

Prayer and Worship

Prayer and Worship

by **Morris Williams**

AN INDEPENDENT-STUDY TEXTBOOK

*Developed in Cooperation with
the Global University Staff*

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THE ICI CHRISTIAN SERVICE PROGRAM



This is one of 18 courses (subjects) that make up the ICI Christian Service Program. The symbol at the left is a guide for order of study in the series, which is divided into three units of six courses each. *Prayer and Worship* is Course 1 in Unit 2. You will benefit by studying the courses in the proper order.

Study materials in the Christian Service Program have been prepared in a self-teaching format especially for Christian workers. These courses provide a student with Bible knowledge and skills needed for practical Christian service. You may study this course in order to receive a certificate, or for personal enrichment.

ATTENTION

Please read the course introduction very carefully. It is important that you follow these instructions so you can achieve the goals of the course, and be prepared for the student reports.

Address all correspondence concerning the course to your ICI instructor at the address stamped on the copyright page of this study guide.

Course Introduction

Worship is praise to God. Worship is service to God. We want to introduce you to a new life of prayer and worship. Therefore, we will introduce you to a new kind of living. At first, it may appear that we are talking about everything else except praying and worshipping. But as you study topics such as the existence of God, the reality of heaven, and the kingdom of God, you will begin to see the relationship between prayer and worship and life in general. It may seem that we have strayed from our subject.

However, a close look at the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples when they asked Him “how” to pray will let you see that He wove all these things into His prayer. It was as if Jesus was saying, “You cannot separate prayer and worship from living. You cannot say of prayer, ‘Now I have finished . . . now I will return to my work’.”

This is the great lesson we must learn from Jesus about praying. Prayer is never finished. It does not end with an “amen.” It is an unending activity, woven into every part of our lives. It is the way we think, and it cannot be separated from anything that we do.

So, time, place, and words of worship are not what we talk about in this book. Rather, we present prayer as the preparation for worship, and worship as constant living in a way that pleases God and fulfills His purposes.

Course Description

This course is a study on prayer and worship with emphasis on the priority of God's glory and God's kingdom over man's needs and wants. It also emphasizes the fact that the things needed will be provided for the believer who honors this priority.

The study is based on Matthew 6:5-13, but the key verse containing the central truth is Matthew 6:33, "Instead, be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things."

It starts with the believer's *position* as a son of God. Because he is a son, he can approach his Father's throne with confidence that his prayer will be heard.

As a member of God's family, he has family interests at heart and gives *priority* to his Father's name, kingdom, and will in everything he does. This attitude is reflected in his praying.

Having placed his Father's will above his own, he makes known his personal *petitions* with the confidence that, before he asks, his Father knows he has need of "all these things."

Particular emphasis will be upon prayer and worship as it relates to Christian service. While the material will be appropriate for your spiritual growth and edification, it is outlined in such a way as to provide a tool for Bible study. It should, therefore, serve a two-fold purpose. It can be a guide for your own personal devotion, and it can also enhance your effectiveness in communicating God's Word.

Course Objectives

When you finish this course you should be able to:

1. Experience for yourself that God is loving, knowable, and desirous of communicating with you, and being worshiped by you.
2. Use prayer and worship as a path to understanding the plan of God to restore men to fellowship, and a way to make them His sons in the family of heaven.

3. Explain why the worship of God, God's kingdom, and the plan of God must have priority in prayer.
4. Pray according to God's will when seeking your livelihood, a peaceful co-existence with those around you, an overcoming life, and deliverance from evils that overtake you.
5. Establish habits of prayer and worship that will make you Christ-like and an effective witness, able to teach others who are seeking a life of prayer and worship.
6. Persuade others that God exists, loves them, wants to save them, and rewards those who worship Him above all else.

Textbooks

You will use *Prayer and Worship: An Independent-Study Textbook* by Morris Williams as both the textbook and study guide for the course. The Bible (*Today's English Version*) is the only other textbook required.

Study Time

How much time you actually need to study each lesson depends in part on your knowledge of the subject and the strength of your study skills before you begin the course. The time you spend also depends on the extent to which you follow directions and develop skills necessary for independent study. Plan your study schedule so that you spend enough time to reach the objectives stated by the author of the course and your personal objectives as well.

Lesson Organization and Study Pattern

Each lesson includes: 1) lesson title, 2) opening statement, 3) lesson outline, 4) lesson objectives, 5) learning activities, 6) key words, 7) lesson development including study questions, 8) self-test (at the end of the lesson development), 9) answers to the study questions.

The lesson outline and objectives will give you an overview of the subject, help you to focus your attention on the most important points as you study, and tell you what you should learn.

Most of the study questions in the lesson development can be answered in spaces provided in this study guide. Longer answers should be written in a notebook. As you write the answers in your notebook, be sure to record the number and title of the lesson. This will help you in your review for the unit student report.

Do not look ahead at the answers until you have given your answer. If you give your own answers, you will remember what you study much better. After you have answered the study questions, check your answers with those given at the end of the lesson. Then correct those you did not answer correctly. The answers are not given in the usual numerical order so that you will not accidentally see the answer to the next question.

These study questions are very important. They will help you to remember the main ideas presented in the lesson and to apply the principles you have learned.

How to Answer Questions

There are different kinds of study questions and self-test questions in this study guide. Below are samples of several types and how to answer them. Specific instructions will be given for other types of questions that may occur.

A *MULTIPLE-CHOICE* question or item asks you to choose an answer from the ones that are given.

Example

- 1** The Bible has a total of
- a) 100 books.
 - b) 66 books.
 - c) 27 books.

The correct answer is *b) 66 books*. In your study guide, make a circle around *b)* as shown here:

- 1** The Bible has a total of
- a) 100 books.
 - b)** 66 books.
 - c) 27 books.

(For some multiple-choice items, more than one answer will be correct. In that case, you would circle the letter in front of each correct answer.)

A *TRUE-FALSE* question or item asks you to choose which of several statements are TRUE.

Example

2 Which statements below are TRUE?

- a The Bible has a total of 120 books.
- b** The Bible is a message for believers today.
- c All of the Bible authors wrote in the Hebrew language.
- d** The Holy Spirit inspired the writers of the Bible.

Statements **b** and **d** are true. You would make a circle around these two letters to show your choices, as you see above.

A *MATCHING* question or item asks you to match things that go together, such as names with descriptions, or Bible books with their authors.

Example

3 Write the number for the leader's name in front of each phrase that describes something he did.

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| ¹
.... | a Received the Law at Mt. Sinai | 1) Moses |
| ²
.... | b Led the Israelites across Jordan | 2) Joshua |
| ²
.... | c Marched around Jericho | |
| ¹
.... | d Lived in Pharaoh's court | |

Phrases **a** and **d** refer to Moses, and phrases **b** and **c** refer to Joshua. You would write **1** beside **a** and **d**, and **2** beside **b** and **c**, as you see above.

Ways to Study this Course

If you study this ICI course by yourself, all of your work can be completed by mail. Although ICI has designed this course for you to study on your own, you may also study it in a group or class. If you do this, the instructor may give you added instructions besides those in the course. If so, be sure to follow his instructions.

Possibly you are interested in using the course in a home Bible study group, in a class at church, or in a Bible school. You will find both the subject content and study methods excellent for these purposes.

Unit Student Reports

At the end of the book you will find the Unit Student Report and Answer Sheets. Follow the directions included in the course and in the unit student reports. You should complete and send your answer sheets to your instructor for his correction and suggestions regarding your work. If you are not studying with an ICI office you will still benefit by answering the questions in the Student Report.

Certificate

Upon the successful completion of the course and the final grading of the unit student reports by your ICI instructor, you will receive your Certificate of Award.

Author of the Course

Morris Williams was the Field Director for Africa of the Division of Foreign Missions of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, U.S.A.

Prior to this appointment, he and his wife served as missionaries for the Assemblies of God in Central and Southern Africa for 25 years. His work covered a wide range of ministries including evangelism, church planting, Bible School administration, and counseling.

Mr. Williams comes from a family of seven children—all involved in the Assemblies of God ministry today. The position on prayer and worship that he takes in this independent-study textbook is a direct result of the influence of his godly parents. They not only set an example in prayer but demonstrated to their family by their lifestyle what it means to “pray without ceasing.”

After high school, Mr. Williams attended North Central Bible College in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He began his ministry in Iowa where, after pastoring a number of years, he was chosen

as youth and Sunday school director for the Iowa District. Shortly thereafter, the Williamses volunteered for the mission field and were appointed to Africa in the year 1946.

Your ICI Instructor

Your ICI instructor will be happy to help you in any way possible. If you have any questions about the course or the unit student reports, please feel free to ask him. If several people want to study this course together, ask about special arrangements for group study.

God bless you as you begin to study *Prayer and Worship*. May it enrich your life and Christian service and help you fulfill more effectively your part in the body of Christ.

Additional Helps

Other materials are available for use with this individual study textbook, including supplemental audio cassettes, video cassettes, an Instructor's Guide, and an Instructor's Packet (for instructor's use only). Consult the Evangelism, Discipleship, and Training Manual.

Unit One

Prayer and Worship: A Way of Life



Lesson 1

Praying To Whom?

“This, then, is how you should pray”

Matthew 6:9

To whom we pray is more important than how or where we pray. Wouldn't it be terrible if we learned all there is to know about how to pray, and then found that we had been praying to the wrong one?

How we pray, though, is more important than where we pray. If we pray to the right One, and pray in the right way, it does not make much difference whether we are inside a building, walking, or working. What is inside of us is more important than what is outside of us!

So, in this lesson we are going to talk about the true God, and how to pray to Him. We are going to study the things that are important to God so that we can pray according to His will. We want to learn how our talk in prayer can affect our walk in life. We have so much to learn!



lesson outline

False Concepts of God

The “No God” Man

The “Cannot Know for Sure” Man

The “Do Not Want God” Man

The “Nature Is God” Man

The “I Am God” Man

The “Any God Will Do” Man

The “Ancestral Spirits” Man

The Self-Revealing God

Revealed by His Written Word

Revealed by His Living Son

Revealed by His Holy Spirit

Christ’s Teaching on Prayer

Secret and Simple Praying

Praying Always

lesson objectives

When you finish this lesson you should be able to:

- Discuss false concepts people have about God and how these concepts affect their worship.
- Identify the ways by which the true God has revealed Himself.

- Summarize what Jesus had to say about prayer, and apply these principles to your life.

learning activities

1. Memorize all the verses in Matthew 6:5-8.
2. Read the lesson development section by section. Write the answers to the study questions in each section. The study questions in this lesson will include some multiple choice questions. To indicate your choice of the best possible answer, circle the letter preceding the one you have chosen.
3. Take the self-test at the end of the lesson, and check your answers with those given at the back of the book. You may use your Bible when verses are referred to that you were not asked to memorize.
4. After you have finished the lesson development, look back over the lesson objectives to make sure you can do what is suggested there.
5. Start to keep a notebook. Write the longer answers to the study questions in it. You might want to write any new words and their definitions in it also.

key words

Understanding the key words we have listed at the beginning of each lesson will help you as you study. You will find key words listed in alphabetical order and defined in the glossary at the back of this independent-study textbook. If you are in doubt about the meaning of any of the words on the list, you may look them up now or when you come across them in your reading. Please take time to learn the definitions of any new words, since they are important to a complete understanding of this course.

agnostics	interpreted	priorities
ancestral spirits	meditation	reprobates
animism	nature	tongues
atheists	pantheists	universalists
egotists	petition	

lesson development**FALSE CONCEPTS OF GOD**

Objective 1. *Define seven false concepts about God.*

The “No God” Man

Let us start our study about prayer and worship by saying that people who worship must have someone (or something) to which they pray. You cannot worship if there is nothing to worship. Some people claim there is no God and that, therefore, there is nothing to worship. “No use to pray,” they say, “because there is no one to listen!” We call these people *atheists* because they do not believe that God exists. Foolish people! They cannot see the proof of God even when it is before their eyes. The exact order of the universe, the beauty of the flowers, and our wonderful human body—all speak with one voice saying, “There is a Creator-God.” It would be as reasonable to look at a watch and say it made itself as it would be to say that the world came into being without a Creator.

Mark your choice of the best answer by circling the letter to the left of the one you have chosen.

- 1** The atheist does not pray because
- a) he does not believe there is a God.
 - b) he is not sure if there is a God.
 - c) he doesn’t want to obey God.

The “Cannot Know for Sure” Man

Some people are troubled because they cannot see God. They see what He created, and they believe there must be a cause for creation. But they doubt and say, “We cannot be sure. Perhaps there is, and perhaps there is not a God.” We call these people *agnostics* because they believe that even if there is a God, man cannot know Him. “Why pray,” they say, “when you are not sure there is anyone there to hear?”

The “Do Not Want God” Man

There are many, many people who are aware of the fact that God exists, but do not want to obey Him. We call them

reprobates because they refuse to accept that which they know. Reprobates do not pray either, since they “love the darkness rather than the light, because their deeds are evil” (John 3:19). But the day will come when reprobates will pray. They will pray for the rocks to fall on them to hide them “from the eyes of the one who sits on the throne” (Revelation 6:16). It will be a day of wrath and judgment.

2 Why do reprobates not pray?

.....

The “Nature Is God” Man

Many people believe that God and nature are one. They do not believe in a Creator-God who is separate from His creation. These people say that trees are God; clouds are God; man is God. We call such people *pantheists*. They say that everything good is God. How wrong they are! To them, nature is God. To them, God is impersonal. The pantheist’s God is faceless! You cannot pray to him for he has no ears! He cannot answer you for he has no voice! He cannot see you because he has no eyes! He cannot love you because he has no heart! What kind of a God is that? You see, it is one thing to say that God is love, and it is quite another thing to say that love is God. Also, it is one thing to say that God is in His creation, and it is quite another thing to say that the creation is God!

3 Name four things that the god of pantheists cannot do.

.....

The “I Am God” Man

These are the people who will tell you that every person has a right to believe what he pleases, and that one person’s idea is as good as that of another. Let us call these people *egotists* because they see no god except themselves. They do not want anyone else to tell them what to do. The egotists accept no standards of behavior they do not like. *Good* to them is what is good for themselves. They do not pray. Why should they? They want no authority higher than their own idea of what is good and bad.

4 What are the standards of the egotist based upon?

.....

The “Any God Will Do” Man

There are many people of this kind. “It doesn’t matter what God you worship. One is just as good as the other. Any God will do.” These are the people we call *universalists*. They believe that religions are like paths that lead to the top of a mountain. Each religion takes a different route, but they all get to the top. This is a dangerous and an evil teaching. Those who believe it are really saying that God is an idea in man’s mind, and is not a reality. Yet, God is not an idea. He is real. He is one God. He is the Creator of the world and of everything in it. We must find out who He is. We must worship Him. We will talk about who He is in the next section. But before we do, let us talk about one other belief that is held by people all over the world.

5 What do we call the “Any God Will Do” Man?

.....

The “Ancestral Spirits” Man

Most people believe in life after death. However, because the dead are no longer seen after they leave us, there is a mystery about them. Some people believe the dead come back as spirits, which move about in the area where they once lived. They think these spirits take part in the activities of the living. This belief is called *animism*.

Because of the unknown, and because of the terror of the unseen, there is much fear among animists. While many of them believe there is a God, they think that He is too far away and is too indifferent to their needs to be of help to them. Therefore, their worship takes the form of gifts intended to please and petition the spirits which they believe are near them. Charms are used to keep trouble away, and sacrifices are made to gain the favor of the spirits of the dead. The Bible says, “Fear has to do with punishment” (1 John 4:18), and this is the feeling of the animist. That same verse says that “perfect love drives out all fear.” We now want to talk about the true God of love who is

near to all them that call upon Him. He has power to answer prayer and cast out fear.

6 Why does the “Ancestral Spirit” Man use charms and sacrifices?

.....

THE SELF-REVEALING GOD

Objective 2. Write three ways in which the true God has revealed Himself to man.

Revealed by His Written Word

A God who requires man to worship and to obey Him must reveal Himself to man. This is exactly what the true God has done. He has revealed Himself. We can know Him. We can also know His will.

Each religion points to its prophets, its visions, its miracles, and the writings of its teachers. The true God has given us all of these things and has done even more to make Himself known. He has revealed Himself and His will by speaking to us in the three ways symbolized in the illustrations below.



God has revealed Himself through prophets and apostles who have written His words in the sacred book called the Bible. Men have been changed wherever the Bible has been believed and accepted as God’s Word. Whenever a man will accept the teachings of Jesus, and will acknowledge Him to be the Son of

God, a miracle takes place in that man’s life. He becomes a new person! He leaves his evil ways to follow that which is good. Consider the unity of the Bible’s message—a message written by many different men at different times and in different places. Add to this the record of the Bible’s survival despite efforts to destroy and discredit it. Without doubt, the Bible is a miracle book. It is a book that reveals God to us.

7 Whom did God use to record His words in the Bible?

.....

Revealed by His Living Son

God revealed Himself through Jesus Christ, His Son. Jesus lived more than 30 years on this earth as a man. “The Word became a human being and . . . lived among us” (John 1:14). Think of the claim of Jesus Christ. He said that He was God’s Son. He backed His claim by His miraculous ministry of healing and power. Think of the death and resurrection of Jesus. God has certainly revealed Himself through His Son. God revealed Himself through Jesus’ personal appearance on this earth.

8 Who is the Word through whom God reveals Himself?

.....

Revealed by His Holy Spirit

God reveals Himself also by His Spirit at any time, to any man who will accept the truth about Jesus Christ. “God’s Spirit joins himself to our spirits to declare that we are God’s children” (Romans 8:16). The Spirit of God makes every man who believes a new person. What God has done for others, He will do for you. If you will put your faith in Him, He will reveal Himself to you by His Spirit. Worship the true God! Pray and let God’s Spirit bear witness with yours! When you have felt His power in your own life, there will be nothing more to prove. You will know who the true God is!

9 What is another way God makes known to you that you are His child?

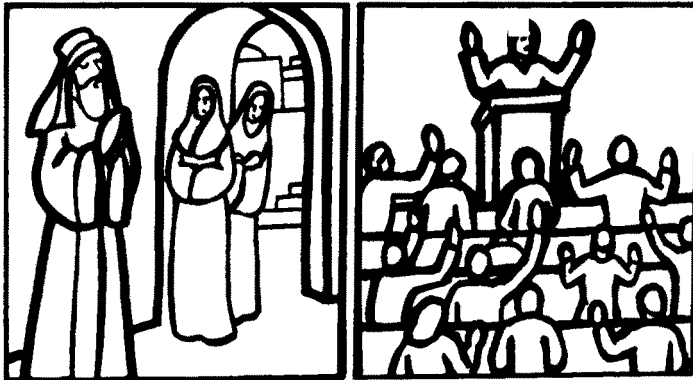
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CHRIST’S TEACHING ON PRAYER

Objective 3. *Explain the priorities in the prayer Jesus taught His disciples.*

Secret and Simple Praying

The disciples said to Jesus, “Lord, teach us to pray” (Luke 11:1). We can learn best how to pray from the One who prays best. Therefore, let us allow Jesus to be our teacher.



Jesus told His disciples not to pray like the Pharisees (Matthew 6:5). They prayed in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets. Is it wrong to pray in public? Of course not! Jesus did not rebuke the Pharisees for praying in public. He rebuked them for praying just to be seen of men. Praying in public is not wrong. Jesus prayed in public. It is praying to be seen of men that is wrong!

10 Look up Matthew 6:5-6 in your Bible. What will God do for those who pray in secret?

.....

There are many occasions when it is right and proper for one person to speak for a group of people in public prayer. This is, perhaps, the most difficult kind of praying, because attention is focused on the one who prays. Often the people think more about the person who is praying than they do about God, to whom he is praying. This can cause a great temptation to come to the one who

prays. He may be tempted to do what the Pharisees did. He may be tempted to pray to be seen and heard of men.

11 Circle the letter to the left of the best answer.

The Lord told His disciples not to be like the Pharisees because the Pharisees prayed

- a) in public.
- b) long prayers.
- c) to be seen of men.

There are those who can lead a group of people into the very presence of God. They are able to direct the people’s minds toward the Lord. How we need this kind of prayer leaders! Ministers, especially, should develop this gift.

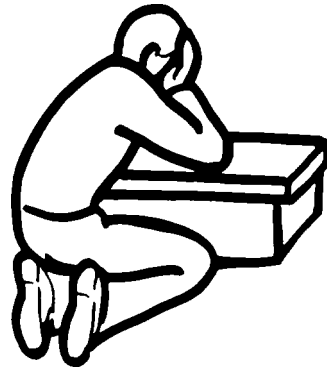
How can we learn to lead in public prayers without thinking about ourselves or the other people? This is not learned by “practicing” in public. It is learned by praying in private. It is also learned when we are alone with God, and His Spirit teaches us to put everything out of our minds except the Lord. Then, when we stand in public, it will be as though we are still in private. Even though we know the people are listening, our thoughts are only on what we are saying to Jesus. We are alone with God in the midst of people.

12 How can we learn to pray in public?

.....

Spirit-filled people often pray together. This is a way by which each believer can shut himself in with God even while he is in a group of people. When people pray together, it is a beautiful experience. Many times, when praying together, the Spirit of God will be felt by the people, and there will be praising and speaking in tongues. By tongues we mean worship in the Spirit in a language given by God which no one understands unless it is interpreted. This is a spiritual gift that you can read about in 1 Corinthians 14. It is a gift for the believer who has faith to receive it and it is a great help in worshiping. When this happens, everyone is blessed and God is glorified.

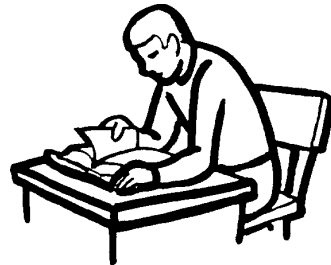
What about praying in private? Jesus said for us to go into our room and close the door. He said that our Father who sees what we do in private will reward us openly (Matthew 6:6). Jesus was referring to a state of mind more than to a room with a door when He said these words. What is important is that we get alone with God. You can be alone with God wherever you are. Some people pray best when they are walking in the forest. Some prefer a room away from other people. Some are able to be “alone” even when there are others about them. The important thing is to be alone with God.



13 What important lesson was Jesus teaching when he said that we should go into our room and shut the door when we pray?

.....

We should remember that prayer is talking with God. When you are visiting with someone, it is important that each one has a chance to talk. Some of our praying is not at all like talking together. It sounds like we are preaching to God! Such praying is very poor praying. Who likes to visit with a person who does all the talking? We like to get away from such people as quickly as possible. We don't enjoy talking to them. It must be that the Lord often wishes that He could say something to us, but we do not give Him a chance to speak! It is much more important for us to listen to God than for God to listen to us. What can we tell Him that He does not already know? But, oh, there is so much for us to learn . . . if we would only listen!



How can we listen to God? How does God talk to us? One excellent way to listen to God is to pray with God's Word before us.

If we will read a verse and then ask God to show us what it means, God will bring the meaning to our minds.

That is God talking to us. The Holy Spirit will be our teacher—leading us into all truth. When the Spirit makes a truth real to us, then is the time for us to worship God and thank Him for the truth He has taught us. We can then continue to read until God speaks once more from His Word. What a wonderful way to pray!

14 What is a good way to hear what God wants to say to us when we pray?

.....

Remember what Jesus said about “meaningless words” (Matthew 6:7). God is not deaf. He is not indifferent and does not have to be persuaded. Since He is a God of love, we only have to mention our petitions and trust Him to answer. Sometimes we show our lack of faith by asking over and over again as though God hadn’t heard us the first time we asked. Other times we act as if we believe He has to be persuaded. God is a God of love. He is not hard-hearted or selfish. He wants to help us!

15 Circle the letter on the left of each TRUE statement.

- a) God wants to answer our prayers.
- b) God does not answer some of our prayers because He is selfish.
- c) It is necessary for our prayers to be lengthy.
- d) God wants us to pray with confidence and trust in Him.

Praying Always

Objective 4. *Explain the meaning of “praying always.”*

We are told to “pray always for all God’s people” (Ephesians 6:18). In 1 Thessalonians 5:17 we read, “Pray at all times.” How can a person pray at all times? How can he pray always?

It is plain to see that prayer is more than kneeling down. It is more than time spent in meditation, in acts of worship, and in petitions. Prayer is to be “always.” It is to be “at all times.” It must then, of necessity, be an attitude or way of life.

Now, such an attitude or way of life cannot be accomplished without private and public prayer and worship. Attitudes and habits are formed by doing things over and over again. This is true of prayer. You cannot pray “at all times” unless you make a habit of prayer.

Yet, our prayer life must not be measured in terms of time. It must be measured by the quality of our praying. Many times our minds are at home while our bodies are in church. Or, our minds are in the kitchen when our knees are bent in prayer. If we learn to pray right, we will be able to walk right all of the time. This is what we mean by “praying always.” So, we should learn God’s will from His Word, submitting ourselves to Him in prayer and worship until we can walk every hour of every day according to His plan for our life.

16 Why is it not best to measure prayer in terms of time?

.....

Jesus is our example of prayer. He spent long hours in prayer. He fasted. To what purpose? To secure answers to His own desires? To secure deliverance for those who were afflicted? Not at all! His prayers for the sick were short and simple. Why? Because His whole life was one of prayer and worship. By seeking His Father’s will in prayer, He was able to walk constantly according to that will. He prayed at all times!

17 Why didn’t Jesus have to pray long prayers for the deliverance of the sick?

.....

How can we pray according to God’s will? Jesus teaches us how in Matthew 6:9-13. He said, “This, then, is how you should pray” (Matthew 6:9). When Jesus was talking about *how* to pray, He was talking about the *order* in which we ask for things. He was talking about seeking the most important things first. Notice the order of asking in the prayer that He taught. First, He talked about *your* name, *your* kingdom, and *your* will. After that, He prayed, “Give *us*, forgive *us*, bring *us*, and keep *us*.” In other words, what Jesus was saying was that when we pray we must

give priority to God’s name, God’s kingdom, and God’s will. To start our prayers with “Give us, forgive us, bring us, and keep us” is the wrong order of asking. Jesus said it so clearly in Matthew 6:33, “Be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things.”

18 Priorities in prayer are the of God, the of God, and the of God.

When we learn how to pray as Jesus taught, we will learn to live as Jesus lived. When we are concerned about the kingdom of God above everything else, we will be praying at all times!

