26	Revelation 4-6
Aug 11	Jeremiah 1-3	Sep 26	Obadiah	Nov 11	Acts 10-12	Dec 27	Revelation 7-9
Aug 12	Jeremiah 4-6	Sep 27	Jonah 1-4	Nov 12	Acts 13-15	Dec 28	Revelation 10-12
Aug 13	Jeremiah 7-9	Sep 28	Micah 1-3	Nov 13	Acts 16-18	Dec 29	Revelation 13-15
Aug 14	Jeremiah 10-12	Sep 29	Micah 4-7	Nov 14	Acts 19-21	Dec 30	Revelation 16-18
Aug 15	Jeremiah 13-15	Sep 30	Nahum 1-3	Nov 15	Acts 22-24	Dec 31	Revelation 19-22
Aug 16	Jeremiah 16-18	Oct 1	Habakkuk 1-3	Nov 16	Acts 25-28		
Aug 17	Jeremiah 19-21	Oct 2	Zephaniah 1-3	Nov 17	Romans 1-3		
Aug 18	Jeremiah 22-24	Oct 3	Haggai 1-2	Nov 18	Romans 4-6		

Appendix C: Glossary of Important Terms

Absorption Mentality—response to culture in which we become absorbed in society, fit in and become conformed to it

Administration—organizing and guiding the internal affairs of the church

Adoration—praising and rejoicing in the power and majesty of God

Apologetics—the process of giving a well-thought-out and reasoned defense of God’s Word in a way that lovingly answers the crucial questions asked by an unbelieving world and removes barriers that keep an unbeliever from Christ

Apostleship—being sent out by God to blaze trails or missions and minister to others

Arminianism—a theological system where God elects believers on the basis of foreseen faith, man and God work together to achieve salvation

Attack Mentality—response to culture in which we view society as so corrupt we must avoid it except to fight it and protest the things with which we don’t agree

Baptism—immersion in water as a symbol of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ

Calvinism—a theological system where God elects believers on the basis of his own choice, God alone is the one who achieves salvation

Careless Living—allowing secondary issues to consume our time, living in ignorance of God’s purpose or in outright disobedience toward it, doing our own thing and falling into sinful life patterns

Carnal—acting like an unsaved person, following the urges of sinful human nature; the opposite of spiritual or mature

Christian Liberty—the freedom to do God’s Will without being bound by manmade rules and regulations

Christian Meditation—a threefold concept consisting of pondering the truth, picturing what it means to me, and praying about ways in which I can apply that truth to my life

Christian—a person who has placed his/her faith in the saving work of Jesus Christ

Church—an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth (BFM)

Circled-Wagon Mentality—response to culture in which we live in the society, but we relate only to those like us, developing our own music, TV, radio, etc

Communion—the consumption of bread and wine as symbols of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ

Confession—seeking God’s forgiveness for sin

Culture—the customs, value systems, and achievements of a particular nation, tribe, or people group

Discernment—distinguishing truth from falsity and protecting the church from doctrinal errors

Edification—building up, encouraging, and strengthening other believers

Encouraging—uplifting and bringing joy to others through a word or deed of encouragement

Evangelism—sharing the gospel message

Evangelist—explains the gospel, helps lead people to Christ

Faith—acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Saviour (BFM)

False Prophet, False Teacher—any individual who misrepresents any part of God’s Word

Fruits of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (Gal 5:22-23)

Fuzzy Thinking—listening to just about anybody or anything, believing what is said without checking it out, allowing false information to enter our minds unchallenged

Glorification—the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed (BFM)

Gospels—name for the first four books of the New Testament (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)

Gospel—the message of salvation taught throughout the Bible

Grace—God giving me a free gift I do not deserve; God showing favor to people who cannot earn any favor

Heathenism—any lifestyle that does not include or show respect for God

Hedonism—the pursuit of worldly pleasures

Holiness—Christlike behavior that results from trusting and obeying God

Humanism—placing human thought over God’s revealed Word

Hyper-Calvinism—

Hyper-Calvinism—the belief that evangelism is not necessary and the call to repent and believe is not universal

Inerrancy—exemption from error

Intercession—a prayer for God to work in the life of another individual

Justification—God’s gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God (BFM)

Legalism—placing emphasis strictly on following the law or a human standard instead of following God, basing one’s walk with God on manmade rules and regulations

Love—a strong affection and personal attachment, a response to the love that Christ showed us

Lusts—strong evil desires, inordinate sexual desires

Marriage—the God-ordained, lifelong union of one man and one woman to each other until death

Materialism—a preoccupation with acquiring goods, consumerism

Ministry—the full scope in applying the gospel to every situation in your life

Missionary—an individual who spreads the gospel message by serving peoples of other cultures, often in a foreign country

New Birth—see *Regeneration*

Appendix C: Glossary of Important Terms

New Testament—the last 27 books of the Bible

Obedience—to follow the commands or guidance of another

Old Testament—the first 39 books of the Bible

Open Theism—the belief that God does not exercise meticulous control of the universe and does not know the future

Orthodoxy—belief in the generally accepted Christian doctrines taught in the bible

Orthodoxy—generally accepted Christian doctrines

Pastoring—leading and shepherding the flock and providing overall guidance and direction for a body of believers

Pentateuch—the first five books of the Old Testament, (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) compiled or authored by Moses

Prophecy—speaking God’s message without fear and keeping the body of Christ aligned with the truth of God’s Word

Purity—the action of living out God’s command to abstain from sexual activity until marriage in all areas of life, chastity

Regeneration—or the new birth, is a work of God’s grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace. Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Saviour. (BFM)

Repentance—a genuine turning from sin toward God, repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace (BFM)

Saints—all those who have trusted in Christ alone for salvation

Salvation—turning from sin and trusting that Jesus Christ alone offers forgiveness from sin

Sanctification—the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God’s purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person’s life (BFM)

Selfishness—strong desire to please oneself and one’s desires

Sermon Notes—notes taken during a sermon, composed of the speaker’s name, the date and time, the location, the main text, and the sermon title

Serving—ministering to members of the Church in practical ways through simple activities

Sexual Immorality—any sexual activity occurring outside a marriage relationship; includes premarital and extramarital sex

Sexuality—a glorious gift from God to be offered back to Him either in marriage for procreation, union and mutual delight or in celibacy for undivided devotion to Christ

Sin—any transgression or deviation from God’s perfect standard of absolute holiness

Sinner—anyone who violates God’s perfect standard of absolute holiness

Skepticism—questioning or denying

Sloppy Theology—not knowing what the Bible says, being unclear on key life issues, tentative in our discipleship, or following Christ only when it is convenient or without pain

Spiritual Gift— a gift given by God for the furtherance of His Kingdom

Spiritual—understanding God’s truth through the Holy Spirit and being submissive to the Spirit’s direction, the opposite of carnal

Supplication—a prayer asking God for His help in a situation

Teaching—communicating the word of God and equipping members for ministry

Thanksgiving—thanking God for what He has done for us

Tithe—the traditional amount given to God (literally a “tenth” of one’s resources) in support of the work of churches and other ministries here on Earth

Tongues and Interpretation— Speaking or interpreting a message from God in a language not previously studied or understood

Transformer Mentality—Response to culture in which we live in the world, not allowing the culture to shape our lives, but becoming salt and light within society to bring it the transforming power of Christ.

Wisdom—knowing how to apply spiritual truth to give guidance and godly counsel to other Christians

Withdrawal Mentality—Response to culture in which we remove ourselves entirely from the world and actually form our own closed community, such as a commune or monastery

Witnessing—sharing your faith in God’s Word, telling others how God can deliver them from their sins

Worldview—a set of presuppositions which we hold about the basic makeup of our world, a point of view, a frame of reference

Worship—exclaiming who God is, taking pleasure in Him, and seeking to bring glory to His Name

Appendix D: The Baptist Faith and Message

I. The Scriptures

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

Exodus 24:4; Deuteronomy 4:1-2; 17:19; Joshua 8:34; Psalms 19:7-10; 119:11, 89,105,140; Isaiah 34:16; 40:8; Jeremiah 15:16; 36:1-32; Matthew 5:17-18; 22:29; Luke 21:33; 24:44-46; John 5:39; 16:13-15; 17:17; Acts 2:16ff.; 17:11; Romans 15:4; 16:25-26; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 1:1-2; 4:12; 1 Peter 1:25; 2 Peter 1:19-21.

II. God

There is one and only one living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is all powerful and all knowing; and His perfect knowledge extends to all things, past, present, and future, including the future decisions of His free creatures. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being.

A. God the Father

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men.