As long as our wants are more important to us than God’s will, we will stumble along, measuring the hours we spend in prayer. Yet, God does not hold a watch in His hand to see how long we stay in the prayer room. God is seeking to be the Lord of our life every moment of every day!

19 Four of the things that God has promised to provide, if we will be concerned with the kingdom of God, are: (See Matthew 6:9-13.)

- a**
- b**
- c**
- d**

self-test

After you have reviewed this lesson, take the self-test. Then check your answers with those given in your student report. Review any questions you answered incorrectly.

SHORT ANSWER. Write the correct answer in the space provided.

1 Why do agnostics not pray?

2 Write the words in 1 John 4:18 that can give hope to the “Ancestral Spirits” Man.
.....

3 What evidence of God is seen in a man’s life when he accepts the teachings of Christ and acknowledges Him to be the Son of God?
.....

4 Write the request of the disciples in Luke 11:1.
.....

5 Why is praying in public difficult?
.....

6 Name three ways in which God has revealed Himself.
a Revealed by His
b Revealed by His
c Revealed by His

7 Prayer without ceasing is learning to right so that we can right. This means that we always seek God’s above our own will.

MULTIPLE CHOICE. There is only one correct answer for each question. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

8 The pantheist would say that

- a) God loves all men.
- b) nature is God.
- c) God is a good God.

9 What can we do so that we hear the voice of God?

- a) Spend a lot of time asking God to supply our needs.
- b) Read God's Word often, meditate upon it, and ask God to help us understand it.
- c) Repeat the Lord's prayer over and over again.

10 A person who prays without ceasing is

- a) always on his knees in prayer.
- b) always thinking about God.
- c) always seeking God's kingdom above everything else.

MATCHING. Match each name (right) to the statement (left) which best describes it.

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| a | The "Do Not Want God" Man | 1) Atheist |
| b | The "Ancestral Spirits" Man | 2) Agnostic |
| c | The "Cannot Know For Sure" Man | 3) Pantheist |
| d | The "Any God" Man | 4) Egotist |
| e | The "No God" Man | 5) Reprobate |
| f | The "I Am God" Man | 6) Universalist |
| g | The "Nature is God" Man | 7) Animist |

answers to the study questions

These answers have been mixed so that you will not accidentally see the answer to the next question before you write your own response. Please do not look ahead, but write your own answer to each question before comparing it with the one we have given. This will help you to remember what you have studied.

10 Reward them openly.

1 a) he does not believe there is a God.

11 c) to be seen of men.

2 Because they love darkness rather than light.

12 We can learn to pray in public by learning first to pray in private.

3 He cannot answer, love, hear, or see. (Any order.)

13 That we need to spend time alone with God in prayer.

4 His own idea of right and wrong.

14 To pray with God's Word before us, asking Him to help us understand it.

5 A universalist.

15 a True.

b False.

c False.

d True.

6 Because he fears the spirits of the dead.

16 Because our mind is not always on our praying when we are on our knees.

7 The prophets and apostles.

17 Because He prayed without ceasing, by walking constantly in God's will.

8 Jesus Christ.

18 name, kingdom, will

9 God's Spirit joins Himself to our spirit to declare that we are His children.

19 a Food.

b Forgiveness.

c No hard testing.

d To keep us from the evil one.

Lesson 2

A Family Relationship

“Our Father”

Matthew 6:9

Prayer must begin with an understanding of who we are. Paul tells us in Romans 12:3, “Do not think of yourself more highly than you should.” This is good advice. The “I Am God” Man makes himself king of everything. He doesn’t feel that he needs to pray. However, if we who believe in God and love Him really understand that we are sons of God, it will give us confidence when we pray.

“The Spirit that God has given you does not make you slaves and cause you to be afraid; instead, the Spirit makes you God’s children, and by the Spirit’s power we cry out to God, ‘Father! my Father!’” (Romans 8:15).

What a wonderful thing it is to be a son of God! What a wonderful thing to belong to a big family in which our brothers and sisters are believers of every race, nation, and tribe! What a wonderful thing to know that our Father loves us, and provides for all our needs!

So, we can come boldly to our Father in prayer. We should, of course, come respectfully and humbly. But there is no need to fear. We know our Father loves us!



lesson outline

The Father of Sons
Faith That Saves
Faith That Keeps

The Fraternity of Sons
The Old View is Gone
The New View Has Come

The Function of Sons
Winning of Men
Worship of God

lesson objectives

When you finish this lesson you should be able to:

- Understand the importance of prayer in the Christian life and walk.
- State how the basic principle of 2 Corinthians 5:16-17 affects the life and worship of a child of God.
- Determine the most important function of sons of God.

learning activities

1. Read Romans 8:12-17 and memorize verse 15.
2. Think of someone who is not part of the family of God and pray for him, calling him by name in prayer.
3. Read the key word list.
4. Do the lesson development section by section. For multiple-choice questions circle the letter preceding the response which you consider to be the best choice. For each true-false question, circle the letter preceding the statement.
5. After you have finished the lesson development, look back over the lesson objectives to make sure you can do what is suggested there.

key words

believer
culture
fraternity
function

prejudice
renounce
repent
unbeliever

lesson development

THE FATHER OF SONS

Objective 1. *Discuss the importance of prayer at the time of salvation and in our Christian life and walk.*

Our Father! What meaning there is in those words! God created man. At once a warm pleasant feeling comes as we think about God's plan that He has had from the beginning of the world.

God is a God of love. Love cannot stand alone. It must be shared with another, or it isn't real love. That is why God created man in His own image. God made a garden and put man in it. Every evening God and man would walk and talk together. It was wonderful. God wanted to share His love with man. He also wanted to receive love from man. But He wanted man to love Him willingly, so He gave man the power to choose. We call this "free-will."



Then sin came. Satan tempted Adam and Eve. They believed his lie about God, and disobeyed the Lord's command. The fellowship was broken. Sin came between God and man. There was no longer a way to share their love. Man was put out of the garden. He was taught to offer blood sacrifices until the Savior would come who would take away the sin of the world.

1 What stopped the fellowship of God with man?

.....

The main purpose for worship in those days was the need to make sacrifice for sin. Man's relationship with God was based upon obedience to the Law.

Then the prophets came and told of a Savior who would come. His name would be "God with us" (Immanuel). He would take away sin, then man would once again walk and talk with God. The Savior would make it possible for man to worship God in Spirit and in truth.

2 What was the main purpose of man's worship before Jesus came?



So Jesus came. He lived a sinless life on earth. When wicked men crucified Him, He became the "Lamb" of God. He became the "sacrifice" on which the sins of all men were laid. He became sin for us. He paid the penalty of sin which is death. He died, and they laid Him in a grave. But because He had done no sin, death could

not hold Him. He rose from the grave. He conquered sin and death. Then, He told His disciples to spread the good news. They were to tell all men that love between God and man could once more be shared. God and man could once again walk together!

3 Who paid the penalty of sin for us?

.....

Faith That Saves

How can this happen to you? The Bible says that if you will confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved! (Romans 10:9). Praise God! Think of it! If you will believe and call upon Him, you will be saved! But, first you must call.

“Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed. This includes everyone, because there is no difference between Jews and Gentiles; God is the same Lord of all and richly blesses all who call to him. As the Scripture says, ‘Everyone who calls out to the Lord for help will be saved’” (Romans 10:11-13).

- 4 Circle the letter to the left of the best answer.**
 Men become sons of God by
- a) passing the test for new believers.
 - b) ceasing to do their sinful deeds.
 - c) believing in the living Son of God and confessing Him as Savior.

Salvation starts with prayer. It comes to those who call out to the Lord for help. It starts when you confess your sins to the Lord and repent. Salvation starts when you believe that Jesus is the Savior, the Son of God who rose from the dead. It starts when you confess with your mouth and believe in your heart. It starts when you pray the prayer of faith! Hallelujah!

5 What is the function of prayer at the time of salvation?

.....

Note that Romans 10:12 says, “This includes everyone . . .” God is no respecter of persons. He wants everybody to be saved. He wants everybody to call upon Him. God wants everybody to pray the prayer of faith!

We need to discuss more of God’s plan here. It did not end at the cross or at the resurrection. That was only the first part. You see, Christ’s death and resurrection make it possible for all who believe to become the sons of God. “Some, however, did receive him and believed in him; so he gave them the right to become God’s children” (John 1:12). Sons of God! That is what the plan is all about! God wants children who will love Him and call Him “Father! My Father!”

6 Read John 1:12. What right does God give to those who receive Jesus?

.....

What God wanted in the beginning, He wants today. He wants to share His love with man. He wants to have fellowship with man. That’s what makes worship so important. God wants sons who worship Him and love Him. Only sons of God can worship God. Only those who believe on Him can pray the prayer of faith. So prayer starts with confessing and believing, and leads to worship of God, our Father.

7 Circle the letter preceding each TRUE statement.

- a** We can have salvation without Jesus.
- b** God hates sinners.
- c** Anyone can be a son of God.
- d** Only sons of God can worship God.

At the end of this world, all who have believed and are sons of God will be gathered together in heaven. A loud voice will proclaim, “Now God’s home is with mankind! He will live with them, and they shall be his people. God himself will be with them, and he will be their God” (Revelation 21:3). That’s it! That is the plan God has had from the beginning. That is the plan that has already started for those who believe. All who call upon Him in faith can begin to fellowship with God right away. They can talk together with Him in prayer and worship. They can share the love of God right on this earth. They don’t have to wait until they get to heaven!

Faith That Keeps

A wonderful thing about God’s love is that it never fails. He loved us when we were yet sinners, but He could not have fellowship with us because we did not love Him. But when we believe that Jesus is God’s Son who died for us and rose again, then we can once more share love with God. We can once more

worship Him and talk with Him. Faith makes it possible for us to be sons of God. As long as we keep our faith in Him, nothing can break the love between us.

- 8** Fellowship between God and man is restored by
- a) man trying his very best to be good.
 - b) man offering blood sacrifices for his sins.
 - c) man receiving Jesus Christ as his Savior.

Of course, if we renounce our faith in Him it will break the fellowship we have with Him. Love must be given willingly. God willingly gives His love to us, but if we cease to believe in Him, our love for Him will be gone. Fellowship with God will be gone.

We are saved by faith and we are kept by faith. If we keep our faith, we keep our salvation. If we forsake our faith, then the basis of our relationship with God is gone. When faith goes, our love for God leaves us and we are sinners and unbelievers once again.

- 9** A believer loses his salvation when he
- a) ceases to have faith in Jesus Christ.
 - b) commits a sinful act.
 - c) leaves his church and joins another.

It is by prayer that we call upon God to be saved. It is by prayer that love is restored once again between us and God. And it is by prayer that we keep alive our fellowship with God. Love must be shared, and when we stop sharing our love with God, our relationship with God dies. But by prayer and worship, our faith and love remain strong.

THE FRATERNITY OF SONS

Objective 2. *Explain the meaning of 2 Corinthians 5:16-17, and tell how it affects a child of God.*

The title of this section is “The Fraternity of Sons.” *Fraternity* means “brotherliness” or the “the state of being brothers.”

What makes it possible for believers to be brothers? This is possible by having the same “Father,” of course! The day we repented of our sins and confessed Christ to be our Savior, that day we became sons of God and a member of a fraternity of brothers!

All who are sons of one father are brothers. When we say “Our Father” we are confessing that all His children are our brothers. “Those whom God had already chosen he also set apart to become like his Son, so that the Son would be the first among many brothers” (Romans 8:29). Think of it! All true believers are our brothers and sisters. God’s plan from the beginning has been that He might be the Father of “many brothers” among whom Christ is the “Elder Brother.”

10 Circle the letter before the TRUE statement.

- a) All men are our brothers.
- b) If God is our Father, then Jesus is our “Elder Brother.”
- c) We become a son of God by being good.
- d) God does not want to become our Father.

The Old View Is Gone

God divides men into two groups. Only two! Those who are of His family and those who are not of His family. God does not look upon the world as men do. He does not say, “That is an Indian, that is an African, that is a white man, that is a black man, that is a rich man, that is a poor man, that is an educated man, and that is an uneducated man.” Not at all! This is how the world classifies men. But God does not judge by human standards. He only sees two groups—those who are His children, and those who are not. So He looks at men and says, “That one is my child. That one is also my child. But that one is not my child.” We are the ones, though, who make the choice.

11 In God’s eyes there are only two kinds of people. What are they?

.....
.....

We should look at people as God looks at them. There is no room for prejudice in the family of God. The world divides men into nations, races, tribes, and cultures. We should see only two groups—those who are our brothers and sisters, and those who are not.

12 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a** God loves all men.
- b** All men are God’s creation.
- c** All men are sons of God.
- d** All men are brothers.

The New View Has Come

You say, “How can this be? We can’t all be alike in the family of God.” That is true, and God never intended to remove the things that make people different from each other. What God wants to do is to fill our hearts with His love until the differences make no difference!

The American will continue to be an American. The Indian will remain an Indian. The black will remain black, and the white man white. God does not ask us to change our nationality, race, or tribe. He does make it possible for different kinds of people to live together in love and peace. How can this be? By being a family—a family united by the Holy Spirit and by prayer. It is a true saying that the family that prays together stays together. It is true in a single family of two parents with their children. It is also true of the world-wide family of God which is made up of many races and nations. Prayer changes things!

13 When 2 Corinthians 5:16 says that we should not judge by human standards, it means we should

- a) not expect different kinds of people to live together in peace.
- b) try to remove the differences that divide men.
- c) accept believers as brothers despite our differences.

Many are not sons of God because they refuse to believe in Christ as their Savior. They cannot pray to God and say, “Our Father.” Neither are they brothers of those who believe. When a believer meets a man who is an unbeliever, he cannot call him “brother.” Why? Because he does not have the same Father, and he is not one of the family. Jesus told those who refused to believe in Him, “You are the children of your father, the Devil” (John 8:44).

On the other hand, if a believer meets another believer, even if he is of a different race or nationality, he immediately feels a love for him because he is a brother. He is a member of his own family. For the child of God, the thing that separates him from other men is not race or nationality, but rather the fact that they are unbelievers. He cannot feel “at home” with them.

14 What separates the child of God from other men?

.....

THE FUNCTION OF SONS

Objective 3. *State the function and responsibilities of sons of God in worship and service.*

Winning of Men

What do sons of God do while on earth? Why does God keep them here? There is a good reason. The family is not yet complete. God is not willing that any should perish. He wants everybody to be a part of His family! But only those who hear what Jesus did for them can believe. So God has given His sons a job to do. He has told them to go into all the world and tell the good news about Jesus to every creature. What a job! What a responsibility!

But we are not alone in doing the task. Jesus sits at the right hand of God praying for us. When we fail, He is there to hear our cry for help and talk to God about our need. He pleads our case!

The Holy Spirit makes us aware of who we are. He causes us to worship and rejoice because we are sons and daughters of God. This knowledge makes us sure that what God has asked us to do, we can do. Without fear we cry, "Father! My Father!"

The Holy Spirit prays for us when we don't know how to pray as we ought. When the plan of God is unclear and His will for us seems uncertain, the Holy Spirit prays for us with groans that words cannot express. What a helper He is!

15 Name an instance when the Holy Spirit prays for us.

.....

As we pray for men to be saved, the Holy Spirit will often pray through us in an unknown tongue, lifting our burden and helping our prayer. The Holy Spirit will, in known and unknown tongues, encourage us and give us strength to go out with spiritual power to witness and win men to Christ. The Spirit helps us pray. The Spirit helps us worship. To what purpose? To help us get our job done!

Worship of God

What is prayer? It is a relationship with God, sometimes spoken and sometimes unspoken. Since we have mentioned it separately from worship, we can say that prayer has more to do with the needs of people, while worship has more to do with the praise of God.

Words like “repent, ask, seek, knock, cast out, claim, believe, thank, and petition” would describe the idea of prayer. Words like “praise, thanks, meditation, study, honor, glory, and rejoice” would describe worship. These are the activities of the sons of God in prayer and worship. When add the reading of the Word of God to the above, you have two ways in which members of God’s family communicate with Him.

<u>WE COMMUNICATE WITH GOD</u>	
PRAYER	WORSHIP
REPENT	PRaise
ASK	THANKS
SEEK	MEDITATION
KNOCK	STUDY
CAST OUT	HONOR
CLAIM	GLORY
BELIEVE	REJOICE
THANK	
PETITION	

- 6** Circle the letter before each TRUE statement.
- a** We can communicate with God by reading the Bible.
 - b** Prayer can be spoken or unspoken.
 - c** Worship is usually praise to God.
 - d** God does NOT want to communicate with man.

Prayer brings us into the very presence of God. Prayer strengthens our faith to claim the promises of God. Prayer will bring Jesus, the One who pleads our cases, to our side when we have sinned. Prayer will bring us power when we need deliverance. Above all, prayer will keep the love flowing between God and us as we worship Him. We will learn later how to “pray always,” but it is enough to say here that prayer should be as natural as breathing to the child of God.

One more thing before we end this lesson. We don’t have to be afraid when we come before God. Remember, He is “Our Father.” A child may be afraid of strangers, but he does not fear his father. Therefore, when we pray, we are told to come boldly. We are told to come into His presence with singing, and into His courts with praise. Read this for yourself in Psalm 100. We are to be thankful unto Him and bless His name. The presence of God doesn’t sound like a place of fear, does it? It sounds more like a home—like a family gathering. And that is just what God wants it to be, for He is “Our Father” and we are His sons!

17 How does Psalm 100 say we should come into God’s presence?

.....

self-test

SHORT ANSWER. Write the correct answer in the space provided.

1 What relationship did God desire to have with man from the very beginning?

.....
.....

2 Name five ways that a son of God can come into the presence of God.

.....
.....

3 In God’s eyes all men are divided into only two groups. What are they?

.....
.....

4 Name three ways in which the Holy Spirit helps us in prayer.

.....
.....

MULTIPLE CHOICE. There is only one correct answer for each question. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

5 When 2 Corinthians 5:16 says that we should not judge by human standards, it means

- a) we should accept all men as brothers.
- b) we should try to remove the differences that make men unique
- c) we should accept believers as brothers despite our differences.

6 TRUE-FALSE. Circle the letter before each TRUE statement.

- a** Prayer alone saves us.
- b** We pray because we are saved.
- c** We can worship God while walking.
- d** We can worship God by singing.

7 Put the letter **P** before the words that best describe prayer and the letter **W** before the words that best describe worship.

- **a** Ask
- **b** Glory
- **c** Praise
- **d** Petition
- **e** Honor
- **f** Repent
- **g** Seek
- **h** Thank
- **i** Exalt
- **j** Claim

answers to the study questions

- 9 a) ceases to have faith in Jesus Christ.
- 1 Man disobeyed God.
- 10 a False.
b True.
c False.
d False.
- 2 To make sacrifices for sin.
- 11 Those who are sons of God.
Those who are not sons of God.
- 3 Jesus Christ.
- 12 a True.
b True.
c False.
d False.
- 4 c) believing in the living Son of God and confessing Him as Savior.
- 13 c) we should accept believers as brothers despite our differences.
- 5 Calling upon God in repentance and faith to be saved.
- 14 The fact that they are unbelievers—not a part of God’s family.
- 6 The right to become God’s children.
- 15 When we do not know how to pray as we should.
- 7 a False.
b False.
c True.
d True.
- 16 a True.
b True.
c True.
d False.
- 8 c) man receiving Jesus Christ as his Savior.
- 17 With singing, praise, and thanksgiving.

Lesson 3

A Kingdom Citizenship

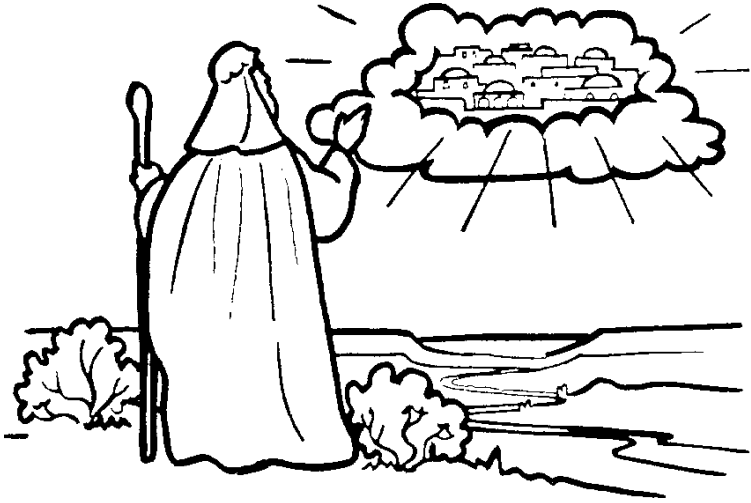
“In heaven”

Matthew 6:9

Why should we write about heaven when we are talking about prayer and worship? Well, for a very good reason! If we are to pray as we should, we must know who we are and where we belong. We must have the right relationship with the One to whom we are praying. We have to talk about things in which we are both interested. It is hard for a man who knows nothing about farming to find pleasure talking with someone who only talks about farming.

It is said that not everybody who talks about heaven is going there. That is true. But it is also true that someone who never thinks or prays about heaven probably is not going there either!

If heaven is only a nice place in our minds and not a reality, then praying about it would do no good. You can't think a thing into being. It either is, or it isn't. Heaven is a real place, and those who are sons of God are going there. Why, then, shouldn't we pray about it?



lesson outline

Our Heart and Our Home
Citizenship in Heaven
Strangers and Pilgrims

Hope for the Future
Heaven Is No Fantasy
Death Is No Failure of Faith

Prayer for This Present World
Too Little Care for This World
Too Much Care for This World

lesson objectives

When you finish this lesson you should be able to:

- Pray honestly that your affections will be set on things above and your life on earth will be that of a “pilgrim.”
- State how a person’s attitude toward death affects his praying.
- Recognize a citizen of heaven by his actions and attitude toward this present world.

learning activities

1. Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, and 2 Corinthians 5:1-5. Write in your own words what these verses mean.
2. Think of someone who has died recently and pray for their unsaved relatives who sorrow and have no hope.
3. Do the lesson development section by section, answering the study questions. Take the self-test. Check your answers with those given. Review any questions answered incorrectly.
4. Walk through your home and ask yourself, "Can I leave all this without regret?" If your answer is "No," then pray for God to reveal to you the unseen and the eternal.

key words

affections

fantasy

foreigner

pilgrims

reality

saltiness

lesson development

OUR HEART AND OUR HOME

Objective 1. *Describe the things that identify the citizen of heaven while he is here on earth.*

Our prayers and our worship will only be acceptable to God if our riches and our home are in heaven. Belief in a life in heaven after death is one of the things that makes the Christian different from others in the world. Faith in the unseen and for the future separates the believer from the unbeliever. It separates the man who prays from the man who does not pray.

- 1** Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.
 - a** The unbeliever's riches are in heaven.
 - b** The believer's home is in heaven.
 - c** The Christian is different from others in the world.

Do you remember what the Bible says about Jacob and Esau? They were both guilty of many wrongs. While one wanted

things that were future and unseen, the other cared only about what he could see and enjoy day by day. What did God say about them? He said, “I loved Jacob, but I hated Esau” (Romans 9:13). The difference between the children of God and children of the devil is the place of their riches. “For your heart will always be where your riches are” (Matthew 6:21).

People pray about the things that are most important to them. The early Christians were poor, but they were not unhappy. They suffered, but they did not complain. Heaven was very real to them. It was the place where their Father was, and therefore it was home to them. They cared nothing for this world. Their prayers were for strength, for patience, for faithfulness, and for love to forgive their enemies. If they were delivered from danger and persecution, they rejoiced. If they were not delivered, they faced death without fear. Their persecutors could destroy their bodies, but they could not destroy their souls. The Christians knew that when death came they would be going home. They looked forward to being in their Father’s house.

2 What did the early Christians pray for when in trouble?

.....

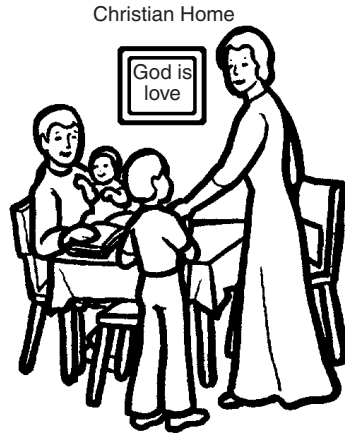
Citizenship in Heaven

You can usually tell what part of the country a man is from just by listening to him talk. Where we live has a lot to do with our actions—the way we do things. It is difficult for a foreigner to hide the fact he is not a true citizen.

You can also quickly recognize a citizen of heaven. His speech will reveal who he is. He may talk about things in this world, but if you wait a little while he will soon be talking about Jesus and about “home.” His speech will not be coarse and unkind. He will be slow to anger. His words will be truthful and loving.

- 3** You can recognize a citizen of heaven by
- a) the fact that he is called a Christian.
 - b) his speech and his behavior.
 - c) the teachings of the church he goes to.

You can know a citizen of heaven by his praying. The foreigner prays to his gods, but his prayers are without hope. His prayers are full of fear. Heaven’s citizens pray with joy. They know that Jesus is alive and that He hears, even though they cannot see Him. They know that He is there and will answer!



You can know a citizen of heaven by his earthly home. You will not find hate and envy in it. There will not be any books or magazines with evil stories and pictures. You will hear singing, praying, and worshipping there. It will be full of peace and happiness. The

4 What are the believer’s home on earth can have a bit of heaven in it!marks of a Christian home?

.....

Strangers and Pilgrims

Sons of God are in the world, but they do not take part in the evils of the world. They are like a boat in the water. All is well as long as the water does not get into the boat.

Sons of God are strangers in this world. They are foreigners. They live here and they work here, but they do not belong here. They are from another country! They do not think like the citizens of this world. They do not value the same things. They set their affections on things above, and not on things on the earth!

5 Why can the child of God be called a pilgrim?

.....

That was how it was with Abraham. He lived in a tent. He did not consider the tent his home. He looked for a city whose builder

and maker was God. This made his life different. This made his praying different. He had wealth, but he did not seek wealth. His nephew, Lot, sought wealth and lost everything. Abraham sought the will of God above everything else; and God provided all that he needed. Heaven’s citizens pray for the right things!

It was the same with Moses. He chose to suffer with God’s children rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. He did not pray for himself. He did not seek his own comfort. He sought to do the will of God. His rejoicing was in the fact that God’s people had been set free from Pharaoh. His happiness was because they were going home to the promised land. This hope made his work untiring and his prayers unselfish.

6 How were Moses and Abraham alike in their praying?

.....

Paul’s prayers were seldom for personal deliverance. He prayed that the Word of God would be well received. He prayed for power to preach it. His heart and his home were in heaven. Paul said he would rather “go” than “stay.” Yet, he stayed, and he prayed, because there was much work to be done. He was willing to be a foreigner, and to live in a strange country in order to bring the good news about Jesus to those who had not heard. He was willing to wait for awhile on earth so that he could add to the “progress and joy in the faith” of others who, like himself, were pilgrims here (Philippians 1:25).

7 Why was Paul willing to stay on earth rather than go to heaven at once?

.....

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Objective 2. *Explain why the death of a believer is not a failure of faith, and how hope affects the kind of prayers we pray.*

“For it was by hope that we were saved; but if we see what we hope for, then it is not really hope. For who hopes for

something he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience” (Romans 8:24-25). It would be well for you to learn these verses of Scripture. Remember, hope helps us to wait patiently for heaven.

We live on this earth without having seen heaven. We have never seen our home! We live by hope. While we are on earth there are many things to discourage us, for we share the same curse that came upon all men because of sin. We get tired. We get sick. We get thirsty and hungry. So we groan. The unbeliever also groans, because he suffers just as we do. But our groaning and the unbeliever’s groaning are different. The unbeliever groans without hope. The believer groans with hope. We know that one day we will leave this world and go to heaven. Hope makes patience possible. The unbeliever has no hope. After the suffering of this life, he faces only greater suffering!

8 How is the believer’s groaning under the curse different from the groaning of the unbeliever?

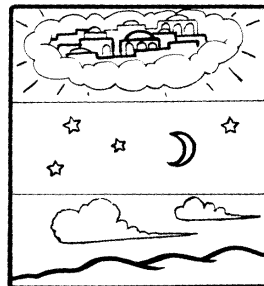
.....

We have another hope. We pray for the return of Christ before we die. If He comes before we die, we will go with Him to heaven without dying. Wouldn’t that be wonderful? It was something that the early Christians prayed for, and it is something for which we today should also hope and pray.

Heaven Is No Fantasy

Our praying and our hope will mean nothing if heaven is only a dream or an idea of our minds. Heaven is a real place. God, our Father, is in heaven.

Paul said that he was taken to the highest heaven. He was talking about the heaven where God is. There is a heaven of the clouds. There is a heaven of the stars. There is the “highest heaven,” the heaven where the Father is.



Paul said he heard things there which cannot be put into words, things that human lips may not “speak” (2 Corinthians 12:4). Paul had no doubt about a real heaven. He had seen it! No wonder he said he would rather go to be with Christ than to stay on earth!

9 Read 2 Corinthians 12:3-4 and tell what Paul’s reaction was.

.....

The Holy Spirit makes the truth of heaven very real to new converts. The early Christians lived with heaven on their minds. The book of Revelation tells of things that will happen in heaven at the end of time. It especially talks about the glory of the King of Kings whose throne is in heaven. Praise God! When heaven becomes real to the believer, worship and praise are the fruit of his faith!

10 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a** Each man makes his own heaven by his attitude in life.
- b** The highest heaven is the place of God’s throne.
- c** The reality of heaven is made known to the believer by the Holy Spirit.
- d** The truth about heaven is only for older mature believers.

Death Is No Failure of Faith

We need to say something about the death of the believer. When our loved ones are sick, we always pray for their healing. It is right to do so. Jesus healed the sick, and He still heals today. But, not all sick believers are healed. Some die. Is their death a failure of faith?

There are those who look on death as defeat. They pray for healing and deliverance for someone. Then, when death comes instead of healing, they act as though something terrible has happened. They get a feeling of guilt, as though they had somehow failed in prayer and in faith.

How can “going home” be a failure? If death has lost its sting, why should we be pierced with guilt? Why should a believer’s departure to heaven be a disaster?

Is death a failure of faith? No. A thousand times, no! Hebrews 11:39 speaks of those who died and were not delivered. It says, “What a record all of these have won by their faith!”

11 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a** Jesus still heals and delivers believers from death.
- b** When a believer dies it means someone’s faith has failed.
- c** The believer should not fear death because its sting is gone.
- d** Those who were not delivered in Hebrews 11 died in faith.

Death is not a failure of faith. The true citizen of heaven knows this. Those whose affections are too much on this world forget this. Their praying is not perfect, because they love this present world too much!

PRAYER FOR THIS PRESENT WORLD

Objective 3. *Name some activities in this world that we should seek to influence through prayer.*

The world is not forever. It will pass away. Should we pray for it? Should we try to improve it? The Bible tells us that we should pray for our leaders. It says we should pray for those who rule over us. It says we should love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us (Matthew 5:44). So the answer is, “Yes, we should pray for this world.” We must be concerned with getting men to live in a better world. But, we should also be trying to make this world a better place in which to live. As Christians that is part of our job.

Too Little Care for This World

The citizen of heaven should be a good citizen on earth. In fact, he should be the best citizen on earth. He believes in obeying rulers and the laws that govern the land. Heaven’s citizens should not willfully break the law. They should pay their taxes. A believer who has to pay a fine because he willfully broke the law is a poor example for his “country.” A believer in jail for a crime committed after his salvation would have a hard time making those in jail with him believe that he is a citizen of a kingdom of righteousness!

We should pray that God will help us be good citizens. Some believers are so “heavenly” minded that they are of no “earthly” good. This should not happen. We are the salt of the earth. Salt improves the taste of food. Believers improve the earth. The world is blessed because believers are in it. Their presence brings peace and joy. Their prayers uphold rulers. Their righteousness strengthens the nation.

12 State three reasons why a citizen of heaven makes the best citizen on this earth.

.....
.....

Too Much Care for This World

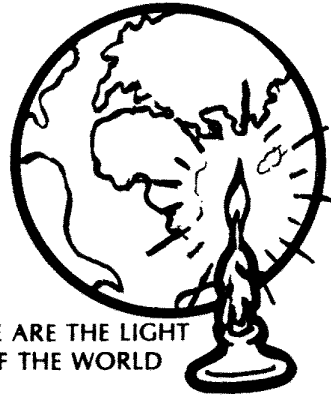
Of course, it is possible to become so busy with the affairs of this world that we forget why God put us here. We are the salt of the earth, but our “saltiness” is the knowledge of Jesus Christ and the righteous life He helps us live. We cannot be the salt of the earth if we ignore the fact that we are strangers and foreigners here. We can only help the world if we help it understand the plan of God. We must not let the things of this world cause us to neglect the task Jesus has given us.

13 What is the “saltiness” of the believer?

.....

We should pray for two things. We should pray that our affections will not be drawn to the things of this world. “Do not love the world or anything that belongs to the world. If you love the world, you do not love the Father” (1 John 2:15). That’s the first thing we should pray for when thinking about trying to improve the world and setting a good example in it.

The second thing to pray for is that we will not fail to do the task God has given us. “While I am in the world, I am the light for the world” (John 9:5). Jesus said these words while He was in this world, and He is our example. He went about doing good. We should also go about doing good. He prayed for the sick. We should also pray for the sick. He cast out demons. We should



YE ARE THE LIGHT
OF THE WORLD

cast out demons also. He preached the gospel of the kingdom. We should preach the gospel of the kingdom also. While He was in the world, He was the light of the world. Jesus said so. He said, “You are like light for the whole world” (Matthew 5:14). He also said, “Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples” (Matthew 28:19).

14 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement. Believers should pray that

- a** their favorite politician would win.
- b** their love will not be drawn to the things of the world.
- c** that they will have what their neighbors have.
- d** that they will not fail to do the task God has given them.

So, while we are strangers in this country, we have a great task to do. It may cause us suffering and pain, but it also caused Jesus suffering and pain. When Jesus died upon the cross, He spoke of His work on earth and said, “It is finished.” Then He went to heaven. He went home! We, too, have a task to finish. When it is done, we can rejoice as Jesus rejoiced, and say, “It is finished.” Then we, like Jesus, can go home. What a day that will be, when we all get to heaven.

self-test

SHORT ANSWER. Write the correct answer in the space provided.

1 Name three things that reveal the citizenship of a son of God.

.....

2 Where are the riches of the believer?

.....

3 Tell how the faith of Abraham and Moses concerning the reality of heaven affected their prayers.

.....

4 What is the difference in the way the knowledge of the curse affects the believer and the unbeliever?

.....

5 What did Jesus mean when He said that we are the salt of the earth?

.....

6 Name two things a citizen of heaven should pray for concerning his stay on earth.

.....

7 TRUE-FALSE. Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a** Death should not come to a Christian.
- b** Death of a believer is a failure of faith.
- c** Death's sting has been removed for the believer.
- d** Death will not come to believers alive at Christ's return.

answers to the study questions

- 8** The believer groans with hope.
The unbeliever has no hope.
- 1 a** False.
b True.
c True.
- 9** He could not put what he saw into words.
- 2** Strength, patience, faithfulness and love to forgive their enemies.
- 10 a** False.
b True.
c True.
d False.
- 3 b)** his speech and his behavior.
- 11 a** True.
b False.
c True.
d True.
- 4** No hate or envy, but singing, praying, worshiping, peace and happiness.
- 12** He respects leaders, he obeys the law, he pays his taxes.
- 5** He is really a citizen of heaven and traveling here on earth for only a short time.
- 13** The knowledge of Jesus Christ and the righteous life He helps us live.
- 6** Both sought to do God's will.
- 14 a** False.
b True.
c False.
d True.
- 7** So that he could add to the progress and joy of other believers still on earth.

For Your Notes

Unit Two

The Priority of Worship



Lesson 4

A King To Be Worshiped

“May your holy name be honored”

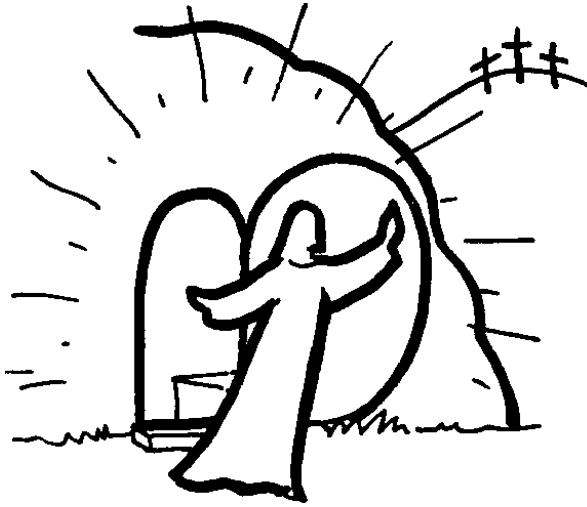
Matthew 6:9

In Unit 1 we talked about the believer’s *position* in prayer. We talked about the position of the *mind*—not the position of the *body*. In other words, when you know who you are and where you belong, you are better able to worship and pray.

In this unit we will talk about that which is most important in worship and prayer. We will talk about *priorities*. “Whoever comes to God must have faith that God exists and rewards those who seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6).

“Faith that God exists” means the *worship* of God. “Rewards those who seek Him” means *prayers* asking God for something. First we must worship. Then we may ask. But remember, He rewards those who seek *Him*—not those who seek rewards!

So, the *priority* in prayer is worship. We are to be concerned about Him and His kingdom above everything else! That is why, in this unit, we talk about **YOUR** name, **YOUR** kingdom, and **YOUR** will.



lesson outline

Honoring the King

- The Object of Worship
- The Duty of Worship

Overthrowing the Usurper

- The Faces of the Usurper
- The Fallacy of the Empty Throne

Honoring the King's Name

- The Power of the Name
- The Reputation of the King

lesson objectives

When you finish this lesson you should be able to:

- Understand the importance of beginning your prayers with worship to God before asking for your own wants.
- Examine your requests when you pray to see whether they honor God.

- Recognize how Satan tries to usurp Christ's place in a believer's heart.
- Identify and break habits of speech and action that dishonor God.

learning activities

1. Do the lesson development section by section. Write the answers to the study questions and self-test questions.
2. Read the following Scriptures that speak of the power of Jesus' name: John 1:12; 14:13; Acts 3:16; 4:12; 9:14; 22:16; Romans 10:13.
3. Read Romans 6:12-23 and explain why it is impossible to have an empty throne in one's heart.
4. Witness about Christ to someone today as an act of honor to the name of God.

key words

fallacy
proclaim

rebel
reputation

usurper

lesson development

HONORING THE KING

Objective 1. *Name some ways a believer can honor God as King.*

God is not only our Father. God is our King. He has a kingdom. We will learn more about this kingdom later.



As sons, we call Him Father. As citizens, we call Him King. As sons, we thank Him for His love and care. As citizens, we obey and worship Him.

So, God is both Father and King, and we are both sons and citizens. The greatest evil that a citizen can do is to fail to respect and obey his king. The greatest good that he can do is to serve and honor him. Love and honor can be shown by obedience and service, but that is not enough.

1 A citizen should and his King.

We are not mere servants. We are sons and citizens. Our Father and King wants more from us than obedience and service. He wants to speak with us and have fellowship. That is why times of worship are so important. We can work for a man and have to obey him without loving him. But we cannot worship God unless we honor and love Him.

2 Why does God want more from us than just our service?

.....

The Object of Worship

God wants worship that is personal and filled with praise. God wants us to tell Him that we love Him. God wants worship that honors Him as King.

Some people worship lifeless images. Some worship dead ancestors. Some worship nature. But none of these things are warm and personal. None of these can show us love. None of these things can answer prayers.

What about the believers? The object of our worship is alive. The object of our worship is loving. The object of our worship will make Himself known to us as we come into His presence with singing and praise. The object of our worship is the true God! He is not just a god. He is the only God! Beside Him there is no other!

3 What does it mean to worship God as He desires?

.....

The Duty of Worship

Someone may say, “I worship God, but I don’t believe that Jesus is the Son of God.” Impossible! You cannot worship God and at the same time refuse His Son.

In 1 John 3:22-23, John speaks about God and says, “We receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. What he commands is that we believe in his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as Christ commanded us.” How can people say they worship God and at the same time disobey Him? He has commanded them to believe that Jesus Christ is His Son. Are they going to obey Him? Or are they going to continue to deceive themselves and think that God accepts their worship while they are, at the same time, rejecting His Son?

4 In 1 John 3:22-23, what has God commanded us to do?

.....

If we are to worship God, we must also worship His Son. In Philippians 2:7-11 it says of Jesus:

Of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like man and appeared in human likeness. He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death—his death on the cross. For this reason God raised him to the highest place above and gave him the name that is greater than any other name. And so, in honor of the name of Jesus all beings in heaven, on earth, and in the world below will fall on their knees, and all will openly proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

In honor of the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow! It is our privilege now. It will be every unbeliever’s duty later! God has

given the authority to His Son Jesus who shall rule until He has defeated every enemy. Then, even his enemies shall bow in honor of His name. Why not do it willingly now?

- 5** Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.
- a** Every knee shall bow before Christ.
 - b** Only Christians will bow before Christ.
 - c** God has commanded men to believe in Jesus Christ.
 - d** God has given Jesus a name greater than every other name.

OVERTHROWING THE USURPER

Objective 2. *Tell who the usurper is and who and what he uses to do his work.*

The Faces of the Usurper

If we are to know how to pray, it is necessary for us to know who is ruling our hearts. If we are puffed up with pride, if we think more of ourselves than we ought to think, if we are seeking our own glory, then Satan has succeeded in putting “self” back on the throne of our heart.

You can tell who is on the throne of a man’s heart by watching what annoys and angers him. Is he troubled when the name of God is insulted? Does he get upset when people defile his Father’s house? Does he save his anger for those who insult him? Is he annoyed when people fail to honor him for what he thinks he is? Blessed is the man who lets God rule in his heart, and who honors his King’s name!

- 6** When a man says he is ruled by no one, he shows
- a) that Satan has put self on the throne of his heart.
 - b) that he has full control of his life.
 - c) that Christ is Lord of his life.

But, there are other usurpers besides “self” whom Satan puts on the throne of man’s heart. Another very troublesome one is called “service.” It is hard to recognize him because it is easy to think that God has put him there. We can get so busy doing

things for God that we make a god out of work and even begin to worship it. We neglect prayer. We don't honor God's name. We are too busy! We say our work is our worship to God.

We are like a husband who thinks that, because he has a good job and provides for his family, he is a good husband to his wife. When his wife complains, and says he is not paying any attention to her, he points to his work and says she ought to be grateful and satisfied. But she wants more than bread on the table. She wants his love. She wants him to talk with her. She wants him to share his thoughts and his feelings with her. She wants to be close to him and tell him the things that have happened in the family. She wants to tell him the thoughts of her own heart.

God is like that. He appreciates all the work we do for Him, but He also wants us to spend time with Him. He wants us to share our thoughts with Him and to enjoy His presence. He wants us to worship Him and give glory to His name.

7 What does God want from us more than service?

.....

The priests in the time of the prophet Malachi were a good example of what we are saying. Listen to Malachi's words: "And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you. If ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the Lord of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings . . ." (Malachi 2:1-2, KJV).

The priests were serving at the altars. They were doing their duties. But they did not do it to glorify the name of God. They did it because it was a job—a way of earning their living. This, of course, affected the way in which they did their work. They didn't really care about the people. They only cared for themselves. When you do not worship for the right reasons, you do not do your work right! When work, instead of God, becomes king, it causes you not to care about God, your family, or others.

But when God is on the throne, you work for His glory, and everything you do glorifies Him.

8 Why was God dissatisfied with the work of the priests in the days of Malachi?

.....

Let us speak of one other thing that takes honor from God's name. When we become followers of men, Satan uses our worship of these men to push God off the throne of our heart. The Corinthian church had this problem. Some were followers of Paul. Some were followers of Apollos. Some were followers of Peter. So they allowed division to come among them. They were putting men on the throne of their hearts rather than God. They were more concerned about the names of Paul, Apollos, and Peter than they were about the glory of God! What a shame! What a terrible thing when believers care more about honoring men than about honoring God! Now, there was nothing wrong with Paul, Apollos, and Peter. They were all God-honoring men. The evil was in the people who put them on the throne of their hearts and honored them more than God. Let us put God on the throne of our hearts and worship Him!

9 Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-7 and tell what was wrong in this church.

.....

The Fallacy of the Empty Throne

Objective 3. *Describe the methods Satan uses to usurp Christ's throne in the believer's heart.*

The devil is a deceiver and a rebel. He was one of God's highest angels, but his heart became lifted up and filled with pride. He decided to try to take the throne of God, so he led a rebellion in heaven. Many angels were deceived by him and followed him. Read in Ezekiel 28:1-17 about the King of Tyre. It is a picture of Satan's rebellion. God cast Satan out of heaven as well as the rebellious angels who had followed him. Satan

was cast down to the earth, and has ruled here ever since that time. God’s plan is to overthrow Satan and take back control over the world. He first sent Jesus who defeated sin and death and broke the power of Satan. In the end, He will destroy Satan and rule the world.

10 Ezekiel 28:1-17 discusses the King of Tyre. It is also a picture of

- a) the coming of Christ to this earth.
- b) the final defeat of Satan.
- c) Satan’s rebellion.

Hebrews 2:14-15 is a clear account of what Jesus did to make the plan of God possible:

Jesus Himself became like them and shared their human nature. He did this so that through his death he might destroy the Devil, who has the power over death, and in this way set free those who were slaves all their lives because of their fear of death.

Satan still rules this world, but his rule will soon be finished. He still sits on the throne of the hearts of unbelievers and controls them. Soon Jesus will come again, and when He does, He will rule the world and all who are in it. Satan’s power and control will be completely finished. His power has already been broken for all those who believe in Jesus. He can no longer control them. Satan today no longer sits on the throne of their hearts. The usurper has already been overthrown in the believer’s heart! Hallelujah!

11 How did Jesus free those who were slaves to the fear of death?

.....

Satan has been overthrown in the heart of the believer. Is the throne empty? Does no one rule the believer? There is a great lesson here! There is no such thing as an empty throne. Either God is on the throne, or a usurper is occupying it. When one

ruler is overthrown, another takes his place. In fact, rulers do not usually leave their thrones unless someone throws them off!

12 What is the fallacy of the empty throne in the hearts of men?

.....

Some believe they have no ruler. These people say that they are masters of their own lives, and that no one else rules them. How wrong they are! How they deceive themselves!

Surely you know that when you surrender yourselves as slaves to obey someone, you are in fact the slaves of the master you obey—either of sin, which results in death, or of obedience, which results in being put right with God (Romans 6:16).

We are the slaves of the master we obey. Can you say that you are living without sin? Can you say that you are not obeying the selfish desires of your heart? Can you say that your emotions do not control you?

13 What shows who your master is?

.....

If things control you or have power in your life, then you cannot say that you are free. You are not your own master. You do have a king! You may not call him Satan. You may call him “self,” but Satan is the one who put “self” there. Satan is ruining you through your “self”!

HONORING THE KING’S NAME

Objective 4. *State what can be accomplished in the King’s name and why His name deserves honor.*

The Power of the Name

Matthew 6:9 says, “May your holy name be honored.” Why does it speak of His name rather than of God Himself? Why

doesn't it say, "May you be honored"? Isn't a man more important than his name? How can a name be important?

When a man signs his name to a paper, he is saying that he agrees to do whatever is written on the paper. Now, if he is a poor man and agrees to pay a lot of money, we say that he is using his name improperly. It is not honest to put your name on something you cannot fulfill or do.

But, think of what God's name means! God is all-powerful. God is all-knowing. God is everywhere. He is the owner of unlimited riches and lacks nothing. So, if God puts His name to any writing, you can be sure that He is able to do what He says He will do.

14 How can you be sure God can do what He says He will do?

.....

If we are to learn how to pray, we must believe that God will do what He has promised to do when we ask in His name. God has written many promises in His Word. To doubt His Word is to insult His name! It is as though He gives us a check signed with His name and we refuse to take it to the bank because we do not believe He has enough money there to honor it!

Paul said, "Everyone who calls out to the Lord for help will be saved" (Romans 10:13).

Jesus said, "If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer" (Matthew 21:22).

God says, "I am the Lord, the one who heals you" (Exodus 15:26).

Believer, child of God, take these promises, signed by His name, to God in prayer. He will answer!

15 What do the preceding verses tell us about God?

.....

There are many other promises written in His Word. He has "signed" them all. Do you doubt them? Do you doubt the truth

of His Word? Can you put away your doubts, right now, and trust His name? Go to Him in prayer. Go—in faith! Go—in His name!

We are quick to believe men. We trust the word of doctors, ministers, friends, and even politicians, but we seem to have a hard time believing God. How can we expect God to answer prayer when we give men's names more honor than God's name? When we believe the word of men more than we believe the promises of God, we do not know how to pray. We are not trusting, above everything else, the promises of God given in His name!

16 Match the verses (left) to the correct Scriptures (right) by placing the correct number on each blank.

- | | | |
|--------|--|------------------|
| a | “I am the Lord, the one who heals you.” | 1) Matthew 21:22 |
| | | 2) Exodus 15:26 |
| b | If you believe, you will receive.” | 3) Romans 10:13 |
| c | “Everyone who calls out to the Lord for help will be saved.” | |

The Reputation of the King

A name carries with it a man's reputation. A name doesn't make you what you are. What you are makes your name! So, if you are a dishonest man, you soon get a name for yourself. “You can't trust that man,” people will say. You have earned a name for being dishonest. Now, you may say, “That's not my name. My name is ‘Mr. Truth’.” But, that won't make any difference to those who know you. To them, your name is “Mr. Dishonest!” because of how you live. As Christians we must always work toward glorifying God by our good reputations.

The Bible says, “Do not use my name for evil purposes” (Exodus 20:7). We use God's name for evil purposes when we say it carelessly, or use it when not speaking for His glory. This is called “swearing” or “cursing.” We take God's name in vain when we have so little respect for Him that we call His name in

times of disgust or surprise. If we only use His name to emphasize our feelings, and not as an act of worship, we are insulting the name of God. We are failing to honor His name.

17 Name one way to honor God's name.

.....

So, let us conclude this lesson by listing some things we must do if we are to know how to pray.

1. We must honor God as King in our hearts.
2. We must recognize that we are His sons and citizens of heaven, and not put anyone or anything else on the throne of our hearts.
3. We must believe in the power of His name and claim His promises.
4. We must be careful in what we say and what we do, knowing that we are representing God.

self-test

SHORT ANSWER. Write the correct answer in the space provided.

1 Explain the difference between servants and sons as it relates to worship.

.....

2 Explain an important difference between God, our Father, and the gods other men worship.

.....

3 Name three things Satan puts on the throne of our hearts to usurp the kingship of Jesus.

.....

4 How did the Corinthian church dishonor Christ?

.....

5 What is the fallacy of the empty throne in the hearts of men?

.....

6 Name the four things mentioned at the close of Lesson 4 that we must do if we are to learn how to pray.

.....

answers to the study questions

- 9** Jealousy, following after men.
- 1** (any two) obey, serve, love, honor, respect.
- 10** c) Satan's rebellion.
- 2** We are not servants, we are sons. He wants our love and our worship.
- 11** Through His death he destroyed the devil's power.
- 3** God wants worship that is personal, honors His name, and is filled with praise.
- 12** There is no such thing as an empty throne. Either God is on the throne, or a usurper is occupying it.
- 4** That we believe in Jesus and love one another.
- 13** The one you obey is your master.
- 5** a True.
b False.
c True.
d True.
- 14** He is all-powerful, all-knowing.
- 6** a) that Satan has put self on the throne of his heart
- 15** He will keep His promises.
- 7** Our worship and fellowship.
- 16** a 2) Exodus 15:26.
b 1) Matthew 21:22.
c 3) Romans 10:13.
- 8** Because they did not give glory to His name.
- 17** By our good reputations.

For Your Notes

Lesson 5

A Kingdom To Be Sought

“May your Kingdom come”

Matthew 6:10

Most men and women have plans for their lives. They want to be doctors or lawyers. They want to become rich and well-known. They have a picture in their minds of what life will be like when they have reached their goals. They are kingdom builders!

Some people have no plans of their own. They would rather find some strong person who is building a kingdom, and help him in his vision. They get their happiness out of being a part of someone else’s plans.

This is what the Christian does. He builds no kingdoms of his own. He does not try to be known for some great work he has done. Rather, he seeks God’s glory and the coming of God’s kingdom. His prayer is always, “May your kingdom come.” His only desire is to have a part in the coming of that kingdom. He not only prays for it, but he goes out to fulfill the Great Commission of Jesus.