Genesis 1:1; 2:7; Exodus 3:14; 6:2-3; 15:1ff.; 20:1ff.; Leviticus 22:2; Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:6; 1 Chronicles 29:10; Psalm 19:1-3; Isaiah 43:3,15; 64:8; Jeremiah 10:10; 17:13; Matthew 6:9ff.; 7:11; 23:9; 28:19; Mark 1:9-11; John 4:24; 5:26; 14:6-13; 17:1-8; Acts 1:7; Romans 8:14-15; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:6; 12:9; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 John 5:7.

B. God the Son

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever present Lord.

Genesis 18:1ff.; Psalms 2:7ff.; 110:1ff.; Isaiah 7:14; 53; Matthew 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 11:27; 14:33; 16:16,27; 17:5; 27; 28:1-6,19; Mark 1:1; 3:11; Luke 1:35; 4:41; 22:70; 24:46; John 1:1-18,29; 10:30,38; 11:25-27; 12:44-50; 14:7-11; 16:15-16,28; 17:1-5, 21-22; 20:1-20,28; Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; 9:4-5,20; Romans 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 5:6-21; 8:1-3,34; 10:4; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2:2; 8:6; 15:1-8,24-28; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; 8:9; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:20; 3:11; 4:7-10; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:13-22; 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 3:16; Titus 2:13-14; Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-15; 7:14-28; 9:12-15,24-28; 12:2; 13:8; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:22; 1 John 1:7-9; 3:2; 4:14-15; 5:9; 2 John 7-9; Revelation 1:13-16; 5:9-14; 12:10-11; 13:8; 19:16.

C. God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Saviour, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

Genesis 1:2; Judges 14:6; Job 26:13; Psalms 51:11; 139:7ff.; Isaiah 61:1-3; Joel 2:28-32; Matthew 1:18; 3:16; 4:1; 12:28-32; 28:19; Mark 1:10,12; Luke 1:35; 4:1,18-19; 11:13; 12:12; 24:49; John 4:24; 14:16-17,26; 15:26; 16:7-14; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4,38; 4:31; 5:3; 6:3; 7:55; 8:17,39; 10:44; 13:2; 15:28; 16:6; 19:1-6; Romans 8:9-11,14-16,26-27; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; 3:16; 12:3-11,13; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 Timothy 3:16; 4:1; 2 Timothy 1:14; 3:16; Hebrews 9:8,14; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:13; 5:6-7; Revelation 1:10; 22:17.

Appendix D: The Baptist Faith and Message

III. Man

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

Genesis 1:26-30; 2:5,7,18-22; 3; 9:6; Psalms 1; 8:3-6; 32:1-5; 51:5; Isaiah 6:5; Jeremiah 17:5; Matthew 16:26; Acts 17:26-31; Romans 1:19-32; 3:10-18,23; 5:6,12,19; 6:6; 7:14-25; 8:14-18,29; 1 Corinthians 1:21-31; 15:19,21-22; Ephesians 2:1-22; Colossians 1:21-22; 3:9-11.

IV. Salvation

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

- A. Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God's grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace. Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Saviour.
- B. Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God.
- C. Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person's life.
- D. Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.

Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14,29; 3:3-21,36; 5:24; 10:9,28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff.; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18,29-39; 10:9-10,13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18,30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff.; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8,14; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:2-23; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:5.

V. God's Purpose of Grace

Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.

All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach on the cause of Christ and temporal judgments on themselves; yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-8; 1 Samuel 8:4-7,19-22; Isaiah 5:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31ff.; Matthew 16:18-19; 21:28-45; 24:22,31; 25:34; Luke 1:68-79; 2:29-32; 19:41-44; 24:44-48; John 1:12-14; 3:16; 5:24; 6:44-45,65; 10:27-29; 15:16; 17:6, 12, 17-18; Acts 20:32; Romans 5:9-10; 8:28-39; 10:12-15; 11:5-7,26-36; 1 Corinthians 1:1-2; 15:24-28; Ephesians 1:4-23; 2:1-10; 3:1-11; Colossians 1:12-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14; 2 Timothy 1:12; 2:10,19; Hebrews 11:39-12:2; James 1:12; 1 Peter 1:2-5,13; 2:4-10; 1 John 1:7-9; 2:19; 3:2.

VI. The Church

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each

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congregation operates under the Lordship of Christ through democratic processes. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

The New Testament speaks also of the church as the body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation.