One important prayer a believer should always pray is, “Lord, let me build Thy kingdom, and not my kingdom!” Many believers are very busy, but they are busy building their own kingdoms instead of God’s kingdom.



lesson outline

The Nature of God's Kingdom
The Place of God's Kingdom
The Time of God's Kingdom

The Growth of God's Kingdom
The Commission
The Completion

The Glory of God's Kingdom
Christ in the Assembly of Believers
Christ in Acts of Worship

lesson objectives

When you finish this lesson you should be able to:

- Distinguish between the inward kingdom and the outward kingdom of God.
- Evaluate your part in fulfilling Christ's command in Matthew 28:19-20.
- Understand why worship in every local assembly of the body of Christ must be centered around the person of Christ.

learning activities

1. Read the lesson development section by section. Write the answers to the study questions and self-test questions.
2. Pray for five missionaries by name and write words of encouragement to one of them.
3. Write a description of the “Living One” defined in Revelation 1:12-18.
4. Review the new words that you have learned in the first four lessons.

key words

disciple
evangelize

Great Commission
nature

lesson development

THE NATURE OF GOD’S KINGDOM

Objective 1. *Explain how God’s kingdom is both now and yet to come.*

There is no kingdom like God’s kingdom. There is no king like God.

The kingdom of God is now, yet is to come. The kingdom of God is now unseen, yet soon to be seen. The kingdom of God is inward (in the heart of the believer), but still its glory is around us.

- 1** Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.
 - a** The kingdom of God is now.
 - b** The kingdom of God is yet to come.
 - c** The kingdom of God is within the believer.
 - d** The kingdom of God will be seen.

The kingdom of God is first on the list of things for which we should pray. Its priority takes equal place with the righteousness of God. And why not? The kingdom of God is righteousness. God’s righteousness! So, he who seeks the

kingdom of God is seeking the righteousness of God. He who seeks the righteousness of God is seeking God Himself. You cannot separate God and His righteousness. So, it all goes together . . . YOUR name, YOUR kingdom, YOUR righteousness. You cannot have one without the other. He who seeks them all above everything else is praying as he should.

2 Explain how the name of God and the kingdom of God cannot be separated.

.....
.....

The Place of God’s Kingdom

Where is God’s kingdom? In heaven? Yes, in heaven. On earth? Yes, it will be. In man? Certainly, but only in those who receive Christ.

How can this be? Well, it’s this way—a kingdom must be in a citizen before he can be a good citizen in the kingdom. There are many examples of leaders who rule by force. Their citizens obey them because they fear them. But, such leaders soon lose their kingdoms, because their kingdom is not in the hearts of the people. At the first chance they get, the citizens will revolt. They will replace the old leader with one they trust and love.

This has happened over and over again throughout the world. An evil ruler will receive outward worship and praise from his people; but they are only speaking words to please him lest he be angry with them. Even while they are praising him with their lips, they are hating him in their hearts. They have already rejected him.

- 3** A true kingdom must be in a man’s heart because
- a) a kingdom cannot last unless it is in the people’s hearts.
 - b) obedience can only come from the heart.
 - c) citizens must fear the ruler if the kingdom is to be strong.

This is why we say that a strong and lasting kingdom must be in a man before the man can be a good citizen of a kingdom. This is why the kingdom of God is an everlasting kingdom. It

starts in the hearts of its citizens the moment they believe. So, we can say that the “place” of the kingdom of God is *in* the heart of man.

The kingdom of God is not only in the hearts of believers. The day will come when Christ will rule over an “outward” kingdom. It will be a kingdom that can be seen and one that includes the whole world and all the people in it.

The only thing about the outward kingdom of God that will be different to the believer will be that which was “unseen” will now be “seen.” But the goodness of the kingdom will be the same. Its righteousness, its peace, and its joy which the Holy Spirit gives will not be something new to the believer. He has been a citizen of God’s kingdom from the day of his spiritual birth!

4 The kingdom of God is,, and which the Holy Spirit gives.

What a day that will be when the kingdom we can see comes! What happiness for those who know the true nature of the kingdom of God. They have known and practiced a life of righteousness, peace, and joy which the Holy Spirit gives!

Yes, many will rejoice in that day. But what about those who don’t know the Savior? What about the nations that have never heard? There will be no joy for them unless we go and tell them that Jesus saves!

Then how busy we should be! How we should pray! How we should work until all the world knows that there is a kingdom that starts in the heart. A kingdom that will be seen by all when Jesus comes.

This means that we should pray that everyone everywhere will accept Christ. We should pray that God’s kingdom will spread to the hearts of all men all over the world. At the same time, we must be prepared to go anywhere God tells us to share the good news about Jesus. No man can pray as he ought to pray who does not have a deep cry within himself to see the lost saved.

5 What must those who pray “May your kingdom come” be prepared to do?

.....
.....

When the “Great Commission” means nothing to us it is impossible for us to pray as we should. We must never allow our work, our friends, or the cares of this life to interfere with this task. Those who pray “May your kingdom come” must be ready to go into all the world and carry the gospel to every creature. God’s kingdom cannot come to those who have never heard, for faith comes by hearing.

The Time of God’s Kingdom

The kingdom of God is now. Its boundaries are not marked. It has no customs barriers or immigration posts. It has no national flag. It is a kingdom in the heart of believers. God sits on the throne of the believer’s heart and rules His kingdom from there! “The Kingdom of God is within you” (Luke 17:21). “Jesus said, ‘My kingdom does not belong to this world’” (John 18:36). In other words, God’s kingdom is unlike any other kingdom in the world. His kingdom is a spiritual kingdom. “The Kingdom of God does not come in such a way as to be seen” (Luke 17:20). Of course not! When it is in the heart, it cannot be seen except by the life and actions of its citizens! And that is what our next Scripture verse talks about: “For God’s Kingdom is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of the righteousness, peace, and joy which the Holy Spirit gives” (Romans 14:17).

6 Match the letters on the left of the statements to the Scripture texts that are on the right.

- | | | |
|--------|---|---------------|
| a | “The Kingdom of God is within you.” | 1) John 18:36 |
| | | 2) Luke 17:20 |
| b | “My kingdom does not belong to this world.” | 3) Luke 17:21 |
| c | “The Kingdom of God does not come in such a way as to be seen.” | |

When the kingdom of God is now, the proof of the kingdom will be seen now. If we put the kingdom of God before everything else now, it will be seen in our home, at our work, and among our friends. We will not be the king in these places. God will be the King! Most problems people face in their homes, at work, and with their friends come from the fact that they seek their own will rather than God's pleasure. When we put God's kingdom before everything else in our lives, most of our problems are solved! Our homes become happy places. Our work becomes satisfying. Our friends find us easier to live with because we are not selfish. No wonder Jesus said all these other things would be added if we would put His kingdom before everything else (Matthew 6:33).

7 Name three places where proof of the kingdom of God within us will be seen.

.....

The kingdom of God is still to come. It is "now," but it is also "yet to come." We pray "May your kingdom come." We groan for the day when what will die must be changed into what is immortal (1 Corinthians 15:53). One of the great joys of worship is to sing and tell of what will happen when Jesus comes. A wonderful Scripture in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 tells of Jesus' coming. It ends with the words, "So then, encourage one another with these words." Worship is sharing our hope about things to come. It is talking to God about the kingdom that is within us, and letting Him reveal to us some of the joys of the kingdom we have yet to see.

- 8** First Thessalonians 4:13-18 tells us that
- a) only the people living when Christ returns will go to heaven.
 - b) the dead in Christ will rise first.
 - c) the angels will come down from heaven to take believers back with them.
 - d) those who are alive on the day the Lord comes will go to heaven.

THE GROWTH OF GOD’S KINGDOM

Objective 2. *List four things a believer should do to see that the Great Commission is carried out.*

Prayer and worship are wonderful to enjoy. But they must be enjoyed with the full knowledge of God’s plan. We will talk more about this in the next lesson. But we need to speak a little about it in this lesson because it concerns the growth of the kingdom of God.

Jesus said that He would build His church. Christ’s “church” is people—people who believe in Jesus. Wherever there are believers, there you will find Christ’s church. Members of His church are the citizens of the kingdom of God. So, when Christ builds His church He is building His kingdom. This is the great plan and work of God, This is what we should be praying about.

The church grows in two ways. These are two things we should be praying about.

1. It increases in number of members.
2. Its members increase in Christlikeness.

9 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a** The believers make up the “church.”
- b** The “church” grows in number as buildings are built.
- c** The kingdom of God is being built as believers are added to the “church.”
- d** The “church” always stays the same.

The Commission

To do this work, Christ gave His disciples the “Great Commission.” He said, “Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:19-20).

10 What is the name given to the command Jesus gives in Matthew 28:19-20?

.....

There are four parts to the command:

1. Go to them.
2. Disciple them.
3. Baptize them.
4. Teach them.

That is a job that should keep us praying until Jesus comes! Let us look at them one by one.

Go to them

This is not a call. It does not say, "Come." It says "Go!" It is a command. Do not be troubled in your praying about a "call." Jesus called His disciples to Himself and sent them forth. The call of God is to salvation. We are called to belong to Jesus. That



is the "come" of the gospel. But the command is different. Jesus is talking to those who have heard His call and have come unto Him. He says to these, "Go!" "Go to all peoples everywhere. Go and make them My disciples. Go and baptize them. Go and teach them." We do not have to wait for a voice from heaven. A voice has already spoken. It is the voice of Jesus, and it said, "Go!"

11 Explain the call of God as it relates to the Great Commission.

.....

Disciple them

This is the command to evangelize. To cause men to believe that Jesus is the Savior and Lord is what we have been sent to do. We are commanded to make converts in every nation. People do not begin to believe in Jesus because we know how to argue. They do not begin to believe in Jesus because we have a



good education. It is only when the Holy Spirit takes the words we speak that they feel the guilt of sin. It is when the love of Jesus touches their hearts—it is then that they will repent and believe. This means that we must pray and ask God to put the right words into our mouths.

12 What does the command to disciple mean?

.....

Baptize them

This is a command to bring those who have believed to commit themselves publicly to follow the Lord. It is not enough to believe in our hearts. We must confess with our mouths and



BAPTIZE

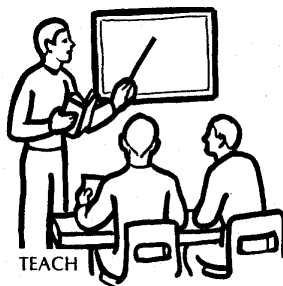
be baptized in water. The command to be baptized is very clear. It is a public testimony and picture of what has happened within us. When we believed, we died to sin. This is what being put under the water tells those who are watching. When we believed, we became new people—sons of God. This is what coming out of the water tells those who are watching. Every believer should be baptized in water. It is a command.

13 Water baptism speaks of what?

.....

Teach them

What a job this is! How much prayer and study it requires to teach new converts to be like Jesus. What are we supposed to teach them? Not just to be a church member. Not just to know church rules. Not just to be able to say the Lord's prayer and pass the new believer's test. Not just how



TEACH

to sing and pray. But, to be like Jesus! New converts (and old ones, too) must be taught God's love, His way of living, and His Word.

14 What should new converts be taught?**The Completion**

God's great plan is not yet complete. To each of us is given a task. Each of us can finish our part of the plan.

Jesus finished His part. He became a man. He healed the sick. Jesus taught men the truths about God's kingdom. Then He did what He had come to do. He died, and by dying He took away the sins of the world. As He hung on the cross He cried, "It is finished!" His work was complete!

Jesus gave the disciples work to do. He said, "Go, preach, baptize, and teach." They obeyed, and the gospel spread from country to country. One by one the disciples died, but each was able to say that he had finished his part of the plan.

Today the command is still with us. We each have our task from God. Each of us should pray to know exactly what our part in the plan is. Then, when we have fully obeyed and our life is over, we will be able to say, "It is finished. I have completed my task!"

15 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a** We do not have to pray because Jesus said, "It is finished."
- b** The disciples obeyed the "Great Commission."
- c** Jesus has given each of us a task to do.
- d** Jesus finished His part of the task.

Paul said, "And now there is waiting for me the prize of victory awarded for a righteous life" (2 Timothy 4:8). The apostle prayed earnestly to know Christ and to be like Him. "All I want is to know Christ and to experience the power of His resurrection" (Philippians 3:10). What an objective! What a goal!

This should be our goal, too. This should be our prayer daily! This should be our objective as we worship in services and in private. God wants to complete His work in us. He can only do this if we are willing. God does not want us to wait until we get

to heaven to be like Jesus. He wants to change us now—and He will if we will be faithful in worship and prayer.

16 What is needed before we can fulfill our part of God’s plan?

.....

There are several things we should pray for as we think of the time of Christ’s coming and of the end of the world.

1. We should pray to the owner of the harvest that He will send out workers to gather in His harvest (Matthew 9:38).
2. We should pray that the good news about the kingdom will be preached through all the world for a witness to all mankind and then the end will come (Matthew 24:14).
3. We should pray, “So be it. Come, Lord Jesus!” (Revelation 22:20) in answer to the words of Jesus, “Yes indeed! I am coming soon!”

17 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a** Jesus will return before the good news is preached throughout the world.
- b** As a believer we should fear Jesus’ return.
- c** Workers are needed to gather in the harvest.
- d** Jesus is coming again.

THE GLORY OF GOD’S KINGDOM

Objective 3. *Compare Christ’s presence today in local assemblies with Revelation 1:9-20.*

Christ in the Assembly of Believers

We know that we shall see Christ in His glory when He comes. Today Christ’s glory is present with every gathering of believers, and we can see His glory through worship.

God gave John a vision of Christ in the churches. We read about it in Revelation 1:9-20. Jesus is pictured as the “Living One” who stands among the lampstands. The lampstands were the seven churches of Asia.

It is still true what Jesus said in Matthew 18:20. He said, “Where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them.” If we want to see Christ’s glory, we must meet together in His name. He will be there!

18 How is Jesus pictured in Revelation 1:9-20?

.....

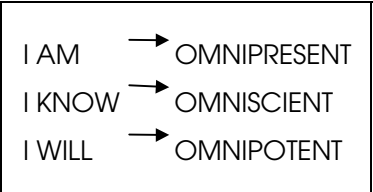
In Hebrews 10:25, it says, “Let us not give up the habit of meeting together.” Something happens when believers meet together. Christ comes! Those who do not “go to church” miss the chance of being there when Christ visits. He comes wherever believers meet in His name. He walks among the lampstands! The lampstands are churches, gatherings of believers! Just think! No matter how small or how large a group is, if they meet in Jesus’ name, He is there! What a reason for worship and praise! What a reason for singing and rejoicing! Jesus approves of believers meeting together. He visits them!

19 What happens when believers meet together?

.....

There are things that we should know about these visits by Jesus to our gatherings. To each of the churches in Asia He said three things:

- 1. He said, “I am.”
- 2. He said, “I know.”
- 3. He said, “I will.”



He who walks among the lampstands is present everywhere (omnipresent). He knows all things (omniscient), and He has power to do what He wills (omnipotent).

Christ in Acts of Worship

Christ is there as we sing. As our voices are lifted together in song, we can feel His Spirit move among us. “I will sing with my spirit, but I will sing also with my mind” (1 Corinthians 14:15). We often come to the house of God with our minds

filled with many thoughts; thoughts that concern our homes, our friends, and our families. As we sing, our minds are turned from earthly cares to thoughts of heaven and “things above,” and we receive strength to face the tasks of life again!

Christ is there when we pray. “I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray also with my mind” (1 Corinthians 14:15). As we enter our room, forget those around us, and talk to Jesus, we can feel Him by our side. We draw strength and blessing from His presence. As we hear those around us praying, our hearts are filled with praise. We know Christ is walking among His people!

Christ is there when the Word of God is preached. We can hear Him talking to us. We see the preacher, but we hear the voice of Jesus. “If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches!” (Revelation 2:7). We should pray for our preachers. They are the ministers of His Word. We ought to pray for them because the Spirit wants to speak to us through their minds and lips!

20 What does 1 Corinthians 14:15 tell us to do?

.....

self-test

SHORT ANSWERS. Write the correct answer in the space provided.

1 What two forms does the kingdom of God take?

.....

2 Name three places where evidences of the kingdom within us will be seen.

.....

3 What important truth does Matthew 18:20 teach us about our meeting together in Jesus' name?

.....

4 In what two ways does the church grow?

.....

5 Name the four commands of the "Great Commission."

.....

6 What does 1 Thessalonians 4:18 tell us to do concerning the knowledge of Christ's coming?

.....

7 What does Matthew 9:38 say we should pray for?

.....

8 What should Matthew 24:14 inspire us to pray for?

.....

9 How can we see Christ's glory today?

.....

answers to the study questions

11 The call of God says, “Come.” The command of God says, “Go.” The “Come” is to Jesus. The “Go” is to take the message to those who have not heard.

- 1 a** True.
- b** True.
- c** True.
- d** True.

12 To evangelize—tell men that Jesus is the Savior.

2 The kingdom of God is righteousness, and righteousness is of God.

13 Our death to sin, and that we are new people, sons of God,

3 a) a kingdom cannot last unless it is in the people’s hearts.

14 Christ’s love, His way of living, His Word.

4 righteousness, peace, joy (any order)

15 a False.

- b** True.
- c** True.
- d** True.

5 To go anywhere to spread the gospel if God tells them that they are the ones to do it.

16 We must know Christ and be like Him.

- 6 a** 3) Luke 17:21
- b** 1) John 18:36
- c** 2) Luke 17:20

17 a False.

- b** False.
- c** True.
- d** True.

7 In our homes, at our work, among our friends.

18 As the “Living One.”

8 b) the dead in Christ will rise first.

19 Christ comes.

9 a True.

b False.

c True.

d False.

20 Sing with the spirit.

Pray with the spirit.

Sing with the mind.

Pray with the mind.

10 The “Great Commission.”

For Your Notes

Lesson 6

A Plan To Be Followed

“May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven”

Matthew 6:10

If God’s will is to be done on earth, it has to start in your heart. Are you willing and ready to do God’s will?

Perhaps you are saying, “Tell me what God’s will is, and then I can tell you whether I am willing to do it.” That is a reasonable request, and God’s Word answers it.

God’s will is that you believe that Jesus is His Son and your Savior. You say, “Oh, that is easy. I believe it. Is that all there is to the will of God?”

No, that is not all. Now comes the hard part. God wants all believers to be like Jesus. You say, “Be like Jesus! Who can be like Jesus?” You can! It is God’s will for you. The Holy Spirit will help make it happen!

How is that? Well, everything that happens to you is “good” if it makes you like Jesus. That means trouble can be good for you. How can this be? You will have to pray a lot to know why God lets things happen to you, won’t you?



lesson outline

Praying for God's Will

Praying for His Plan

Praying With the Spirit

Commitment to God's Will

Limited Commitment

Total Commitment

Faith and God's Will

Some Questions About Prayer

Some Prayers That Are Not Answered

Some Things People Pray For

lesson objectives

When you finish this lesson you should be able to:

- Develop an awareness of God's plan in your life and the ministry of the Spirit's fulfillment of this plan.
- Understand the difference between "limited" and "total" commitment.
- Indicate how "limited" and "total" commitments affect our worship and service to God.

- Be more effective in the prayers that you pray.

learning activities

1. Read the lesson objectives and key word list.
2. Read Genesis 11:1-9 and Acts 2:1 to find and compare different kinds of unity in prayer and purpose.
3. Write an explanation of how it is possible to pray in error, using James 4:3 and Matthew 20:20-24 for references.
4. Read the lesson development section by section, answering all the study questions and self-test questions.

key words

accordance
commitment
conditions

paraclete
yield

lesson development

PRAYING FOR GOD'S WILL

Objective 1. *State the two parts of the plan of God.*

Objective 2. *Explain how prayer will help you to do your part in the plan of God.*

Must we pray about everything? You may ask, “Does God have a will for each thing I do every day? Does He have a will for what shoes I should wear? Which route I should travel when going to work? Or what I should eat for lunch?” Does God bother about such little things?

God knows every little thing we do. However, He has given us a good mind with which to make decisions. It is not necessary to pray about things that neither hinder nor help the plan of God. These are our decisions to make. We should ask, “Does this affect God’s plan? Does it strengthen my walk with God?” That is why God has given us a brain. He wants us to use it!

1 Why is it unnecessary to pray about some things?

.....

However, some “little” things are not little because they do affect the plan of God. If I say, “I don’t feel like praying today,” that is no “little” thing. By not praying, I weaken my walk with God and fail to grow spiritually. But if I say, “I don’t feel like eating fish today,” that is a little thing, and it is not necessary to pray about it. Eating or not eating fish does not affect God’s plan.

2 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a** We should pray about everything we do.
- b** God knows everything we do.
- c** Things are not little that affect the plan of God.
- d** God does not care about the little things we do.

Sometimes, however, God saves our lives through a feeling inside us that warns us not to go to some place or do something. This “feeling” is really the voice of the Spirit within us. We need to pay attention to these inner warnings. We need to know how to listen to the Spirit! You see, even though God has angels who guard each of us, we still need to listen. Often, we find that we would have been injured if we had not listened to the Spirit. God’s angels protect those who listen.

So, in things that do not affect the kingdom of God, we can make our own decisions. But we should always be listening for the voice of the Spirit lest we make a wrong decision.

3 How does God sometimes warn us about danger?

.....

Praying for His Plan

We want to say here again what we are saying throughout this book. God has a plan and every believer should prayerfully seek to follow it. Before we pray for anything else, we should think of God’s plan and ask ourselves, “Am I doing what God wants me to do today? Is my work part of His plan?”

God’s plan is not just for preachers. It is for everybody. It is just as important for the clerk who sells cloth to know he is

following God's plan as it is for the minister of the gospel to know he is in God's will.

- 4** Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.
- a** God has a plan and every believer should seek to follow it.
 - b** God's plan is just for preachers.
 - c** A farmer should know God's plan for his life.
 - d** We should pray before accepting a job.

So, when a job is offered to you, it would be right to pray about it before accepting it. But your decision should be based on whether the job helps you do God's will—not on how much money you will be paid. Some people accept jobs where there is no church just because the pay is better. Now, if you start a new church where your new job is, then perhaps you are in the will of God. But if you take the job and stop praying in the house of God, then you are doing wrong. It is better to take less pay than to be out of God's will.

What is God's will? Let us state it again. God's will is that:

1. All men believe.
2. All believers be like Jesus.

Jesus gave the Great Commission. Remember Matthew 28:19-20. We talked about this in Lesson 5. Jesus was speaking to us about His will for those who had not heard the gospel.

- 5** What are the 4 things Jesus said to do in Matthew 28:19-20?
-

This is the command of Jesus, and the will of God. All other prayers are "little" prayers compared to prayers prayed for the plan of God. But to do the plan of God, we will need all kinds of people. We will need:

- People who can pray.
- People who can preach.
- People who can work and give.
- People who can teach.
- People who can witness to their neighbors.
- People who can witness to those in other lands.
- People who can build and work with their hands.
- People who can comfort those who are in trouble.

Oh, there are so many kinds of people who are needed in doing the plan of God. Each of us should pray to know what God wants us to do. We should also pray that others will give themselves to work in God's plan.

6 Name seven kinds of people who are needed to help in the plan of God.

.....

Praying With the Spirit

How can we know how to pray? How can we pray for people to be saved and for believers to be like Jesus when our own families have such great needs? We have children to feed, houses to build, bills to pay, clothes to buy, knowledge to obtain, and plans of our own. Is it possible to be more concerned about the plan of God than about these other things?

The answer is, "Yes, it is, but you will need help!" When Jesus went to heaven, He said He would send the Holy Spirit. One of the Holy Spirit's names is "Paraclete," which means "One called alongside to help." Ah, that is just what we need! We need someone to help us do the right thing. We need someone to help us put first things first. We need someone to teach us how to pray, and that is exactly what the Holy Spirit has been sent by Jesus to do!

7 "Paraclete" is another name for

- a) Jesus Christ.
- b) a white dove.
- c) the apostle Paul.
- d) the Holy Spirit.

We need the Holy Spirit. Do you know why? The Holy Spirit helps us pray for the right things. Listen to what the Bible says in Romans 8:26-27: "In the same way the Spirit also comes to help us, weak as we are. For we do not know how we ought to pray." Think of it! That is quite a statement! We do not know how we ought to pray! "The Spirit himself pleads with God for us in groans that words cannot express. And God, who sees into our hearts, knows what the thought of the Spirit is; because the

Spirit pleads with God on behalf of his people *and in accordance with His will.*”

8 Why do we need the Holy Spirit’s help in prayer?

.....

Praise God! Now we have Someone to pray for us “in accordance with His will.” That is exactly what we need! The Spirit will not pray for selfish things. The Spirit will pray for:

1. All men to believe.
2. All believers to be like Jesus.

We need to yield ourselves to the Holy Spirit and let Him pray for us and through us. Sometimes we feel a great need to pray for lost men. Then the Spirit will pray through us in an unknown tongue. He will pray according to the will of God. Sometimes we know we have not been acting like Jesus, and we pray to be like Him. The Holy Spirit will help us because it is His work to pray according to the will of God.

9 What is one way the Spirit prays for us?

.....

Of course, if we are going to pray about things for ourselves, we must not expect the Spirit to pray for us unless it is something that concerns the plan of God. If we are praying for money to help the work of God, the Spirit will help us. If we are praying for a car with which to do God’s work, the Spirit will help us. But if we are praying selfishly, then we will have to do our own praying, because the Spirit’s work is to pray according to the plan of God!

COMMITMENT TO GOD’S WILL

Objective 3. *Define “limited” and “total” commitment.*

There is no happier place than in the center of God’s will. Who are the unhappy people? Who are those who are never satisfied? Who are those whose lives are empty and without meaning? Who are they? People who are not doing the will of God.

The unhappiest people in the world are those who think happiness is to have everything they want, and to have their own way. How deceived they are! They are the ones who have the most of this world’s goods, but have the least joy!

You see, you can’t measure happiness by the loudness of a man’s laughter, or by how many things he owns. Life is not made of the things we own. A happy life is a life in which the plans and the kingdom of God are sought above everything else!

10 Where is the happiest place for the believer?

.....

Limited Commitment

Now let us talk about several important things concerning how to pray. Some people say, “I’ll do your will if . . .” and then they list a lot of conditions. They say, “I’ll go—if there is a house there to live in.” Or they say, “I’ll go—if they pay enough money.” Or, “I’ll go—if my mother can go with me.” Or, “I’ll go—if I can stay close to my home and gardens.”