Matthew 16:15-19; 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-42,47; 5:11-14; 6:3-6; 13:1-3; 14:23,27; 15:1-30; 16:5; 20:28; Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 3:16; 5:4-5; 7:17; 9:13-14; 12; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11,21; 5:22-32; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 2:9-14; 3:1-15; 4:14; Hebrews 11:39-40; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Revelation 2-3; 21:2-3.

VII. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Saviour, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.

Matthew 3:13-17; 26:26-30; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; 14:22-26; Luke 3:21-22; 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:41-42; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; 20:7; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 10:16,21; 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12.

VIII. The Lord's Day

The first day of the week is the Lord's Day. It is a Christian institution for regular observance. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ from the dead and should include exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private. Activities on the Lord's Day should be commensurate with the Christian's conscience under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Exodus 20:8-11; Matthew 12:1-12; 28:1ff.; Mark 2:27-28; 16:1-7; Luke 24:1-3,33-36; John 4:21-24; 20:1,19-28; Acts 20:7; Romans 14:5-10; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; Colossians 2:16; 3:16; Revelation 1:10.

IX. The Kingdom

The Kingdom of God includes both His general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowledge Him as King. Particularly the Kingdom is the realm of salvation into which men enter by trustful, childlike commitment to Jesus Christ. Christians ought to pray and to labor that the Kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age.

Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 9:6-7; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Matthew 3:2; 4:8-10,23; 12:25-28; 13:1-52; 25:31-46; 26:29; Mark 1:14-15; 9:1; Luke 4:43; 8:1; 9:2; 12:31-32; 17:20-21; 23:42; John 3:3; 18:36; Acts 1:6-7; 17:22-31; Romans 5:17; 8:19; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Colossians 1:13; Hebrews 11:10,16; 12:28; 1 Peter 2:4-10; 4:13; Revelation 1:6,9; 5:10; 11:15; 21-22.

X. Last Things

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.

Isaiah 2:4; 11:9; Matthew 16:27; 18:8-9; 19:28; 24:27,30,36,44; 25:31-46; 26:64; Mark 8:38; 9:43-48; Luke 12:40,48; 16:19-26; 17:22-37; 21:27-28; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; 17:31; Romans 14:10; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 15:24-28,35-58; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Philippians 3:20-21; Colossians 1:5; 3:4; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 5:1ff.; 2 Thessalonians 1:7ff.; 2; 1 Timothy 6:14; 2 Timothy 4:1,8; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 9:27-28; James 5:8; 2 Peter 3:7ff.; 1 John 2:28; 3:2; Jude 14; Revelation 1:18; 3:11; 20:1-22:13.

XI. Evangelism and Missions

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.

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Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:18-30, 37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53; John 14:1-12; 15:7-8,16; 17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; Hebrews 2:1-3; 11:39-12:2; 1 Peter 2:4-10; Revelation 22:17.

XII. Education

Christianity is the faith of enlightenment and intelligence. In Jesus Christ abide all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. All sound learning is, therefore, a part of our Christian heritage. The new birth opens all human faculties and creates a thirst for knowledge. Moreover, the cause of education in the Kingdom of Christ is coordinate with the causes of missions and general benevolence, and should receive along with these the liberal support of the churches. An adequate system of Christian education is necessary to a complete spiritual program for Christ's people.

In Christian education there should be a proper balance between academic freedom and academic responsibility. Freedom in any orderly relationship of human life is always limited and never absolute. The freedom of a teacher in a Christian school, college, or seminary is limited by the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ, by the authoritative nature of the Scriptures, and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists.

Deuteronomy 4:1,5,9,14; 6:1-10; 31:12-13; Nehemiah 8:1-8; Job 28:28; Psalms 19:7ff.; 119:11; Proverbs 3:3ff.; 4:1-10; 8:1-7,11; 15:14; Ecclesiastes 7:19; Matthew 5:2; 7:24ff.; 28:19-20; Luke 2:40; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Ephesians 4:11-16; Philippians 4:8; Colossians 2:3,8-9; 1 Timothy 1:3-7; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:14-17; Hebrews 5:12-6:3; James 1:5; 3:17.

XIII. Stewardship

God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in their possessions. They are therefore under obligation to serve Him with their time, talents, and material possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to them to use for the glory of God and for helping others. According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute of their means cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause on earth.