Brother! Sister! Those are “limited” commitments. These people have said, “Yes,” and then have added the word, “if!” The Great Commission of Jesus will never be done by people who say “if.” It will be done by people who say, “Here am I, Lord, send me”—with no conditions added!

11 Why can’t the Great Commission be obeyed by people who have a limited commitment?

.....

In Psalm 78:41 (KJV) there is a verse that says two things about God that seem impossible. It says, “They turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.” They:

1. Tempted God
2. Limited God

Can God be tempted? Can God be limited? Here is a truth that puts fear in our hearts, for it says that man can tempt and limit God! How can an all-powerful God be limited?

Well, He could not be limited unless He agreed to be limited. But that is what God has done. He has included man in his plan. He has said, “I want to heal, but I will limit myself to the faith of man.” Or, “I want to call that man to the ministry, but I will limit myself to his willingness to go.”

What a thought! That means that even though God wills to do something, it may not be done unless God can find a man who wants to do His will!

12 Read Psalm 78:41 (KJV) and state the two ways the Israelites hindered God.

.....

We can limit God in salvation. It is not God’s will that any should perish, yet many do perish. Why? Because they do not submit their will to the will of God.

This is true of sickness. It is God’s will to heal sick people. Yet many remain sick, even when it is God’s will to heal them. Why? Because they do not put faith to be healed together with the will of God for them. So they remain sick. They could be healed, but they have no faith that it could happen to them. God is limited because they won’t believe!

We don’t know why God has chosen to do it this way in His plan, but that is the way it is. Think of it! See how important are the faith and will of man!

He wants all men to be saved. All men will not be saved, however, because they do not submit their will to the will of God.

He wants all men to be like Jesus, but all men will not be like Jesus. Why? Because they are not willing to humble themselves. So God is limited, and they remain un-Christlike.

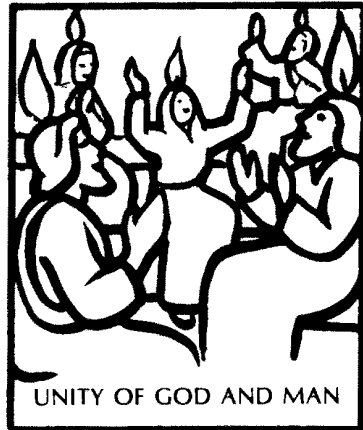
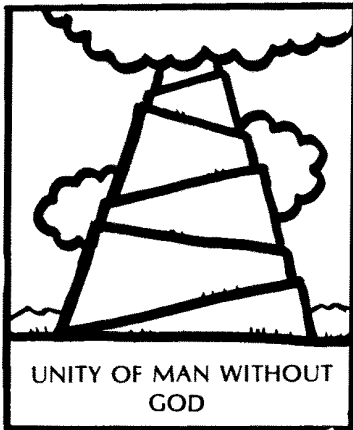
13 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a** It is God’s wills to heal sick people.
- b** We can limit God.
- c** We need to submit our will to the will of God.
- d** All men will be saved.

Total Commitment

In the story of the tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9) it tells that men were all in one place with one language. They united in rebellion against God. They had unity and commitment, but it was a unity of man without God and a commitment to rebellion. What happened? God confused their language, and they had to quit building.

14 Read Genesis 11:1-9. Tell why God confused the people's language.



In Acts 2:1-4 we read how the early Christians were all together in one place worshipping God. Suddenly there was a noise like a mighty wind and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with tongues. This was the unity of *God and man*. What a unity it was!

When man's will agrees with God's will, miracles happen! The sick can be healed, the blind can see, the lame can walk. Why? Because the plan of God is working. *God and man are again walking and talking together!*

This is the purpose of prayer and worship. Worship is talking together with God in praise and thanksgiving. As we worship, God comes down and our hearts and wills move together! When

God's heart and our hearts are united, anything can happen!
Praise God!

15 What is the purpose of prayer and worship?

.....

Total commitment is the total union of two wills—God's will and man's will. It is not for us to ask God to change His will to ours. We must find His will and follow it. When we do, the Great Commission will be done, and the world will hear the good news about Jesus!

FAITH AND GOD'S WILL

Objective 4. *List the three classes of things men pray for and state how to pray concerning these things.*

We will now sum up this unit on "The Priority of Worship." Worship has to do with the *things God is concerned about*. The things that God is concerned with is what *must always have priority in our praying*. Not that God doesn't care about the other things we have need of, because He does. He will provide them for us if only we will be concerned, above everything else, with the kingdom of God and with the things He requires of us (Matthew 6:33).

Some Questions About Prayer

You hear a lot said, these days, about the power of faith. Faith, they say, makes all things possible. The words of Jesus and of Paul are quoted, such as:

"For God everything is possible" (Matthew 19:26). "If you have faith as big as a mustard seed, you can say to this hill, 'Go from here to there!' and it will go. You could do anything!" (Matthew 17:20). "My God will supply all your needs" (Philippians 4:19). "You will ask for anything you wish, and you shall have it" (John 15:7).

Are these portions of Scripture unlimited promises with no "ifs" added? Is poverty unnecessary since riches can be had for the asking? Are the sick to be scolded for lack of faith? Is it wrong to add the words, "If it be Thy will," to our prayers?

The foregoing questions must be answered if we are to pray as we ought.

16 Match the statement (left) to the correct Bible reference (right).

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| a God will supply all our needs. | 1) John 15:7 |
| b Ask for anything and you shall have it. | 2) Matthew 19:26 |
| | 3) Philippians 4:19 |
| c You can do anything if you have faith as big as a mustard seed. | 4) Matthew 17:20 |
| d Everything is possible for God. | |

Let us consider the verses listed above. Are there not conditions to the truth of these statements? We believe there are. Each one of these verses has a requirement that goes with it. The believer's part of the promise is to obey His commandments, have faith, give unselfishly, and know the Word of God. Remember also that God will not answer a prayer which will hurt another child of God.

17 What are some of the conditions to God's answering some of our prayers?

.....

Examine the verse "You will ask for anything you wish, and you shall have it" (John 15:7). Is this, then, a promise that covers every case? Is it an invitation to ask for and receive everything for which our minds could wish? Is this an unconditional (no "if") promise? We do not believe that it is.

If it were, we could ask that our house would clean itself every day. We could ask that everybody in the world be wealthy. We could ask that none of our family die. A "no limit" claim to this promise would mean that, given enough faith, all the above things would happen!

You are probably saying, "Don't be foolish! God doesn't answer that kind of praying." We agree. God doesn't answer that kind of praying. But to admit that He doesn't answer that kind of

praying is to admit that the promise, “nothing shall be impossible unto you,” is a limited one. There are some things for which we should not pray!

18 Circle the letters to the left of each TRUE statement

- a** There are some prayers we should not pray.
- b** There are requirements to some of God’s promises.
- c** God has promised to supply all our wants.
- d** John 15:7 is a limited promise.

Now let us consider Paul’s promise, in Philippians 4:19, “My God will supply all your needs.” This is a glorious promise, but it is limited by the word “needs.” There is often a big difference between a man’s wants and a man’s needs.

Who wouldn’t want an expensive home? Who wouldn’t want a lot of money? Who wouldn’t want a healthy body? Who wouldn’t want success and fame? Who wouldn’t want to be handsome or beautiful?

Can we use Paul’s words to justify asking for these things? I think not. God has promised to supply our needs; but, our idea of what our needs are may not be the same as what God considers to be our needs. We can ask for them in prayer, but we are going to have to trust God. He knows what is good for us. We are going to have to add the words, “If it be Thy will,” to our prayer.

“You will ask for anything you wish, and you shall have it” (John 15:7) is another glorious promise. But it is also limited. The promise starts with the words, “If ye remain in me and my words remain in you . . .” Conditions!

19 What are the conditions added to John 15:7?

.....

Some Prayers That Are Not Answered

Let’s study about two men of faith who asked what they willed, and it was not done unto them. Jesus prayed, “If you will, take this cup of suffering away from me” (Luke 22:42). Can anyone say that Jesus lacked faith? Why, then, did not God

take away from Jesus the cup of suffering? The reason is that it was God's will to save men through His Son's death on the cross. Was Jesus' faith weak because His whole being cried out against the curse of "becoming sin for us?" Never! He was neither wrong nor weak.



In fact, Jesus was strong, for He yielded His own will to the will of His Father. As son of man, He did not want to suffer and die. As Son of God, He did not want to be made sin. But, above all, Jesus wanted to do His Father's will. This was the success of His perfect praying. We too, can learn to be successful in prayer.

- Naturally, we would rather be rich than poor.
- Naturally, we would rather be healthy than sick.
- Naturally, we would rather stay at home than go far away.
- Naturally, we would rather live than die.

But, as children of God, we would rather do the Father's will above all else! That is why we can say, with Jesus, "Nevertheless, not my will but Thine be done."

20 What was the success of Jesus' praying?

.....

Paul was a man of faith. Yet not all of his prayers were answered. A painful physical ailment troubled him. It was something he prayed that God would take away. What greater man of faith was there than Paul? "Ask what ye will," was a promise to Paul as well as to us. So, he prayed. Three times he prayed. And three times God answered, "My grace is all you need, for my power is strongest when you are weak" (2 Corinthians 12:9).

21 Name two people of faith who prayed and their prayers were not answered according to their asking.

.....

All of the examples prove one thing. Every prayer we pray, every promise we claim, should be according to the will of God. Any prayer that is prayed against *His* will, or fails to work with it, is not acceptable to God. This kind of praying is a misuse of His promises. “Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven,” must always be our priority in prayer.

This makes the knowing of God’s will of first importance. We know two things that are always God’s will. When we pray for them, we do not have to say, “If it be Thy will.” They are:

1. May Your holy name be honored.
2. May Your kingdom come.

We know that it would be wrong to pray for anything that would be against these two things in God’s will. In other words, “Ask anything in My name,” cannot be used to ask for personal glory. I cannot ask that my own name receive glory and at the same time honestly be seeking the glory of God’s name.

22 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement

- a** It is God’s will for His name to be honored.
- b** It is right to pray for personal glory.
- c** Knowing God’s will is important when we pray.
- d** We should pray according to the will of God.

Again God’s will is that all men be saved and become citizens of His kingdom. It is also His will that all citizens of His kingdom be conformed to the image of His Son. Any prayer that defeats this plan of God cannot be one of the, “If you believe you will receive whatever you ask” kind of prayer. These promises are not unlimited. They must be prayed for according to God’s will.

How, then, should we pray? “Please save ‘John Doe.’” No need to say, “If it be Thy will,” because we know it is God’s will to save all men. Of course, ‘John Doe’ can refuse God’s will. To be saved, a person’s will must agree with God’s will.

“Please make me like Jesus.” No need to say, “If it be Thy will,” since we know that God wants His children to be like His Son. Jesus’ desire for God’s will led Him through suffering and

self-denial. It took Him to the cross. Do we honestly want to be like Jesus? Are we willing to face a cross so that we might be Christ-like? “He made himself poor for your sake, in order to make you rich by means of his poverty” (2 Corinthians 8:9). Are we willing to be poor for the sake of those who have yet to know the “riches” of His salvation? Are we willing to deny ourselves to leave our father and mother for His sake that His will might be done?

23 What did Jesus have to go through to do God’s will?

.....

“You do not have what you want because you do not ask God for it” Those are the words of Jesus. Then he adds, “And when you ask, you do not receive it, because your motives are bad; you ask for things to use for your own pleasures” (James 4:3). How does it fit together with, “Ask what you will and it shall be given unto you?” It only fits together if our will is yielded to God’s will. But don’t expect answers to prayers that are selfish. Don’t expect answers to prayers that do not honor His name. Our prayer must be in keeping with God’s will. Otherwise God cannot answer that prayer.

24 Why do some who pray receive no answer to their prayers?

.....

Some Things People Pray For

Now, what does this mean in terms of asking for the many things we want? Is it wrong to ask for nice things? Hasn’t God invited us to ask? We can say that things people pray for fall into three classes:

1. Things we have no right to ask for, because we know they are not God’s will.
2. Things we are not sure of, about which, when we pray, we should add the words, “If it be Thy will.”
3. Things we are sure are God’s will and for which we need not add the words, “If it be Thy will.”

Things like selfish living, carnal pleasures, and self-glory are among the first. These are forbidden. We should not bother to pray for them. We know those things are against God's will.

Second, there are the doubtful things about which we should pray, "If it be Thy will." Success in business, comfortable living, fame, a beautiful girl for a wife . . . these things are only proper objects of faith if they are in keeping with the will of God. We need to pray about these things and then be willing to accept God's answer.

The third group concerns things about which God has already declared to be His will. We have stated that it is always His will that His name be honored and that His kingdom come. It is also His will that none should perish, but that all should be saved. Whenever we are seeking the salvation of the lost, it is not necessary to pray, "If it be Thy will."

25 What are three classes of things about which people pray?

.....

But are healing and deliverance God's will? Do they belong to the second or the third group? We believe they belong to the second group, and that prayers for healing and deliverance should be limited with the words, "If it be Thy will." Why? Because the lost cannot be reached without suffering and sacrifice, and becoming like Christ sometimes is only possible through the patience and humility that sickness requires. God's kingdom and God's glory are more important than our wants, our glory, and our comfort. There are times when we cannot have both.

So, divine healing and deliverance may not always be God's will. A good example is the eleventh chapter of Hebrews. Half of the men of faith were delivered. Half were not delivered. Those who were not delivered had no less faith than those who were delivered.

We've mentioned Paul. He was not delivered from his pain. By submitting to God's will, God's power was strong because Paul was weak.

We've mentioned Jesus. He was not delivered from the cross. But by submitting to God's will, He made possible the salvation of all men.

Please don't misunderstand. God does heal and deliver. "We are healed by the punishment He suffered, made whole by the blows He received" (Isaiah 53:5). Jesus healed those who came to Him. He healed the lame man and the blind man. Daniel was delivered from the lions. The three Hebrew children were delivered from the fire. It is right to pray for these things. We are only pointing out that God's will must be sought above our will in these matters. His glory and His kingdom are far more important than our comfort and our wants. We must always be prepared for the cross of self-denial that goes with following Jesus.

26 Read Isaiah 53:5 and state what Jesus' punishment and beating did for us.

.....

Let us finish by saying that total joy and contentment can only be found in the center of God's will. A man in the center of God's will can sing while suffering. A man in the center of God's will can pray, "Father, forgive them," while He is hanging on a cross. Paul was in the center of God's will when he said, "My God will supply all your needs" (Philippians 4:19). He was bound with chains in a Roman jail. John was in the center of God's will when he wrote, "I pray that everything may go well with you and that you may be in good health—as I know you are well in spirit" (3 John 2). He was on the lonely island of Patmos where hunger, hate and poverty could not rob him of the riches of glory in Christ Jesus. Blessed is the man who has learned to pray, "May Your holy name be honoured . . . may Your kingdom come . . . may Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10, KJV).

YOUR NAME YOUR KINGDOM YOUR WILL
--

27 What can be found in the center of God's will?

.....

self-test

SHORT ANSWER. Write the correct answer in the space provided.

1 State the two main things that are God's will.

.....

2 How does the Spirit pray when praying for us?

.....

3 How can God be limited in answering our prayers?

.....

4 Write two examples of limiting the fulfillment of God's plan.

.....

5 Read Acts 2:1-4. Tell what happened when the people prayed together.

.....

6 What happens when man's will in prayer agrees with God's will?

.....

7 Name three classes of things for which men pray.

.....

answers to the study questions

14 Because they were united without God in a commitment of rebellion.

1 God has given us a good mind to make decisions about things that do not hinder or help the plan of God.

15 Talking together with God in praise and thanksgiving.

2 a False.

b True.

c True.

d False.

16 a 3) Philippians 4:19.

b 1) John 15:7.

c 4) Matthew 17:20.

d 2) Matthew 19:26.

3 By a feeling inside—the inner voice of the Spirit.

17 Obeying His commandments, having faith, giving unselfishly, knowing His Word.

4 a True.

b False.

c True.

d True.

18 a True.

b True.

c False.

d True.

5 Go, disciple, baptize, teach.

19 If you remain in Christ and His words remain in you.

6 Those who pray, those who preach, those who work, those who give, those who build, those who comfort, and those who witness.

20 He wanted to do His Father's will.

7 d) the Holy Spirit

21 Jesus, Paul.

8 We do not know how to pray as we ought.

22 a True.

b False.

c True.

d True.

9 By unknown tongues, in groans that words cannot express.

23 Suffering and self-denial.

10 In the center of the will of God.

24 They ask for things to use for their own pleasures.

11 Because they will only obey if their conditions are met.

23 Those things that are contrary to God's will.

Those things which may or may not be according to God's will.

Those things that are clearly God's will.

12 They tempted God.

They limited God.

26 We are healed, we are made whole.

13 a True.

b True.

c True.

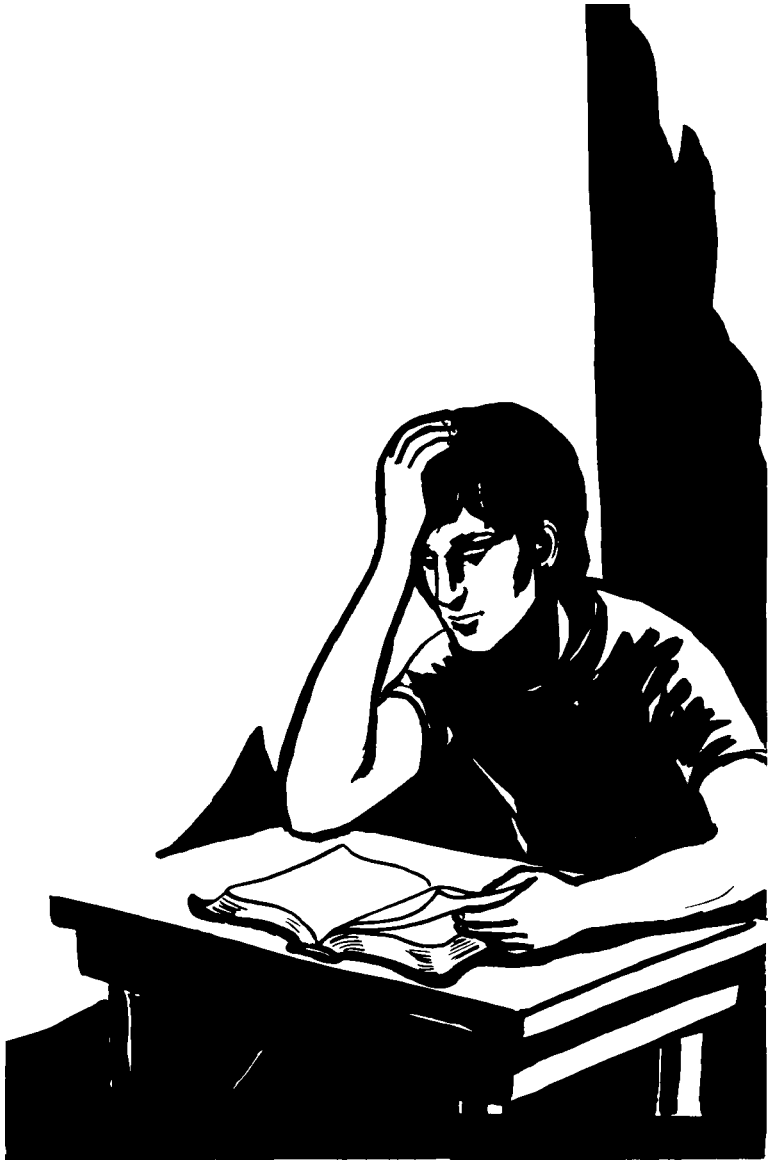
d False.

27 Total joy and contentment.

For Your Notes

Unit Three

Needs Met Through Prayer



Lesson 7

Support Needs Supplied

“Give us today the food we need”

Matthew 6:11

“Give us.” Now, that sounds much more like the prayers we are used to praying! Give me food! Give me a house! Give me a job! Give me money! Give me, give me, give me! This is the only kind of prayer some people know how to pray. In fact, they do not pray at all until they need something, and then the only thing they say is, “Give me!”

What a shame! These people think that all God is good for is to give them the things they want. They see God as a storage house or grainery where supplies are kept. They go to Him only when they need something.

God has promised to supply all our needs. He has enough food for everybody. But, God wants us to seek Him because we love Him, and not because of what we want Him to give us.

You see, there is something God wants that only we can give Him. He wants our love and our worship. He rewards those who seek Him (Hebrews 11:6).



lesson outline

A Matter of Desire

Using God

Things That Unbelievers Seek

Things to Follow After

A Matter of Abundance

The Amount of Faith

A Channel of Blessing

A Matter of Asking

Motivation of Law

Motivation of Love

lesson objectives

When you finish this lesson you should be able to:

- Recognize the relationship of prayer and worship to our needs being supplied by God.
- Explain the “gift of sharing with others.”
- Recognize the responsibilities and the benefits for service this “gift of sharing with others” makes possible.
- Compare the motives men have for giving, and examine your own motives for giving.

learning activities

1. Draw the first two illustrations used in this lesson and explain them.
2. Read 1 Corinthians 9:14 and explain the “way” that Paul was referring to. Also read Numbers 18:21-24 and Leviticus 27:30.
3. If you desire the “gift of sharing with others” do not wait until you have an abundance, but begin by sharing the little you have with someone in need today.
4. Pray over your food at every meal and ask God to bless it.
5. Do the lesson development section by section. Write the answers to the study questions and self-test.

key words

channel
means

pagan
steward

stewardship
support

lesson development

A MATTER OF DESIRE

Objective 1. *Explain how seeking God’s kingdom assures us that our “support” needs will be met.*

The next four lessons speak of the needs of men. Jesus mentioned food, forgiveness, testing and deliverance. In this lesson we will study the need for food or, as we will call it, “support.” Support means all the things we need for living: food, clothes, education, homes, money, etc. We want to show that God will provide the things we need if we will be concerned above everything else with His kingdom.

1 What does the word *support* refer to in this lesson?

.....

God cares about our needs. When we pray, He listens. “We are sure that he hears us if we ask him for anything that is according to

his will” (1 John 5:14). So, we may pray for “anything” if we add the words, “If the Lord is willing” (James 4:15). It is not wrong to want “things.” It is only wrong to continue to want them when we know it is not God’s will that we have them.

2 When is it wrong to want “things”?

.....
When we pray for “things,” it is good to remember the following:

- We are not trying to make God care. God is love. He is more concerned about our needs than even we are. He wants to help us.
- We are not telling God something He does not know. Before we ask, He knows what things we have need of. He says we should not use “meaningless words” when we pray. (Matthew 6:7)
- We are not asking for something He cannot do. There is nothing impossible with God.

“But,” you may ask, “if God cares more than we do, and if He knows before we ask; and if He has the power to answer, then why is it necessary for us to pray? Why doesn’t God provide our needs without our asking?”

The answer is one of the great wonders of God’s plan. God has chosen to work with men in all that He does. It is not God’s will to help man unless man is willing to be helped. That is why it is necessary for us to pray and have faith. That is how we “untie” the hands of God. We put our will with His will, and God answers our prayer!

3 When we pray for “things” we should remember God

- a) is not interested in our praying about our needs.
- b) knows what we need before we ask.
- c) always provides for us without our asking.

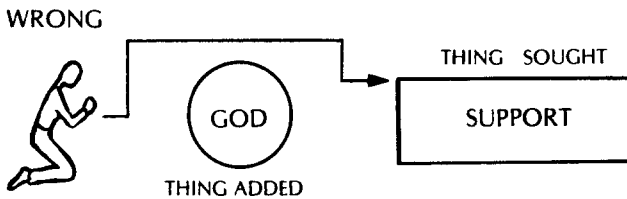
Asking for things is only a small part of praying. Praise, worship, and thanksgiving should come first. His name, His

kingdom, and His will must have priority. That is how Jesus prayed. He didn't spend much time asking for "things." When He asked, His prayers were short and simple. He didn't beg God for anything. He knew that, if He sought God's will above everything else, His needs would be supplied.

Using God

Let us now apply our teaching to "support" needs. They will be "added" if we are concerned about the kingdom of God above everything else. But we must be careful. We must not seek the kingdom of God as a "means" of getting "support."

Some people say, "If you will put God first, then you will get a good job." Or, "If you will pay your tithes, then you will be rich." Or, "If you pray much, you will succeed in school." Now, think! Is there anything wrong with that kind of talk? Yes, there is something wrong with that kind of talk. Don't you see? You are "using" God to get something you want. You are not seeking God—you are seeking a job, riches, or success. You are using God to get "support."



4 What is wrong with the prayer of the seeker in the above illustration?

.....

When Jesus fed the people, they followed Him. He said, "You are looking for me because you ate the bread and had all you wanted" (John 6:26). Later He said, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry" (John 6:35). Finally, in John 6:66, it says, "many of Jesus' followers turned back and would not go with Him any more." Jesus wanted the people to seek Him. The people were only seeking bread!

5 Read John 6:26-66. Why did the people leave Jesus?

.....

Things That Unbelievers Seek

Children of God should not be like unbelievers in their seeking. Jesus said, “Man cannot live on bread alone” (Matthew 4:4). He said this to the devil who was tempting Him to use the power of God to get food for Himself.

Life is more than a job. It is more than eating. That is why Jesus taught us to pray for the things that are more important.

He said, “Do not store up riches for yourselves here on earth” (Matthew 6:19).

Jesus said, “You cannot serve both God and money” (Matthew 6:24).

He said, “I tell you: do not be worried about the food and drink you need” (Matthew 6:25).

Then, in Matthew 6:31-34, Jesus said words that showed the difference between the believer and the unbeliever—between the child of God and the child of the devil. He said, “So do not worry about tomorrow; it will have enough worries of its own. There is no need to add to the troubles each day brings.”

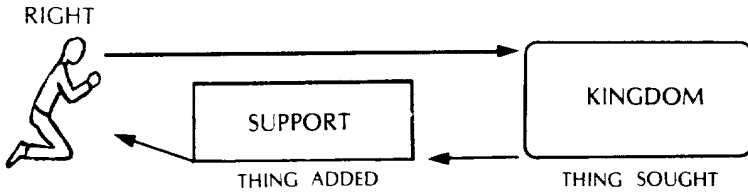
6 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a A man cannot serve both God and money.
- b A man should first of all store up riches for himself on earth.
- c A man should not be worried about food and drink.
- d A man is a pagan if he is concerned about food.

Things to Follow After

Jesus continued His talk by saying, “Instead, be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things” (Matthew 6:33).