Genesis 14:20; Leviticus 27:30-32; Deuteronomy 8:18; Malachi 3:8-12; Matthew 6:1-4,19-21; 19:21; 23:23; 25:14-29; Luke 12:16-21,42; 16:1-13; Acts 2:44-47; 5:1-11; 17:24-25; 20:35; Romans 6:6-22; 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; 6:19-20; 12; 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8-9; 12:15; Philippians 4:10-19; 1 Peter 1:18-19.

XIV. Cooperation

Christ's people should, as occasion requires, organize such associations and conventions as may best secure cooperation for the great objects of the Kingdom of God. Such organizations have no authority over one another or over the churches. They are voluntary and advisory bodies designed to elicit, combine, and direct the energies of our people in the most effective manner. Members of New Testament churches should cooperate with one another in carrying forward the missionary, educational, and benevolent ministries for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. Christian unity in the New Testament sense is spiritual harmony and voluntary cooperation for common ends by various groups of Christ's people. Cooperation is desirable between the various Christian denominations, when the end to be attained is itself justified, and when such cooperation involves no violation of conscience or compromise of loyalty to Christ and His Word as revealed in the New Testament.

Exodus 17:12; 18:17ff.; Judges 7:21; Ezra 1:3-4; 2:68-69; 5:14-15; Nehemiah 4; 8:1-5; Matthew 10:5-15; 20:1-16; 22:1-10; 28:19-20; Mark 2:3; Luke 10:1ff.; Acts 1:13-14; 2:1ff.; 4:31-37; 13:2-3; 15:1-35; 1 Corinthians 1:10-17; 3:5-15; 12; 2 Corinthians 8-9; Galatians 1:6-10; Ephesians 4:1-16; Philippians 1:15-18.

XV. The Christian and the Social Order

All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society. Means and methods used for the improvement of society and the establishment of righteousness among men can be truly and permanently helpful only when they are rooted in the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ. In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography. We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. Every Christian should seek to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth, and brotherly love. In order to promote these ends Christians should be ready to work with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth.

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Exodus 20:3-17; Leviticus 6:2-5; Deuteronomy 10:12; 27:17; Psalm 101:5; Micah 6:8; Zechariah 8:16; Matthew 5:13-16,43-48; 22:36-40; 25:35; Mark 1:29-34; 2:3ff.; 10:21; Luke 4:18-21; 10:27-37; 20:25; John 15:12; 17:15; Romans 12-14; 1 Corinthians 5:9-10; 6:1-7; 7:20-24; 10:23-11:1; Galatians 3:26-28; Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; Philemon; James 1:27; 2:8.

XVI. Peace and War

It is the duty of Christians to seek peace with all men on principles of righteousness. In accordance with the spirit and teachings of Christ they should do all in their power to put an end to war.

The true remedy for the war spirit is the gospel of our Lord. The supreme need of the world is the acceptance of His teachings in all the affairs of men and nations, and the practical application of His law of love. Christian people throughout the world should pray for the reign of the Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 2:4; Matthew 5:9,38-48; 6:33; 26:52; Luke 22:36,38; Romans 12:18-19; 13:1-7; 14:19; Hebrews 12:14; James 4:1-2.

XVII. Religious Liberty

God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are contrary to His Word or not contained in it. Church and state should be separate. The state owes to every church protection and full freedom in the pursuit of its spiritual ends. In providing for such freedom no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be favored by the state more than others. Civil government being ordained of God, it is the duty of Christians to render loyal obedience thereto in all things not contrary to the revealed will of God. The church should not resort to the civil power to carry on its work. The gospel of Christ contemplates spiritual means alone for the pursuit of its ends. The state has no right to impose penalties for religious opinions of any kind. The state has no right to impose taxes for the support of any form of religion. A free church in a free state is the Christian ideal, and this implies the right of free and unhindered access to God on the part of all men, and the right to form and propagate opinions in the sphere of religion without interference by the civil power.

Genesis 1:27; 2:7; Matthew 6:6-7, 24; 16:26; 22:21; John 8:36; Acts 4:19-20; Romans 6:1-2; 13:1-7; Galatians 5:1,13; Philippians 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:1-2; James 4:12; 1 Peter 2:12-17; 3:11-17; 4:12-19.

XVIII. The Family

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race.

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25; 3:1-20; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Joshua 24:15; 1 Samuel 1:26-28; Psalms 51:5; 78:1-8; 127; 128; 139:13-16; Proverbs 1:8; 5:15-20; 6:20-22; 12:4; 13:24; 14:1; 17:6; 18:22; 22:6,15; 23:13-14; 24:3; 29:15,17; 31:10-31; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 9:9; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:31-32; 18:2-5; 19:3-9; Mark 10:6-12; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Timothy 5:8,14; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; Titus 2:3-5; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7.

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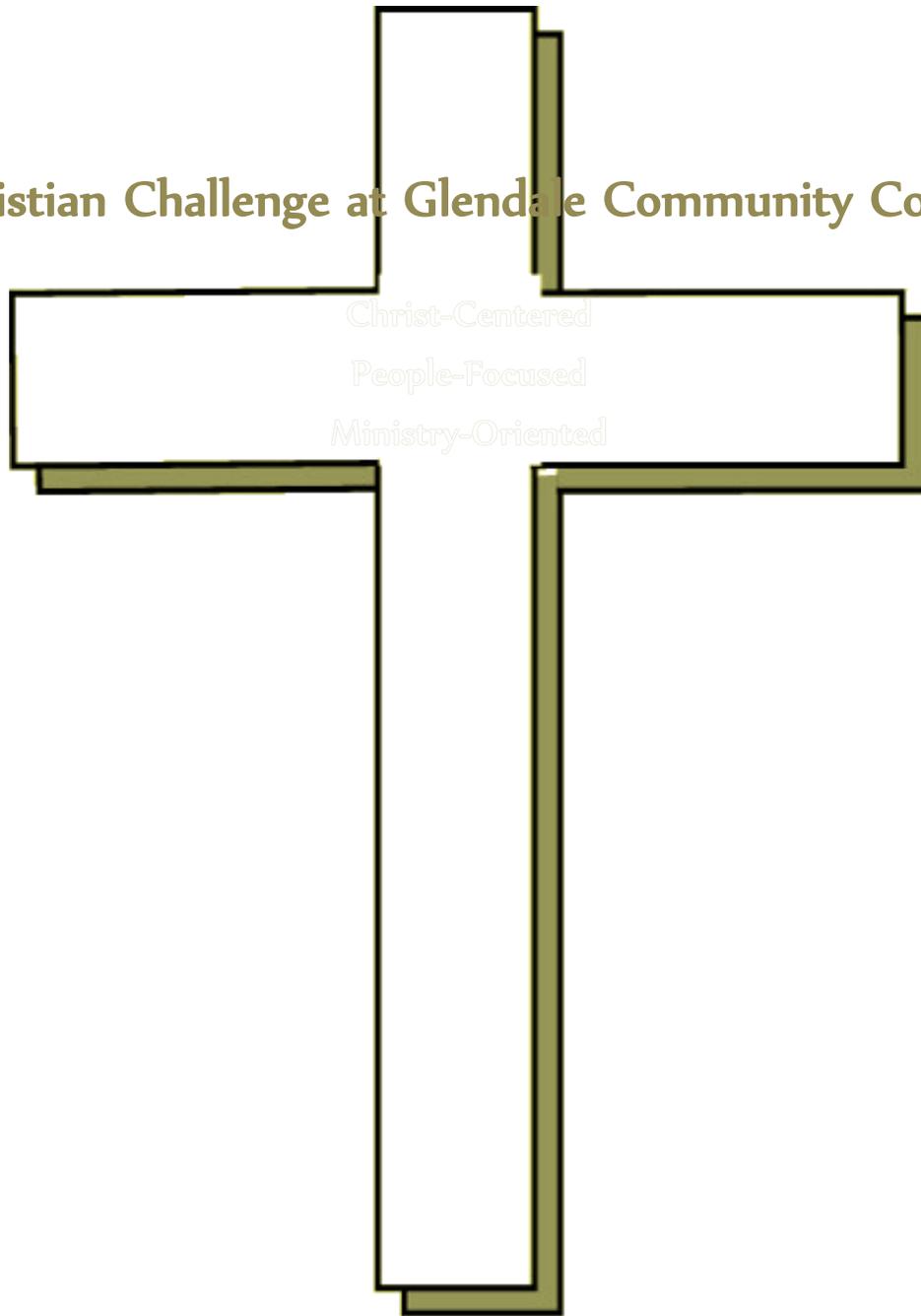
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This Discipleship Packet was last edited on Monday, January 16, 2012.

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