Note! The believer seeks the kingdom of God. The food, drink, and clothes are the things that are added! Like this:



Now all this sounds very good. But will it work? Will the man who is concerned about the kingdom of God above everything else really be provided for? Shouldn't he be concerned about his living? Surely God knows we have to support our families and eat! Is it wrong to earn money? Is it wrong to save money? Are we to be unconcerned about our wives and our children?

Friend, let me assure you. God is concerned about your needs. He cares. God is love, and He cares more than any human being can care. So, He wants you to care also. He wants you to support your family. He wants you to love and look after your wife and children. In fact, it is because He cares that He has taught us to pray in the right manner. It is by following His way of praying that all these things that we need are provided for us.

Romans 14:17-19 helps us understand more of what Jesus was teaching. Paul says, "God's Kingdom is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of the righteousness, peace, and joy which the Holy Spirit gives. And when someone serves Christ in this way, he pleases God and is approved by others. So then, we must always aim at those things that bring peace and that help to strengthen one another."

7 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement. Romans 14:17-19 says:

- a** God's Kingdom is not a matter of eating and drinking.
- b** the kingdom of God is love.
- c** aim at those things that bring peace.

What both Jesus and Paul were teaching is that we should "aim for" or "be concerned above everything else about" the more important "things." If we do, God will take care of the

other “things.” If we follow the kingdom, the food will follow us! God will make sure that it does! Does that sound foolish and simple? It is not foolish, but it is simple . . . if you have faith!

Those who follow “all these other things” are never satisfied. They are like the woman at the well, who had to come back day after day to satisfy her thirst. Jesus said, “Whoever drinks the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again” (John 4:14). He spoke of a better way to live than following after food and drink.



Those who follow after the kingdom of God have the promise that God will provide their needs “day by day.” Kingdom-of-God faith is a “day by day” faith! We pray, “Give us today the food we need” (Matthew 6:11).

A MATTER OF ABUNDANCE

Objective 2. *State the meaning of the “gift of sharing.”*

Objective 3. *Describe the kind of people to whom God gives the “gift of sharing with others.”*

The Amount of Faith

Romans 12:3 says for each of us to judge ourselves according to the “amount of faith” that God has given us. All believers have been given faith by God to help them do their part in the plan of God. Some are given more faith than others. Some gifts require greater faith than others.

8 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a** God gives the same faith to all men.
- b** Every believer has faith given to him by God.
- c** Some gifts require greater faith than others.

God has told us to “Set our hearts, then, on the more important gifts” (1 Corinthians 12:31). Important gifts require much prayer

if we are to use them properly. Some gifts make men proud. That is why God allowed Paul to have a painful physical ailment, “To keep me from being puffed up with pride because of the many wonderful things I saw” (2 Corinthians 12:7).

There is a gift that God has given which causes many temptations that we now want to talk about. It is the gift of sharing with others (Romans 12:8), and it is given to only a few. Why? Let us talk about it.

9 Why do gifts require much prayer?

A Channel of Blessing

The Lord had some strong words to say about rich men. He said that, “It is much harder for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God than for a camel to go through the eye of a needle” (Matthew 19:24). Those are strong words, indeed!

In James 5:1-6 we are told of rich men who have gotten their riches by not paying their laborers. Then, after having gotten their riches by cheating the workers, they piled up their money and did not use it for any good purpose! “Your gold and silver are covered with rust, and this rust will be a witness against you and will eat up your flesh like fire. You have piled up riches in these last days” (v. 3).

The sin of these rich men was not that they were rich. It was the sin of getting their riches by cheating other people. It was the sin of using their riches selfishly, and not using them to do good.

10 Is it a sin to be rich? Explain.

Not many people can resist the selfish living that riches bring. “But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and are caught in the trap of many foolish and harmful desires” (1 Timothy 6:9). So, for most people, God supplies only what they need. Because, if they get too much, they get an appetite for “things” and often forget to be concerned about the kingdom of God.

There are a few believers that God can trust to use riches properly for His kingdom. To them, He gives the gift of “sharing with others.” What a gift this is, but how much praying it requires to use it properly.

There are godly men who know how to make money. If they are concerned above everything else with the kingdom of God, God will bless their businesses. These godly men do not make the mistake of the rich men in James 5:1-6. They do not cheat to get their riches. They do not pile them up and use them selfishly. They consider themselves servants of God who are entrusted by Him to use the riches for His Kingdom. Men with this gift provide the money that is required to do God’s work. They are like a pipe with water running through it. They are a channel of blessing.

11 How should a rich man feel about his money?

.....

People with the “gift of sharing with others” do not keep the riches for themselves, but they let the riches flow through their hands to the work of the kingdom.

It is important to know that the same rule applies to poor men as to rich men. A “poor” man who gets his money by cheating is as bad as a rich man who gets his money by cheating. A “poor” man who uses his pennies selfishly is as bad as a rich man who uses his riches selfishly. The important thing is not the amount of money that you give. It is the heart with which you give it and your willingness to part with it. For example, the poor widow who gave only a penny gave all she had (Mark 12:42-44). Jesus said that her “gift of sharing” was greater than that of the rich men. Why? Because they gave of their riches. They had plenty left for themselves! The widow gave of her poverty. She gave all she had!

The widow gave all she had! That is the secret of the “gift of sharing.” It becomes easy to give when we make Christ the master over all. We then give at His command. God is looking for men who can be trusted to use money—whether it is much or little—for His kingdom. To them, He gives the “gift of sharing!”

12 What is the secret of giving?

.....

A MATTER OF ASKING

Objective 4. *Illustrate how to worship through tithing and stewardship.*

Money seems to be the answer to many needs. The love of money is the root of all evil, but money itself is not evil. The use of our money is a good test of our priorities . . . and of our spiritual life.

13 Read 1 Timothy 6:10. What is the source of all kinds of evil?

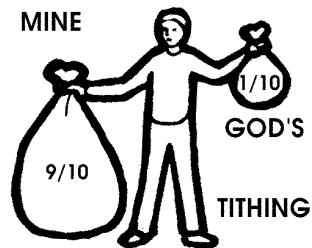
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Motivation of Law

Every believer should return to God a tenth of his income. This is called tithing. But why should a believer tithe? Should he do it because the Bible teaches tithing? Should he do it because tithing is the law of his church? Why should believers tithe? What should be their motive in tithing? Tithing is a form of worshiping God. We tithe because we love God and want to thank Him for providing for us. Giving is worshiping. Worshiping is giving! Worshiping is not only giving of our words but of our money also.

14 A believer should tithe because

- a) the law requires it.
- b) he will get rich by doing it.
- c) he is motivated by his love for God to do it.
- d) he is ashamed not to do it.



Some people tithe because the Bible teaches us that we should do so. This is true, the Bible does teach us to tithe.

Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek, who was a type of Christ (Genesis 14:20).

Jacob paid tithes before Moses was given the law (Genesis 28:22).

Malachi said that a man who didn't pay tithes was robbing God (Malachi 3:8).

15 The Bible says that

- a) Abraham paid tithes to Christ.
- b) Jacob tithed before the Law was given.
- c) Moses was the first man to tithe.

Jesus said, "You will be able to enter the Kingdom of heaven only if you are more faithful than the teachers of the Law and the Pharisees in doing what God requires" (Matthew 5:20).

The Pharisees paid tithes. We will have to be more faithful than they! They only paid tithes because the law said they should. If there had been no law, they would not have paid tithes! The Pharisees paid tithes, but they did not do it willingly. They only did as much as the law required. Their motives were wrong.

The Pharisees were much like some Christians today. Some Christians want the blessings that tithing brings, but they are not concerned about the One who blesses! They "use" God as a "means" to their own "ends!" They know the promise of God to those who tithe, so they give one-tenth of their income, hoping that God will make them rich. Then God does bless them, for He does not break His promises. However, their motives are wrong and when your motives are wrong you miss the greater blessing that unselfish giving brings.

16 Believers can be more faithful than the Pharisees when they give

- a) to be seen of men.
- b) because of love.
- c) to get a reward.

Motivation of Love

You can tithe and not worship. But you can't worship and not tithe. Worship will cause the believer to give more than a tithe. In fact, when a person is concerned about the kingdom of

God above everything else, he gives himself and all that he has to God! He becomes a steward of the money he receives, and uses all of it according to the will of God. He says, "It is all Yours, Lord, and I am Yours, too. Use me and my money as You will!" This is stewardship! A steward belongs to his master. He has no wealth of his own. He is responsible for his master's wealth, and uses it as his master commands. The steward does not worry about himself because he knows that his master will supply all his needs. He knows that his master's wealth is far greater than his own and that, if he is faithful, he will lack nothing. What a beautiful picture of Christ providing for the believers. Our Master takes care of us—He supplies our needs. We in turn have a responsibility to be careful stewards of our Master's wealth. We must always remember that everything we own rightfully belongs to God. He is the Creator of all things including our money.



STEWARDSHIP

So, what we are saying in this lesson is that a believer who is concerned above everything else with God's kingdom and glory has nothing to worry about for his "support." His whole life is a life of worship and praise. God will care for him!

We are also saying that you cannot separate prayer and worship from a believer's walk. Proper praying will change our attitude. We will not worry about our needs. As we prayerfully seek above all else the kingdom of God, He will supply our every need.

17 In what way is a believer a steward?

.....

self-test

SHORT ANSWERS. Write the correct answer in the space provided.

1 Why doesn't God provide our needs without our asking?

.....

2 What two things should we remember when praying for things?

.....

3 Why does the "gift of sharing with others" require much prayer?

.....

4 How can believers exceed the faithfulness of the Pharisees?

.....

5 How can the use of money be a test of our spiritual life?

.....

6 State three things about a steward.

.....

7 How will proper praying affect our attitudes toward support?

.....

answers to the study questions

- 9** To know how to use them properly.
- 1** All the things we need for living—food, clothes, homes, money, etc.
- 10** No, it is not a sin to be rich. But rich men need to be careful that they have not obtained their money dishonestly and rich men must be careful not to become selfish.
- 2** When we continue to want them when we know it is not God's will that we have them.
- 11** That he is a servant of God entrusted by Him to use his riches for the Kingdom.
- 3** b) knows what we need before we ask.
- 12** When Christ is master over all we have, it is then easy to give at His command.
- 4** The one praying is not seeking God, he is seeking support needs.
- 13** The love of money.
- 5** They only wanted the bread He gave them.
- 14** c) he is motivated by his love for God to do it.
- 6** a) True.
 b) False.
 c) True.
 d) False.
- 15** b) Jacob tithed before the Law was given.
- 7** a) True.
 b) False.
 c) True.
- 16** b) because of love.

8 a False.

b True.

c True.

17 His work is to worship and obey his master, and to trust the master to provide his support.

Lesson 8

Social Needs Satisfied

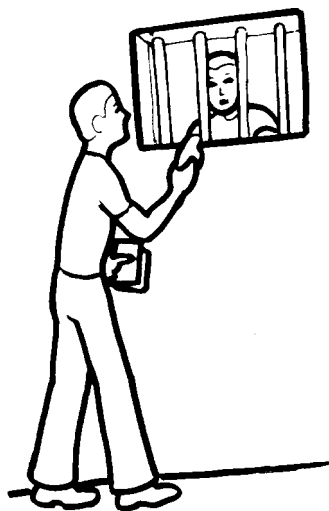
“Forgive us the wrongs we have done, as we forgive the wrongs that others have done to us”

Matthew 6:12

This lesson is a sobering one. We set the conditions for our own forgiveness! Can it be that we can lose God’s forgiveness by refusing to forgive others? Won’t God be faithful to forgive even if we are unfaithful? The answer is, “No, not if these words recorded in the Bible are true.” And they are true!

Is it possible to pray with an unforgiving spirit and expect God to answer? Can we really worship God and at the same time hate our brother? Can we pray for people we really don’t like? Can we worship the Creator of all men and then refuse to evangelize all men of other races, nations, and tribes?

Prayer and worship do affect our attitude toward others. Think about it! As human beings we have certain “social” needs that must be met. What is the purpose of prayer and worship if it cannot help us love our neighbors?



lesson outline

The Conditions for Forgiveness
Praying for God's Forgiveness
Praying for Grace to Forgive

The Conditions for Peace
The Cross of Man
The Yoke of Christ

lesson objectives

When you have finished this lesson you should be able to:

- Recognize how forgiveness from God is related to our forgiveness of others.
- Explain what *the cross of man* is and how to bear it through prayer and worship.

learning activities

1. Read the course objectives in the beginning of this book once again, and see if you can do all that has been suggested there.
2. Learn Matthew 6:14-15 and Matthew 11:28-30.

- 3. Review the self-test questions in Unit 2 on “The Priority of Worship.”
- 4. Look over the key word list for each lesson and see if you have learned the meaning of words you did not know.

key words

- nation-centered
- race-centered
- social
- tribe-centered

lesson development

THE CONDITIONS FOR FORGIVENESS

Objective 1. *Describe the conditions for forgiveness as Jesus stated them in Matthew 6:14-15.*

The relationship of forgiveness to prayer and worship is very clear in the teaching of Jesus. He referred to it when He prayed, and made special mention of it after His prayer.

Anyone can love his friends, and most people can forgive those they love. But the forgiveness Jesus was talking about in Matthew 6:14-15 was forgiveness to those who have wronged us. He did not say “friends” who have wronged us. He just said “those who have wronged us.” That would include those who are enemies and those who refuse to say, “I’m sorry!”

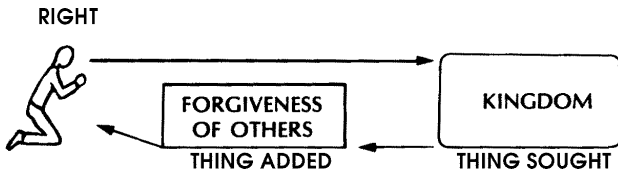
1 Why is the forgiveness that Jesus taught difficult?

.....

Notice, too, He didn’t say, “Forgive us as we ask forgiveness of those whom we have wronged.” No, it was the other way. We are to forgive those who have done the wrong. We are to ask God to forgive us. As a Christian we should also ask those we have offended to forgive us. God’s forgiveness to us is not based on our asking people to forgive us. It is based on forgiving others, whether they ask forgiveness or not. It may be they have refused to ask forgiveness of both us and God. That makes no difference, though, as to what we ought to do. We must forgive them if we want to be forgiven by God!

- 2 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.
 - a We should forgive those who have wronged us.
 - b We should forgive only if others forgive us.
 - c We should only forgive our friends who have wronged us.
 - d We should wait to forgive until men say, "I'm sorry."

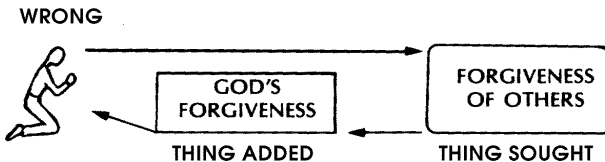
It can be easy to forgive a man who says, "I'm sorry." But it is very hard to forgive someone who refuses to repent. In fact, you cannot do it by yourself. The human spirit is not a forgiving spirit. That is why prayer and worship are so important in the matter of forgiveness. Our relationship to God must be right before our relationship with men can be right. That is why we say that the forgiveness of those who have wronged us comes by being concerned, above everything else, with the kingdom of God. Then, and only then, are we able to forgive those who have wronged us. It is one of the things added to those who put the kingdom first. It is one of the things God helps us to do if we worship Him above all else. So, forgiving those who have wronged us is done in this way:



- 3 Why do we need to pray in order to forgive?

.....

Strange, isn't it? You would think that because Jesus was saying we should forgive others, that is what we should seek. Then it would look like this:



This looks like the right way except for one thing. We are not seeking forgiveness from those who have wronged us. We are being asked by God to forgive them! We are not seeking forgiveness from others. We are seeking to forgive others! And that is why this last illustration is wrong. You cannot forgive others by yourself. It isn't natural and it isn't human. It requires help from above. It takes God's help. So, we return to our first

illustration for the answer. Seek God's kingdom and God's glory, and He will help you forgive even your enemies. He will also forgive you!

4 In which way do the two illustrations differ?

.....

Praying for God's Forgiveness

Of course, life as a believer starts with faith and forgiveness from God. The sinner seeks forgiveness. God forgives him whether he has forgiven others or not. He forgives him because he believes—not because he stops sinning!

But once the sinner believes, he is no longer a sinner! He is a believer. Jesus' words in Matthew 6:5-13 were to the believers! Jesus says, "Be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God . . . and he will provide you with all these other things" (Matthew 6:33). That's how forgiveness to others is made possible. God will provide the power and grace to do it!

5 When the sinner seeks forgiveness from God, he is forgiven because

- a) he forgives others.
- b) of his faith.
- c) he stops sinning.

6 When a believer seeks forgiveness from God, he is forgiven because he

- a) forgives others.
- b) forgives himself.
- c) stops sinning.

Praying for Grace to Forgive

Have you been carrying hate in your heart? Are there people you are refusing to forgive? Are you calling yourself a Christian but not acting like a child of God? Do not deceive yourself. Do not go on another day with bitterness and an unforgiving spirit. Ask to be made more like Jesus. Ask for a spirit of forgiveness. Ask for a spirit of love. Ask for a spirit of peace. Ask for a spirit of righteousness. Ask for a spirit of joy. Ask for grace to forgive—to be Christlike!

That is what Jesus meant by saying that we should be concerned about God’s kingdom above everything else. The kingdom of God is the righteousness, peace, and joy the Holy Spirit gives. Get the kingdom within you, and you will receive the grace to forgive others!

7 What should a person do if he has bitterness in his heart?

.....

THE CONDITIONS FOR PEACE

Objective 2. Write a statement explaining how Christ can make “the cross of man” easy to bear.

It is not easy to live at peace with all men. Every man is different. Tribes are different. Nations are different. Races are different. Cultures are different. The world is made up of many classes of men—the unwise and the wise, the rich and the poor, etc. I repeat, living at peace with all men is not easy.

World leaders struggle with this problem constantly, but they make very little progress. Man rises against man, wife against husband, children against parents, nation against nation. Where is the answer to peace? The answer is in letting Jesus help us bear our crosses.

The Cross of Man

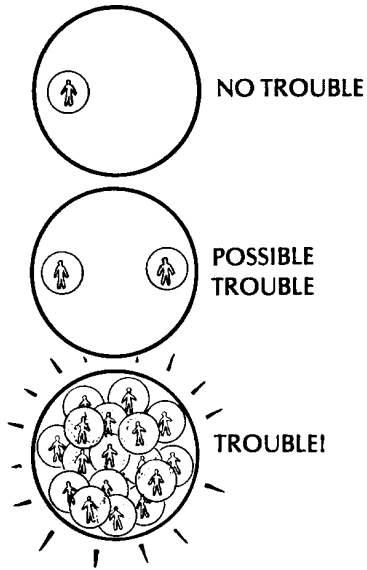
Jesus said, “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross. . . ” (Matthew 16:24 KJV). The *cross of man* is self-denial. Self-denial is impossible for the self-centered man. The cross of man is hard to bear because it requires giving up one’s will in order to live at peace with others. That is why efforts of nations to make peace do not succeed. That is why the world is filled with hatred, war, and violence.

8 What is the *cross of man* and why is it so hard to bear?

.....

Let us consider the problem of the self-centered man. Suppose there was only one man in all the world. He would have no one to deny him his will, no one to argue with, and no one to trouble him or to say “no” to his wants. It is possible that he could be self-centered and still live in peace.

Now suppose we add one more man to the world. You would now have two wills to deal with. If each man was self-centered, you would not want to put them close together or their wills would conflict. So you would put one on one side of the world and one on the other side.



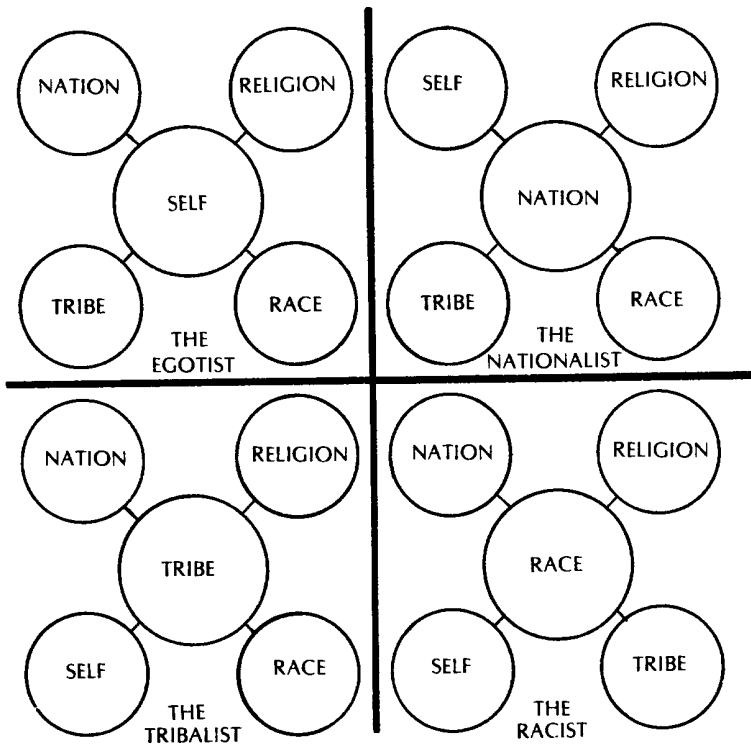
But what happens when we add many more self-centered men to the earth? They will have to live closer together, and soon their wills and activities will begin to conflict. When this happens, there is certain to be a struggle of wills, and there will be trouble.

In a world of so many thousands of people, there is little peace. There is little rest. Why? Because the world is full of self-centered men, each wanting his own will to be done on earth. Each becoming angry with all those opposing him.

9 Why is there often conflict where there are several people?

.....

Let us take a closer look at the self-centered man. He is the center of all that he sees and knows. He judges others “good” or “bad” by how they treat him. Members of his family and his tribe are “good” or “bad” depending on whether he gets the respect and honor from them that he thinks that he deserves. If his brother marries the girl he himself wanted, he judges his brother to be “bad.” If his father gives him an ox, he judges his father to be “good.” He looks at people from other nations and judges them as possible enemies and not as “good” as those of his own nation. Those of his own race are “better” than those of another race. He makes all these judgments because he is either self-centered, tribe-centered, religion-centered, nation-centered, or perhaps, race-centered. We can illustrate what we are talking about like this:

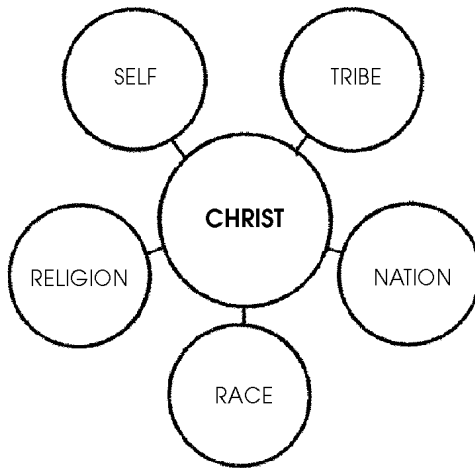


10 How does the self-centered man judge others?

.....

Now, any one of these can make trouble if they become the center of man's seeking. In times of war, a very honorable man will be judged "evil" by the enemy, not because he is himself evil, but just because he belongs to the nation which is at war with his own! When self, tribe, nation, religion, or race become the most important thing in a man's life, it becomes the center of his seeking. Their single standard of "goodness" depends upon what is in the center of their lives. This opens the door for all kinds of conflicts.

As believers, let us not lose sight of Christ, who is the true center of our lives. This is the way the drawing should look:



11 The center of a believer's life should be

- a) self.
- b) race.
- c) Jesus.
- d) religion.

The Yoke of Christ

The condition for peace, as Jesus taught it, was to remove self, family, tribe, nation, and race from the center of our lives, and to put Christ and His kingdom there (Romans 8:6). By doing so, things would be judged "good" or "bad" by how they affected the kingdom of God.

This would divide the world into two groups—those who are the children of God's kingdom, and those who are the children of the devil. The children of God would be content and happy, because they would all be seeking the same thing. They would be seeking to honor God's will.

12 What is Christ's solution for the cross of man?

.....

The self-centered man cannot understand the emphasis upon "things above." However, the self-centered man should be loved by the child of God. The child of God should seek to win the self-centered man to the kingdom of God, knowing that Christ, by dying on the cross, died to lighten the cross of self-denial. This is a cross which must be carried by all men. You see, man finds the cross of self-denial unavoidable yet unbearable. He

cannot escape the need to deny himself in order to live with others in this world. Yet he is unwilling to give up his wants and his "rights." Because of this unwillingness to deny himself, laws are needed to make him respect others and yield to their rights and wishes. He obeys the law, but he is miserable and angry, because he is self-centered!

13 What is the believer's message to the self-centered man?

Christ told us to come to Him and to put on His yoke (Matthew 11:28-29). One who does not put on Christ's yoke carries the cross alone. Sinful men find the cross of self-denial unbearable. For the believer, Christ calls it a "yoke." Why? Because a yoke is always a shared burden—carried together. So, Jesus says to us, "Bring your cross to me . . . we will bear it together . . . my yoke will bind us together under the burden . . . and you will find that my yoke is easy, and my burden light!"



14 What is the difference between a cross and a yoke?

Once again we see the value of prayer and worship. This is the "come unto me" that is our part to do. When we go to Jesus in prayer, the burden of getting along with people is made easy. Those who are fighting with men of other families, tribes, nations, and races find that Jesus has the answer to their problem. By putting Christ at the center of our lives, it is possible to live at peace with all men. By being concerned about the kingdom of God above everything else, we open the door of forgiveness to one another, and thereby receive the forgiveness of God!

- 15** Christ's yoke is easy because
- a) Christians don't have as many problems as sinners.
 - b) Christ is there to share the burden with us.
 - c) Christ takes our cross away.

Even though Christ is the center of our lives, other relationships such as those involving family, friends, and society remain important to us. We still love our children and our families, but they are not at the center of our lives—Christ is. This means that all who believe in Jesus are our brothers and sisters, no matter what their nation, race, religion, or tribe.

16 What is the relationship of Christ-centered men of different nations to each other?

.....

So, prayer and worship are important They help us put Christ at the center of our lives. When Christ is the center of our lives, it is possible to live in peace with all men!

self-test

SHORT ANSWERS. Write the correct answer in the space provided.

- 1 Why do we need to pray in order to forgive?
.....
- 2 How does being concerned about the kingdom of God above everything else help us in praying about forgiveness?
.....
- 3 How is it possible to forgive those who have wronged us?
.....
- 4 What is the cross of man?
.....
- 5 How does the self-centered man judge the good and bad in the world around him?
.....
- 6 Name five things that may become the center of life for men.
.....
- 7 What is Christ's solution for the *cross of man*?
.....

answers to the study questions

- 9 Each wants to have his own will done.
- 1 Because it requires that we forgive all who have wronged us.
- 10 He judges others by how they treat him.
- 2 a True.
b False.
c False.
d False.
- 11 c) Jesus.
- 3 The human spirit is not a forgiving spirit. We need help from God.
- 12 To put Christ at the center of life.
- 4 In one of them man is seeking the kingdom; in the other, man is seeking to forgive others.
- 13 Christ by dying on the cross lightens the cross of self-denial.
- 5 b) is forgiven because of his faith.
- 14 A cross is carried alone; a yoke is a shared burden.
- 6 a) forgives others.
- 15 b) Christ is there to share the burden with us.
- 7 Ask to be made like Jesus; ask for grace to forgive.
- 16 They are brothers and sisters in the family of God.
- 8 Self-denial. It requires giving up our wills in order to live at peace with others.

For Your Notes

Lesson 9

Sanctity Needs Fulfilled

“Do not bring us to hard testing”

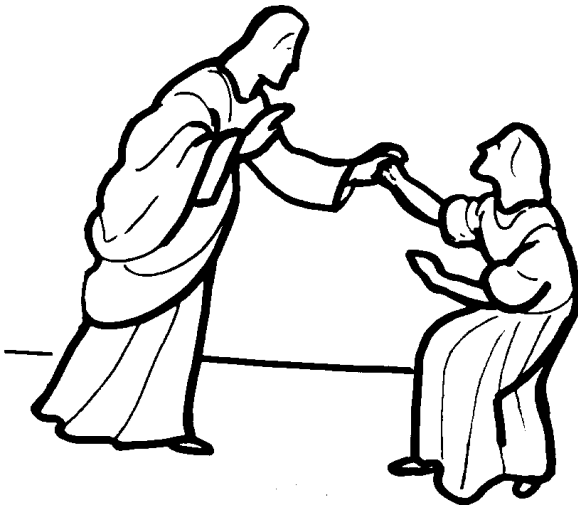
Matthew 6:13

How practical is prayer! How related to our daily walk! But how we need the power of God in our lives if we are to be overcomers! One thing we should say over and over in prayer is, “I can’t do it by myself. I can’t do it by myself. I need help!”

We have learned that the Holy Spirit is called the “Paraclete”—the One called alongside to help. If we are to be overcomers, we must let Jesus baptize us with the Holy Spirit so that He can help.

Here is a wonderful promise: “But God keeps his promise, and he will not allow you to be tested beyond your power to remain firm; at the same time you are put to the test, he will give you the strength to endure it, and so provide you with a way out” (1 Corinthians 10:13).

But note! The way out is the way of “outside help”—help from the Holy Spirit. You cannot do it by yourself!



lesson outline

The Way to Spiritual Victory

 The Enemy to Fight

 The Armor of God

 The Place of Victory

The Way to Spiritual Maturity

lesson objectives

When you finish this lesson you should be able to:

- Understand how to overcome temptation.
- Evaluate your own stage of *spiritual maturity*.

learning activities

1. Draw the illustration on spiritual maturity and learn Romans 7:23 and Romans 8:1-4.
2. Read Ephesians 6:14-17. Make a list of your weaknesses and plan how you are going to overcome them by regular prayer and application of the help God has made available to you.

3. Read the lesson development section by section. Write the answers to the study questions and self-test questions.

key words

enticed

sanctity

victory

lust

spiritual maturity

overcomer

temptation

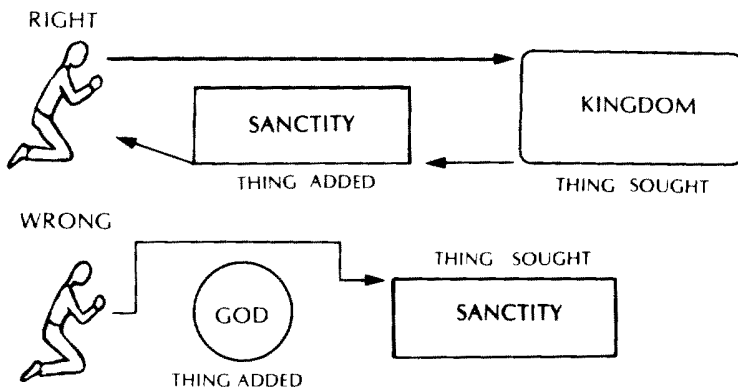
lesson development

THE WAY TO SPIRITUAL VICTORY

Objective 1. *State the difference between “temptation” and “sin.”*

We have talked about the needs of man. We have said that “support” is “added” to those who are concerned, above everything else, about the kingdom of God. The ability to live at peace with others in the world is given in the same way.

We now speak of the inner struggle of the believer to live righteously and with *sanctity* in order to please God. Keep in mind that by *sanctity* we mean the inward purity that God wants us to have. Now, let us look at a diagram of this.



Again, we see that the *thing sought* is the kingdom of God. As a result, *sanctity* is the thing added.

1 What do we mean by *sanctity*?

.....

Everyone experiences this inner struggle to live good lives. However, the unbeliever does not have the answer to it. He may know the difference between what is good and what is evil but he lacks the power to do good. He is unable to overcome sin alone.

The believer has the answer! As in the other lessons, the first thing we learned was that we cannot do it alone. We need help from *outside*. Jesus shows us the way to spiritual victory. We need help from above! This is why the answer to overcoming temptation is the same as for finding “support,” or for having peace. We win the victory over sin by being concerned, above everything else, with the kingdom of God. When our affections are set on *things above*, God gives us strength to overcome *things below*!

2 What is the believer’s answer for spiritual victory?

.....

The Enemy to Fight

If we are to pray as we should concerning spiritual victory, we need to know something about the enemy we face and how he fights.

Not many people have seen the devil. Yet he is very real, and his power is seen and felt everywhere. This means that we will not see the real enemy we fight. We will only see the things he uses to overcome us. One of the things the devil uses to fight us is temptation.

- 3 The enemy of the believer
 - a) is everywhere for all to see.
 - b) hides his power so as not to be known.
 - c) tries to cause him to sin by tempting him.

There are several things we should know about temptation. James 1:14 (KJV) says, “Every man is tempted” There are two things to learn from that Scripture:

1. Every man has natural desires. If there were no desires, there could be no temptation. Jesus, Himself, had natural desires.
2. Every man is tempted. Even Jesus was tempted. This indicates that it is not a sin to be tempted.

Then, James 1:14-15 goes on to say, “. . . when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin, and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.” From this we can learn several more truths:

1. Every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed. Jesus was tempted, but Jesus was not drawn away from His obedience to the will of God.

2. To be “drawn away” is to be turned aside from the proper use of natural desires. God gives natural desires, and if used as He intended, they are pure and good. God is pleased when we use them properly.

3. Lust is to be drawn away and enticed to use natural desires improperly. It becomes sin when we allow ourselves to be trapped by evil desires.

4. Lust is the beginning of sin. “Lust, when it hath conceived, bringeth forth sin.”

5. Temptation is NOT sin **if** we do NOT yield to it. Temptation becomes sin if we yield to it.

4 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a** It is not wrong to be tempted.
- b** Every man is tempted.
- c** Jesus was not tempted.
- d** The natural desires will always be with us.

Natural desires will always be with us. God put them there, and they are not evil. We should not feel ashamed of them. However, these good desires will become evil if we allow them to “draw us away” from the proper use of them. They will become lust, which is the beginning of sin.

Jesus was tempted, but He did not yield to temptation. Jesus was tempted, but He was never enticed. That is, He never yielded to the temptation to satisfy His natural desires in an improper way.

5 Why do we say that Jesus was tempted but did not sin?

.....

Perhaps you will say, “Did Jesus have the same natural desires that we have?” Yes, Jesus had the same natural desires that we have. He was tempted in all things that tempt us. You can read this in Hebrews 4:15. How did Jesus resist? He prayed at all times. His words are, “Keep watch and pray that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak” (Matthew 26:41). Remember, it is no sin to be tempted—unless we let our natural desires become lust and lead us to thinking and acting in a sinful way. If our natural desires become lust, then we are already on the road to sin.

So, our thoughts must be pure, and our natural desires must be under the control of the Holy Spirit. A Spirit-led person will give no chance for natural desires to become lust which would lead to sinful desires and sinful acts.

6 To lust means to

- a) be tempted to satisfy natural desires.
- b) be drawn away from the proper use of natural desires.
- c) have natural desires common to all men.

Some Christians think that our natural desires leave us when we are saved. This is not so. God shows us a way to control our desires and use them in a pure and righteous way, but He does not take them away from us. If there were no desires to control, it would be no effort to live a sanctified life. Times of temptation are times of opportunity for God to show His power. Let us, then, make use of the “way out” (1 Corinthians 10:13) that God has provided for us.

The glory of holy living is the fact that it takes place in the midst of temptation! It is a very dangerous thing to think that the Christian has no natural desires after he is saved. If a Christian

believes this, he will not admit that he has temptations, and he will not be watchful. The Christian who knows that he has natural desires is more likely to be a man of prayer. He will avail himself of the strength that God gives by His Spirit for controlling them. Times of temptations are times of opportunity for God to show His power. It is in times of our greatest weakness that the power of God is the greatest.

7 What happens to a believer's natural desires when he is saved?

.....

We must always be watchful and not give place to wrong desires. We must remember that the devil is real, and that he uses everything he can to get the believer to fall. He knows the proper desires of man. He knows that they were given by God to be used properly. But he also knows how strong the desires within man are, and he tries to cause men to be "drawn away" by turning good desires into evil ones. This is why we must be on guard against the devil.

Two things we should remember concerning temptation are:

1. All of us have desires that tempt us, but Jesus gives us the power to control them.
2. There is a real devil who tempts us, but Jesus gives us the power to resist him.

The Armor of God

The source of power with which to fight the devil's temptation is prayer and worship. We come back once more to what we have said before concerning "support" and "social" needs. If we want *sanctity*, if we want the overcoming life, or if we want victory, we must seek God, His kingdom, and His will above everything else. In other words, we seek "Him" who is the source of all that we need.

Now what do we receive in prayer and worship that will help us at the time of battle? We receive several important things.

1. We learn to know our Leader, Jesus Christ, and to have confidence in His leadership.
2. We learn what His plans and His will are so that we can obey His orders.
3. We are filled with power by the Holy Spirit so that, when the battle comes, we will have strength to fight.
4. We are given weapons with which to fight and the instructions on how to use them.

8 What is the source of power we have with which to fight the enemy?

.....

In Ephesians 6:14-18 Paul tells us about our weapons. “So stand ready, with *truth* as a belt tight around your waist, with *righteousness* as your breastplate; and as your shoes the readiness to announce the Good News of *peace*. At all times carry *faith* as a shield; for with it you will be able to put out all the burning arrows shot by the Evil One. And accept *salvation* as a helmet, and the word of God as the *sword* which the *Spirit* gives you. Do all this in *prayer*, asking for God’s help. Pray on every occasion, as the Spirit leads. For this reason keep alert and never give up; pray always for all God’s people.”



9 What are the items in the believer’s armor?

.....

Notice two things. First, the armor is spiritual and is given by God to withstand the devil. The armor is truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation. Second, the weapons are spiritual. They are the Word of God and prayer. Both of these are used with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Notice, too, that prayer is mentioned three times. You can't get ready for spiritual battles without prayer. You can't overcome temptation without prayer. Prayer provides the character, the power, the armor, and the weapons by which we win the victory!

10 How many times are we told to pray in Ephesians 6:18?

.....

It is not enough to have the sword in your hand, the Spirit as your helper, and to have prayed before going to battle. You must have on the armor of God to cover and protect you. You must have the righteousness, peace, and the joy that the Holy Spirit gives.

This is why Jesus said, "Be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you" (Matthew 6:33). If you have the armor, the Spirit will help you win the victory as you use the sword of the Word of God.

So, Pray! Pray! Pray! Pray as Jesus said to do. Pray for the things of the kingdom, and you will be able to overcome.

11 What can we learn from the believer's armor?

.....

The Place of Victory

There are several things we should know about victorious living. First, we cannot conquer "outwardly" until we learn to conquer "inwardly." The devil holds many men captive, but God has given us spiritual weapons to pull down Satan's "strongholds" and set men free. We cannot do so until we ourselves are free from the power of sin. We cannot help others overcome temptation until we have learned the secret of overcoming ourselves! The way to overcome temptation is to put God's will above everything else. When we seek only to see His name honored, we overcome the temptation to seek our own pleasure.

12 For those who would conquer outwardly, what must they first learn?

.....

The second thing to learn about spiritual victories is that they are won on the battlefield—at the place where we have to fight the enemy. Some Christians think we win spiritual victories “on our knees.” But when we are in prayer, we are not fighting the devil. We are talking to our Leader. We are getting a new supply of weapons. We are getting our fighting orders. We are gaining power and knowledge. But we are not winning the battle. Oh, for sure, we gain great confidence in prayer as we realize the great power God is giving us. We shout and praise because of what we know God will help us to do. But we are not winning the battle.

Battles are won on the battlefield! We will be constantly overcome unless we take the strength and the wisdom that God gives us while we are on our knees and go with them to battle. Prayer is preparation for battle! The “praying” of some Christians is nothing more than repeated confessions of failure and begging God for forgiveness. They have no victory because they do not use the power available to them in the hour of temptation!

13 What is the Christian’s preparation for battle?

.....

THE WAY TO SPIRITUAL MATURITY

Objective 2. *Describe the stages in the growth process of a child of God.*

Objective 3. *Compare the three laws mentioned in Romans 7:23 and Romans 8:2 with the three stages of spiritual growth.*

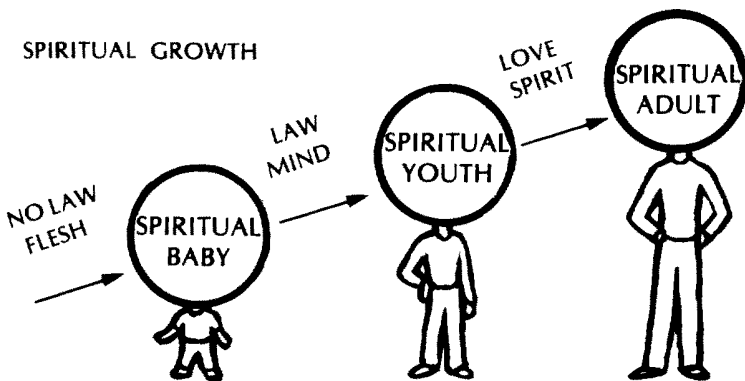
Spiritual maturity is “added” when we seek first the kingdom of God. It is through the Word of God and through speaking together with God that we become like Christ. This is what we mean by becoming spiritually mature.

There are three stages in the growth process of the child of God. He starts as a spiritual baby and passes through a stage of spiritual youth until he becomes a spiritual adult. Let's compare these three stages with the three laws mentioned in Romans 7:23 and Romans 8:2. The three laws are:

1. The law of the flesh.
2. The law of the mind.
3. The law of the Spirit.

The believer still controlled by the law of the flesh is a spiritual baby. He is a "no law" person because, like an animal, he only does what he feels like doing. His idea of life is, "If it feels good, do it." Actually, he acts like an unbeliever.

The believer controlled by the law of the mind is a spiritual youth. He obeys the law, but not with his heart. He does right because the law demands it, whether it is the law of his home, the law of the church, or the Law of Moses.



The believer controlled by the Spirit is a spiritual adult. He obeys the law of God because he loves God. He puts the kingdom of God above everything else. He has the righteousness, peace and the joy that the Holy Spirit gives.

14 Match the letters to the left of the statements with the correct stage (right) of spiritual growth.

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|----------|
| a | The law of the Spirit | 1) Baby |
| b | The law of the flesh | 2) Youth |
| c | The law of the mind | 3) Adult |

How can a spiritual baby grow to be a spiritual adult? The secret is in *how* to pray. If he prays right, he will live right! Right praying leads to right living. Right living becomes prayer without ceasing! The spiritual baby cannot control his anger without help. Neither will he control his desires by himself. The governments of the world seek to control the carnal nature of man by laws and punishment for breaking the law. When the church has many spiritual babies, it often follows the world's way of handling law breakers. It sets *standards* and *laws* to control the lawlessness of the babies.

15 How can a spiritual baby become a spiritual adult?

.....

When a child is law abiding, he is no longer a baby, but a youth. He acts intelligently like a human being should, and he responds to reason. The same is true of spiritual growth. When a spiritual baby becomes a spiritual youth he honors the authority of the church and obeys its laws. He is a good *church member* and is respected because he is law-abiding.

But to be merely law-abiding is not to be mature, either as a citizen or as a Christian. A citizen is only *adult* when he does right, not because the law tells him to, but because he believes in doing what is right whether the law requires it or not. That is the mark of a mature man, and so is it in the life of a Christian. He is only spiritually mature when the love of Christ motivates him. He is filled with love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. He needs no "law" to make him act like Jesus.

16 When is a person *spiritually mature*?

.....

Then, how can a spiritual baby grow to be a spiritual adult? By working hard to be perfect? By struggling with his desires? By laws? By schools? Never! The answer is in prayer and worship. It is in presenting ourselves to the Son of God. The apostle Paul says it beautifully in 2 Corinthians 3:18, “All of us, then, reflect the glory of the Lord with uncovered faces; and that same glory, coming from the Lord, who is the Spirit, transforms us into his likeness in an ever greater degree of glory.”

Sanctity, Christlikeness, and spiritual maturity all come to us by the Spirit of the Lord! They cannot be received except by right praying. They cannot be received until we seek, above everything else, to honor God’s name, to seek His kingdom, and to do His will! Let us worship our Lord through our right living.

17 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a** Spiritual maturity can be learned by reading books.
- b** We cannot change ourselves.
- c** We are changed by the Holy Spirit.
- d** A spiritual baby can become a spiritual adult by working hard.

self-test

SHORT ANSWERS. Write the correct answers in the space provided.

1 How does the believer differ from the unbeliever in his struggle for sanctity?

.....

2 Every man is when he is of his own and (James 1:14 KJV).

3 What happens to a believer's natural desires when he is saved?

.....

4 What is the source of power with which to fight the enemy?

.....

5 What is prayer in relation to the Bible?

.....

6 Name three marks of a mature believer.

.....

7 How can a spiritual baby grow to be a spiritual adult?

.....

8 Read 2 Corinthians 3:18 and tell its meaning.

.....

9 Why is a law-abiding Christian not necessarily a spiritual adult?

.....

answers to the study questions

- 9** Truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation.
- 1** Inward purity that God wants us to have.
- 10** Three times.
- 2** Jesus shows us the way; help from above.
- 11** It is our protection in battle.
- 3** c) tries to cause him to sin by tempting him.
- 12** To be overcomers inwardly.
- 4** a True.
b True.
c False.
d True.
- 13** Prayer.
- 5** He was tempted, but He was not drawn away and enticed (He did not yield to the temptation).
- 14** a 3) Adult.
b 1) Baby.
c 2) Youth.
- 6** b) be drawn away from the proper use of natural desires.
- 15** By praying right.
- 7** They remain with him, but he is given power to control them by the Holy Spirit.
- 16** When he is motivated by love.
- 8** Prayer and worship.
- 17** a False.
b True.
c True.
d False.

For Your Notes

Lesson 10

Security Needs Provided For

“But keep us safe from the evil one”

Matthew 6:13

The devil is real. He is a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. He comes in sheep’s clothing. He is the father of lies and his evil influence is very strong in the world today.

The devil works very hard to discourage believers. The devil would succeed if it were not for the “wall” the Lord puts about His people. God knows we do not grow strong spiritually without tests and trials. Therefore, God removes the wall from time to time. He allows Satan to trouble us. This is for our good, but we can only know the good of it by prayer and worship. The first question to ask God when we have trouble is, “Lord, what are You wanting to teach me?”

Trouble can work for us. “And this small and temporary trouble we suffer will bring us a tremendous and eternal glory, much greater than the trouble” (2 Corinthians 4:17). Let us make trouble our servant! Let us get all the good out of it that we can!



lesson outline

The Source of Deliverance

 The Power of Prayer

 The Power of Love

The Secret of Security

 The Security of the Body

 The Security of the Soul

The Pattern of the Lord's Prayer

 The Central Theme

 A Prayer for Us

lesson objectives

When you finish this lesson you should be able to:

- Explain how prayer and love are related to deliverance.
- Describe how security is received through prayer and worship.
- Summarize the prayer Jesus taught in Matthew 6:9-13.

learning activities

- 1 Read the lesson development section by section. Write the answers to the study questions and self-test questions.
- 2 Memorize 1 John 4:18.
- 3 Pray the prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 slowly, trying to remember the meaning of every sentence as you have learned it.
- 4 Review the self-test questions from Lessons 7-10.

key words

security
summary

torment

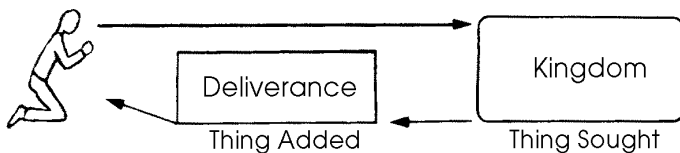
lesson development

THE SOURCE OF DELIVERANCE

Objective 1. *State why the love of God is important to those who believe in ancestral spirits.*

We have come to the final lesson of this book. We are going to talk about things that touch all of our lives. We are going to talk about troubles that come to us from outside. We will talk about evil spirits, sickness, floods, and famine. We can have protection and deliverance from these things also. Praise God!

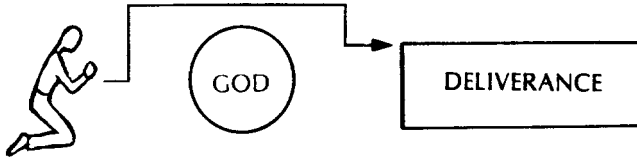
One thing to remember is this—the devil can't trouble us unless God allows it. If God allows it, then He must have a purpose in doing so. There must be something He wants to teach us. So, once again, we will be concerned above everything else about the kingdom of God so that we might' learn what good can come out of the things that happen to us for the kingdom. Then, when we pray for deliverance, we will pray according to the will of God. So, our illustration looks like this:



1 Explain the illustration.

.....

Let us be sure we do not try to *use* God to get our deliverance. God must always and ever be the object of our seeking. We must not do this:



2 Explain the illustration.

.....

The Power of Prayer

The importance of prayer is known by those who believe in the unseen world of spiritual beings. It is very real for those who know the power of Satan and his evil spirits. Jesus knew the truth about evil spirits. He knew that they exist. He knew that they torment men who are not protected by God. The Lord cast out many demons. They were all afraid of Him because they knew His power was greater than that of Satan.

Praise God, we can have Jesus' power. This is the power that demons fear! They will not fear us, but they will fear the One who is in us. "The Spirit who is in you is more powerful than the spirit in those who belong to the world" (1 John 4:4).

- 3 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.
- a Jesus knew the truth about evil spirits.
- b The demons did not fear Jesus.
- c We do not have power over demons.
- d Satan's power is greater than our power alone.

If we are going to have the same power that Jesus had over demons, we must be concerned above everything else with the kingdom of God so that our wills are exactly the same as His will. His Spirit can work through us only if our will is in keeping with the will of God. Once again, we must emphasize the need

of prayer and worship. We must speak together with God often if we are to know how to use His power.

The Power of Love

When we talk about demons and about deliverance from their power, we must talk about the power of love. We refer, of course, to our love for God. Once more we see the need to worship so that our love for Him will grow.

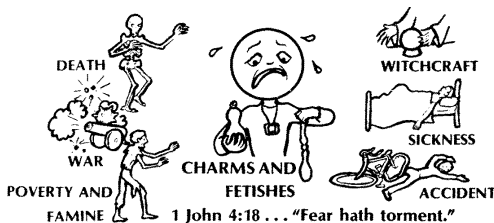
First John 4:18 is a wonderful verse. It talks about the power of love. It says, "There is no fear in love; perfect love drives out all fear."

What a picture we have of those who believe in the unseen world of spirits but who do not know God's power! For them, fear is king. Fear is behind everything they do. Because of fear they make a lot of rules. Don't go on the path if a black cat has crossed it. Don't eat food that has been prepared by a woman who has her sickness. Don't walk under a ladder. Don't use your childhood name. Don't live in a house that has not been *prepared* with medicine against evil spirits. Don't plant your crops until a certain day. Don't do work under a full moon. Don't! Don't! Don't! Don't! Every tribe and nation has its don'ts, and all of them come from fear. Fear of spirits, fear of death!

4 Why do people make a lot of rules?

.....

"Fear hath torment" (1 John 4:18, KJV). Fear! How horrible it must be to live in constant fear. These people fear they may even die! They look for charms and medicines to break the power of the evil spirits. They look for something to deliver them from the things they fear. We can illustrate it like this:



5 What do we mean when we say, “fear hath torment?”

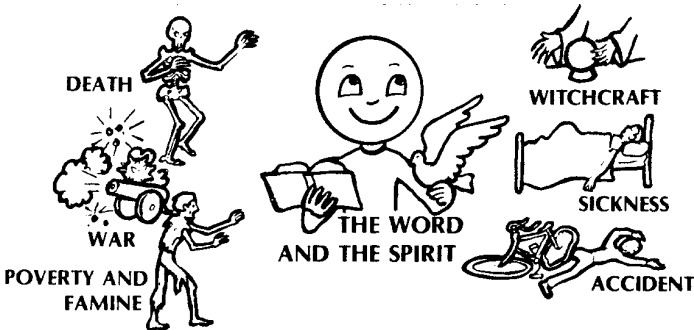
Now all of what we have said does not apply to the uneducated world alone. Much of it applies to educated people and to men in high offices. Fear does not dwell only with the poor and the ignorant. Fear visits government offices. Fear goes into kings’ palaces. Fear sails in ships on the ocean. Fear is everywhere, for it is found wherever there are people who do not know the power of love!

What should we do about fear? The apostle John gives us the answer. He said, “There is no fear in love; perfect love drives out all fear” (1 John 4:18).

6 Circle the letter to the left of each TRUE statement.

- a Only the unlearned have fear.
- b A king never has fears.
- c Fear is found everywhere.
- d Perfect love drives out all fear.

The more we love God, the less fear we have. The less we love God, the more we have fear! Learn to love God, and fear will flee. Love will drive it out! Now you can see the importance of prayer and worship. It is through prayer and worship we learn to know and to love God! So, when love comes, our illustration looks like this:



Are you afraid of death? Are you afraid of poverty? Of war? Of evil spirits? Of sickness? Of accidents? Of lightning? Of wind storms? Of darkness? These are things that do not go

away. They are always with us. But the fear of them can be taken away. To know and love God, and to have His kingdom within us, is to have fear cast out. God will deliver us from fear!

7 How can we get rid of fear?

.....

THE SECRET OF SECURITY

Objective 2: *State the secret of security.*

The Security of the Body

Let us begin by discussing what we need deliverance from. What is the worst thing that could happen to a person? Some would say that the worst thing that could happen would be to die. Others would say that the worst thing that could happen would be to be blind, or to be crippled. Still others would say that to be poor is worse than death.

But what does God say? He says, “Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather be afraid of God, who can destroy both body and soul in hell” (Matthew 10:28).

“Will a person gain anything if he wins the whole world but loses his life?” (Matthew 16:26).

“God chose the poor people of this world to be rich in faith” (James 2:5).

“I know that you are poor—but really you are rich!” (Revelation 2:9).

What God is saying is that there is something worse than the death of the body. There is something of more value than riches. It is important to know what things have true and lasting value so that we can pray properly.

8 What does God say about the body and the riches of this world?

.....

Do you remember when Paul, the apostle, was told that if he went to Jerusalem he would be killed? In Acts 21:13, he answered, “What are you doing, crying like this and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be tied up in Jerusalem but even to die there for the sake of the Lord Jesus.” What Paul was saying was, “What happens to me doesn’t matter. What happens to the name of Jesus does matter!”

The Security of the Soul

The secret of security is to have eternal life. “And eternal life means knowing you, the only true God, and to know Jesus Christ, whom you sent” (John 17:3). Eternal life is a matter of time, but it also means knowing. To live forever is nothing to be desired unless the life is good forever! When we know God, we have eternal life. And when we have eternal life, we are always secure. When we turn our backs on God and refuse to know Him then we lose the security He has promised us.

The worst thing that could happen to a Christian is to be separated from God. If sickness will draw us nearer to God, then sickness is not evil. If poverty will make us trust in God more, then poverty is not evil. If an accident will awaken us from careless living, then the accident is not evil.

- 9 The worst thing that could happen to a Christian is to
- a) be sick.
 - b) be poor.
 - c) have an accident.
 - d) be separated from God.

The evil we need to be delivered from is the evil that would separate us from the Lord. If pleasure separates us from the Lord, then pleasure is evil. If riches separate us from God, then riches are evil. If health makes us forget God, then health becomes evil to us!

The apostle Paul was a man of many troubles. He was shipwrecked; he was beaten; he was imprisoned; and he was stoned. Yet he never sought deliverance from these things. He accepted them as part of his life for Christ. Paul knew the secret

of security! He had eternal life, and no man could take it from him! He sought only to “know Christ and to experience the power of his resurrection, to share in his sufferings” (Philippians 3:10). By knowing Jesus, Paul was secure.

It is those who put the kingdom of God before all else who have learned that praying brings security. They will survive all the fiery darts of the wicked one, and will be called *overcomers* at the throne of God!

10 What is the secret of security?

.....

THE PATTERN OF THE LORD’S PRAYER

Objective 3. *Construct a statement summarizing Matthew 6:9-13.*

The prayer that Jesus taught, ends with the words, “For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen” (Matthew 6:13, KJV).

So prayer, as Jesus taught it, starts with worship and ends with worship. After we have put God’s name, God’s kingdom, and God’s will first in prayer and in living, we can make our petitions known unto God. We know that He will provide all the things we need!

11 Fill in the blanks with the proper words.

“For Thine is the, and the
and the, for ever. Amen.”

12 Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

The prayer that Jesus taught starts with and ends with

The Central Theme

Worship is praise to God. Worship is service to God. Therefore:

1. Praying means always worshipping. it means speaking with God often to know how to use His power.
2. Worship means always putting God's name, kingdom, and will first in our praying.
3. Worship means always putting God's name, kingdom, and will first in our living.

A Prayer for Us

We close this book about prayer and worship with this prayer: Our Father, we come as thy children who are part of the family of heaven. We worship You. May Your holy name be honored. May Your kingdom come. May Your will be done. May these things always be first in our lives. We do have needs. Grant them according to Thy will and plan. We need support for ourselves and our families. We need to get along with those around us. We need to overcome sin in our lives. We need deliverance from sickness and dangers around us. Please grant these requests as we continue to seek, above everything else, that which is unseen and eternal. Amen.

self-test

SHORT ANSWERS. Write the correct answer in the space provided.

1 What must we do if we are to have a ministry of deliverance?

.....

2 What does perfect love do?

.....

3 Why is the love of God important to those who believe in spirits?

.....

4 Name three things people seek deliverance from.

.....

5 What is the secret of security?

.....

6 What is the worst thing that can happen to a person?

.....

7 Write Matthew 6:33.

.....

.....

answers to the study questions

- 7 By learning to love God through prayer and worship.
- 1 We should seek the kingdom of God, and deliverance will be added.
- 8 The soul is worth more than the body, and life is worth more than riches.
- 2 God is being *used* as a *means* to get deliverance.
- 9 d) be separated from God.
- 3 a True.
b False.
c False.
d True.
- 10 Knowing Jesus and putting the kingdom of God before all else.
- 4 Because of fears.
- 11 Kingdom,
power,
glory
- 5 It is horrible to live in constant fear.
- 12 worship,
worship.
- 6 a False.
b False.
c True.
d True.

Glossary

The right-hand column lists the lesson in the independent-study textbook in which the word is first used.

		<i>Lesson</i>
accordance	— agreement; in keeping with	6
affections	— desires or feelings; feelings of warm liking or strong attachment	3
agnostics	— persons who doubt the existence or knowability of God; implies an unwillingness to believe or deny the existence of God	1
ancestral spirits	— spirits of dead ancestors, spirits (relatives) who are considered still a part of the family and who are believed to have power to change things in the lives of the living	1
animism	— belief that there are living souls in trees, stones, stars, etc.; the spirits are personal and may be feared and worshiped though they are less than gods	1
atheists	— persons who do not believe in the existence of God or in any other deity	1
<hr/>		
believer	— term used for a Christian convert; a person who has exercised saving faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ	2

channel	— a way or passage through which something flows or passes; the way by which something moves or is carried	7
commitment	— an agreement or pledge to do something; a promise to continue a certain course of action	6
conditions	— terms or requirements demanded before the fulfillment of a promise	6
culture	— the ideas, customs, skills, art, etc., of a group of people at a given time	2

deliverance	— setting free or being set free; release from bondage	1
disciples	— persons who accept and follow a teacher or doctrine; in the Bible the followers of Jesus; <i>as used in Lesson 5</i> : disciple them; to train, convert, and teach others about Jesus	5

egotists	— persons who are self-centered and selfish; persons who think only about themselves and their own interests	1
enticed	— attracted by arousing hopes or desires; drawn to or away from	9
evangelize	— to preach the gospel to; to convert people to Christianity	5

fallacy	— a false idea; mistaken belief; error	4
fantasy	— a daydream; a product of the imagination; image existing only in the mind	3
foreigner	— a person from another country thought of as an outsider	3

fraternity	— the quality or state of being brothers; a religious brotherhood; brotherliness	2
function	— the action for which a person or thing is specially fitted, used, or for which a thing exists; the purpose; normal use	2
Great Commission	— Jesus' command to preach the gospel on a world-wide basis; each of the Gospels has its own statement of the Commission, but, <i>as used in the lesson</i> , the reference is to Matthew 28:19-20	5
interpreted	— explained the meaning of; translated; <i>as used in the lesson</i> referring to the interpretation of tongues: the ability to understand and speak in a known language that which has been supernaturally spoken in an unknown tongue, as the Spirit gives the words	1
lust	— intense or strong sinful desire; sinful in either being directed toward a forbidden object or in being so strong that self-control is lost	9
means	— the way to get something	7
meditation	— quiet, deep thoughts on sacred matters as a devotional act	1
nation-centered	— <i>used in a very specific way in the lesson</i> , meaning a person who has his own nation as the center of his life, instead of Christ as the center of his life	8

nature	— <i>as defined in Lesson 1:</i> the created world, including the plants and animals that are part of it; <i>as defined in Lesson 5:</i> the basic quality that makes something what it is; the kind of	1, 5
overcomer	— someone who has conquered, defeated, or won the victory over someone or something; <i>as used in the Lesson:</i> to have withstood, conquered, and defeated the devil	9
pagan	— one who worships many gods or no god	7
pantheists	— persons who believe that God and the universe are one and the same	1
Paraclete	— the Holy Spirit, considered as a comforter and helper; one called to the aid of another; one called alongside to help	6
petition	— a solemn, earnest request to a superior or deity; a prayer; something asked for or requested	1
pilgrims	— persons on a journey; wanderers; travelers; persons who travel in a foreign land	3
prejudice	— a strong opinion, usually unfavorable, that is formed without taking time and care to judge fairly because of a personal dislike or a fixed idea; unfair opinion	2
priorities	— things superior in rank or position; coming before in order or importance	1

proclaim	— declare openly; make known publicly and officially; to praise and glorify publicly	4
<hr/>		
race-centered	— <i>used in a very specific way in the lesson</i> , meaning a person who has his own race or class of people as the center of his life in place of Christ as the center of his life	8
reality	— actual existence: a real thing; an actual fact	3
rebel	— person who disobeys someone in authority; person who resists or fights against authority instead of obeying; <i>rebellious</i> , disobedient; defying authority	4
renounce	— give up entirely; cast off; to refuse to follow, obey, or recognize any further	2
repent	— feel sorry for having done wrong and seek forgiveness, including to turn away from sin and dedicate one's self to a changed life in Jesus Christ	2
reprobate	— one lost to all senses of duty or decency; someone who rejects God; someone who refuses to accept (God)	1
reputation	— what people think and say about the character of a person; overall quality or character as seen or judged by people in general	4

saltiness	— that which preserves, corrects, or purifies; saltiness of the believer; the good influence of the believer on those around him because of his knowledge of Jesus Christ and the righteous life Jesus helps him to live	3
sanctity	— inward purity; separation from everything that defiles; inward righteousness received from God	9
security	— safety; freedom from fear, danger, anxiety, and doubt	10
social	— having to do with human beings living together as a group; living or liking to live with others	8
spiritual maturity	— depth in the Lord: stage of growth as a believer becomes more like Jesus and is motivated by the love of God; Christlikeness as a believer seeks to become more like Jesus	9
steward	— person who takes care of or manages another person's property; person called upon to take responsible care of goods entrusted to him	7
stewardship	— position, duties, and responsibilities of a steward	7
summarizing	— giving in a short statement the main points	10
support	— all the things we need for living: food, clothes, shelter, etc.; means of livelihood	7

temptation	— thing that makes or tries to make a person do something wrong by the offer of some pleasures or reward; the act of testing (or trying) especially to do evil	9
tongues	— tongue-speaking, or <i>glossolalia</i> , is an expression of sounds in a language the speaker has never learned and does not understand. the force controlling the tongue is the Holy Spirit	1
torment	— cause very great pain to; to cause severe distress of body or mind	10
tribe-centered	— <i>used in a very specific way in the lesson</i> , meaning a person who has his own tribe as the center of his life in place of Christ as the center of his life	8

unbeliever	— a non-Christian; a person who has NOT exercised saving faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ	2
universalists	— persons who believe in the final salvation of all men regardless of the <i>god</i> they worship	1
usurper	— one who takes control by force and without right; one who takes power, position, property, or rights and holds in possession by force or without right, namely Satan, the devil, (<i>as used in the lesson</i>)	4

victory	— spoken of in a spiritual way meaning defeating the devil; a successful outcome (winning) in contest or struggle <i>with the devil</i> : <i>victorious</i> : not being defeated, conquering the things that Satan uses against us	9
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yield	— submit; give up resistance to; give up or surrender: turn over possession to	6
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Answers to the Self-Tests

Lesson 1

- 1 Because they are not sure there is a God or that He listens to their prayers.
- 2 “There is no fear in love; perfect love drives out all fear.”
- 3 He becomes a new man who leaves his evil ways.
- 4 “Lord, teach us to pray.”
- 5 Because we are tempted to pray to be seen of men.
- 6 a) Written Word.
b) Living Son.
c) Holy Spirit.
- 7 pray, walk (or live), will
- 8 b) nature is God.
- 9 b) Read God’s Word often, meditate upon it, and ask God to help us understand it.
- 10 c) always seeking God’s kingdom above everything else.

- 11 a) 5) Reprobate.
b) 7) Animist.
c) 2) Agnostic.
d) 6) Universalist.
e) 1) Atheist.
f) 4) Egotist.
g) 3) Pantheist.

Lesson 2

- 1 God wanted to be the Father of a family with sons and daughters who love Him.
- 2 With boldness, humility, singing, praises, and thanksgiving (any order).
- 3 Those who are His sons. Those who are not His sons.
- 4 He helps us pray as sons. He makes intercession for us, He speaks through us in tongues for edification.
- 5 c) we should accept believers as brothers despite our differences.
- 6 a) False.
b) True.
c) True.
d) True.

- 7 a P
- b W
- c W
- d P
- e W
- f P
- g P
- h P, W
- i W
- j P

Lesson 3

- 1 His speech, behavior, and his prayer life.
- 2 In heaven.
- 3 They did not pray for the comforts of this world but sought to please God and do His will.
- 4 The believer groans with hope. The unbeliever groans without hope.
- 5 We are to improve the world through our presence.
- 6 That he will not begin to love the world.
That he will become a light in the world.
- 7 a False.
- b False.
- c True.
- d True.

Lesson 4

- 1 Servants can serve without love or worship. Sons love and therefore worship.

- 2 Other gods cannot show love or answer prayers.
- 3 Self, work, men (any order).
- 4 They followed Paul, Apollos, and Peter, and therefore dishonored Christ.
- 5 There is no such thing as an empty throne—either God is on the throne or else Satan is on the throne.
- 6 Honor God as King in our hearts. Keep other things off the throne of our hearts. Believe in the power of Jesus' name, and claim His promises. Guard our speech and our conduct.

Lesson 5

- 1 There is an inward and an outward kingdom.
- 2 In our homes, at our work, among friends.
- 3 Christ is there in the midst of us.
- 4 It increases in members. Members increase in Christlikeness.
- 5 Go to them, disciple them, baptize them, teach them.
- 6 We are to encourage one another with this knowledge.
- 7 Workers to gather in His harvest.

8 That the good news will be preached in all the world.

9 Through worship.

Lesson 6

1 All men believe.
All believers be like Jesus.

2 The Spirit prays for us according to God's will.

3 When we refuse to submit to do His will.

4 When men refuse salvation.
When men refuse to become like Christ.

5 They were all filled with the Holy Spirit.

6 All things are possible.

7 Things that are not God's will. Things that may or may not be God's will.
Things that are God's will.

Lesson 7

1 It is not God's will to help man unless he is willing to be helped.

2 God wants to provide our needs.
There is nothing impossible with God.

3 Few believers can resist the selfish living riches bring.

4 By being motivated by love to obey God.

5 It reveals our priorities in life.

6 A steward owns nothing. He cares for his master's property. He is cared for by his master.

7 It will change our attitude. We will seek God's kingdom above everything else.

Lesson 8

1 The human spirit is not a forgiving spirit, therefore, we need help from God to be able to forgive.

2 The kingdom of God is the righteousness, peace, and joy that the Holy Spirit gives. To have the Kingdom is to be able to forgive.

3 By being concerned above all else with the kingdom of God.

4 Self-denial.

5 According to what is good and bad for himself.

6 Tribe, Race, Self, Nation, Religion (any order).

7 Put Christ at the center of our life, let Him share the burden.

Lesson 9

- 1 The believer has the help of the Holy Spirit.
- 2 tempted
drawn away
lust
enticed
- 3 They remain with him but he is given power to use them properly.
- 4 Prayer and worship.
- 5 Prayer is preparation for battle.
- 6 A man of love, purity, and truth.
- 7 By presenting himself to God in prayer and worship.
- 8 We are changed by the Spirit; we do not change ourselves.
- 9 Because he is not necessarily motivated by love.

Lesson 10

- 1 Talk to God often and make sure our will is the same as His will.
- 2 It casts out all fear.
- 3 Tormenting fear is found where there is no love for God.
- 4 Death, sickness, poverty.
- 5 Knowing Jesus and putting the kingdom of God before all else.
- 6 To be separated from God.

- 7 Be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God, and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things.

Prayer and Worship

UNIT STUDENT REPORTS
AND
ANSWER SHEETS

DIRECTIONS

When you have completed your study of each unit, fill out the unit student report answer sheet for that unit. The following are directions how to indicate your answer to each question. There are two kinds of questions: TRUE-FALSE and MULTIPLE-CHOICE.

PART 1—TRUE-FALSE QUESTION EXAMPLE

The following statement is either true or false. If the statement is TRUE, blacken space A. FALSE, blacken space B.

1 The Bible is God’s message for us.

The above statement, *The Bible is God’s message for us*, is TRUE, so you would blacken space A like this:

1 A B C D

PART 2—MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTION EXAMPLE

There is one best answer for the following question. Blacken the space for the answer you have chosen.

2 To be born again means to

- a) be young in age.
- b) accept Jesus as Savior.
- c) start a new year.
- d) find a different church.

The correct answer is b) *accept Jesus as Savior*, so you would blacken space B like this:

2 A B C D

Student Report for Unit One

STUDENT REPORT FOR UNIT ONE

*Answer all questions on the Answer Sheet for Unit One. See the examples on the **DIRECTIONS** page which show you how to mark your answers.*

PART 1—TRUE-FALSE QUESTIONS

*The following statement is either true or false. If the statement is TRUE, blacken space A.
FALSE, blacken space B.*

- 1 I have carefully read all of the lessons in Unit One.
- 2 *How* we pray is more important than *who* we pray to.
- 3 “God is love” does *not* mean the same thing as “love is God.”
- 4 In praying, we should ask for our own needs first.
- 5 God’s plan ended with the resurrection of Jesus.
- 6 A Christian’s righteous life can be a blessing to the world.
- 7 It is important to God whether a person is rich or poor.
- 8 A citizen of heaven should not worry about obeying the laws of his earthly country.

PART 2—MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

There is one best answer for each of the following questions. Blacken the space on your answer sheet for the answer you have chosen.

- 9 An *egotist* does not pray because he believes that
 - a) everything good is God.
 - b) there is no God to listen to him.
 - c) his own ideas are all that matter.

Prayer and Worship

10 A person who believes in *animism*

- a) says there is no God.
- b) has no god except himself.
- c) thinks all religions are the same.
- d) needs deliverance from fear.

11 When praying in public it is important to

- a) lead the group into God's presence.
- b) memorize what you will say.
- c) practice ahead of time.
- d) remember people are hearing you.

12 True prayer means that we will

- a) spend a lot of time in church.
- b) give God's kingdom priority.
- c) persuade God by repeating our petitions.
- d) try hard to say long words.

13 Any person can be saved by

- a) calling out to God for help.
- b) going to church often.
- c) reading the Bible.
- d) hoping he will be.

14 All the people who are in God's family

- a) are alike.
- b) live in the same country.
- c) have Him as their Father.
- d) belong to the same race.

15 In regard to *prayer and worship*, *prayer* has more to do with

- a) praise to God.
- b) needs of people.
- c) rejoicing in God.
- d) honoring God.

Student Report for Unit One

16 In regard to *prayer* and *worship*, *worship* has more to do with

- a) making petitions.
- b) claiming the promises.
- c) needs of people.
- d) glorifying God.

17 A Christian shows he is a citizen of heaven by

- a) having no problems.
- b) being very poor.
- c) where his riches are.
- d) not having to suffer.

18 Heaven is an important place to the Christian because it is

- a) a beautiful idea.
- b) a nice dream.
- c) for older people.
- d) where his Father is.

19 A Christian can influence the world by

- a) ignoring its rulers.
- b) becoming rich and powerful.
- c) helping it understand God's plan.
- d) becoming very busy in its affairs.

20 A *universalist's* real belief is that

- a) God is an idea in man's mind.
- b) God is the Creator.
- c) only one God is the true God.
- d) everything good is God.

END OF REQUIREMENTS FOR UNIT ONE. Follow the remaining instructions on your answer sheet and return it to your ICI instructor or office in your area, then begin your study of Unit Two.

STUDENT REPORT FOR UNIT TWO

*Answer all questions on the Answer Sheet for Unit One. See the examples on the **DIRECTIONS** page which show you how to mark your answers.*

PART 1—TRUE-FALSE QUESTIONS

*The following statement is either true or false. If the statement is
TRUE, blacken space A.
FALSE, blacken space B.*

- 1** I have carefully read all of the lessons in Unit Two.
- 2** We can worship God without worshipping Jesus.
- 3** We can get too busy serving God.
- 4** Satan no longer has power over a believer.
- 5** God's kingdom is only in heaven.
- 6** It is not important for believers to meet together.
- 7** Trouble can be good for a believer.
- 8** Hebrews 11 shows us that men of faith never suffer.

PART 2—MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

There is one best answer for each of the following questions. Blacken the space on your answer sheet for the answer you have chosen.

- 9** What God wants from us as His citizens is
 - a) strict obedience.
 - b) busy service.
 - c) honor and love.

Student Report for Unit Two

10 The Corinthian church was divided because they

- a) had several different teachers.
- b) honored men more than God.
- c) were concerned about each other.
- d) had several evil teachers.

11 Satan no longer rules the believer because

- a) Christ rules the believer.
- b) no one rules the believer.
- c) self rules the believer.

12 We know God's promises can be trusted because

- a) we understand His promises.
- b) He has "signed His name" to them.
- c) they promise good things.

13 The kingdom of God begins

- a) when Christ comes again.
- b) on judgment day.
- c) in the hearts of believers.

14 The time of God's kingdom is

- a) only now in the hearts of believers He rules.
- b) now in believers and also when Jesus returns.
- c) only when Jesus returns to rule the world.

15 The Great Commission is given to people who

- a) are called by Jesus.
- b) have a good education.
- c) know the church rules.
- d) understand what baptism means.

16 We learn from Revelation 1:9-20 that Jesus

- a) walks among actual lamp stands.
- b) is not interested in churches.
- c) comes only to large churches.
- d) approves of believers meeting together.

Prayer and Worship

17 We need to pray about

- a) every kind of decision we make.
- b) what doesn't help or hinder God's plan.
- c) things which affect the kingdom of God.

18 A believer is able to pray for God's will because

- a) the Holy Spirit will help him.
- b) he knows the right words to say.
- c) it is what he usually thinks of.

19 Which phrase expresses a prayer of total commitment?

- a) "I'll be a believer if You'll keep me from sickness."
- b) "I'll do Your will no matter what happens."
- c) "I'll work for You if people will respect me."
- d) "I'll follow You if my friends think it's a good idea."

20 Which prayer below should include the words "If it be Thy will"?

- a) "Please save my sister."
- b) "May Thy kingdom come."
- c) "Make me like Jesus."
- d) "Deliver me from suffering."

END OF REQUIREMENTS FOR UNIT TWO. Follow the remaining instructions on your answer sheet and return it to your ICI instructor or office in your area, then begin your study of Unit Three.

Student Report for Unit Three

STUDENT REPORT FOR UNIT THREE

Answer all questions on the Answer Sheet for Unit Three. See the examples on the DIRECTIONS page which show you how to mark your answers.

PART 1—TRUE-FALSE QUESTIONS

*The following statement is either true or false. If the statement is
TRUE, blacken space A.
FALSE, blacken space B.*

- 1 I have carefully read all of the lessons in Unit Three.
- 2 Anybody can pray and expect God to meet his needs.
- 3 Tithing is not really a part of worship.
- 4 Believers only need to forgive those who ask for forgiveness.
- 5 It is hard for self-centered people to live in peace together.
- 6 A believer is mature when he does right because the law requires it.
- 7 Accidents, sickness, and poverty are always evil.
- 8 A Christian's security is in the fact that he has eternal life.

PART 2—MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

There is one best answer for each of the following questions. Blacken the space on your answer sheet for the answer you have chosen.

- 9 The difference between a believer's and an unbeliever's attitude towards his support needs is that a believer
 - a) isn't concerned about his support needs.
 - b) doesn't have as many needs.
 - c) seeks God's kingdom first.
 - d) doesn't have to tell God his needs.
- 10 The believers who have the "gift of sharing"
 - a) use their money for God's kingdom.
 - b) give away a lot of money.
 - c) don't have very much money.
 - d) have a lot of money.

Prayer and Worship

11 A believer is a good steward when he gives

- a) only what the law requires.
- b) hoping God will make him rich.
- c) himself and all he has to God.

12 It is possible to forgive others the way Jesus taught in Matthew 6:14-15 only if we

- a) sincerely want to forgive them.
- b) seek God's kingdom first.
- c) are interested in their welfare.
- d) treat them as friends.

13 A person judges which things are "good" and which things are "bad" according to what

- a) his education is.
- b) social class he belongs to.
- c) country he lives in.
- d) the center of his life is.

14 When Jesus called the cross of self-denial a "yoke," He was teaching us that it is

- a) a burden we share with Him.
- b) a very difficult thing to bear.
- c) something we carry alone.
- d) not for Christians to carry.

15 When a believer wants to have inward purity, he should seek

- a) righteousness.
- b) God's kingdom.
- c) sanctity.
- d) forgiveness.

16 Ephesians 6:14-18 teaches us that a Christian

- a) is supposed to look like a soldier.
- b) should have only the Sword of the Spirit.
- c) needs God's complete armor.
- d) doesn't need to pray if he has the armor on.

Student Report for Unit Three

17 John and David are members of a church. John tells David to do what is right because that is what their church teaches. John's attitude is that of a spiritual

- a) baby.
- b) youth.
- c) adult.

18 The apostle Paul was shipwrecked and beaten. These things happened to him because

- a) God allowed them to.
- b) he wasn't doing God's will.
- c) God wasn't pleased with him.
- d) he didn't have enough faith.

19 Mary, a Christian, tries to overcome her fear of evil spirits by using a charm. What should she do instead?

- a) Move to another house.
- b) Try to believe that the spirits aren't real.
- c) Talk to her friends about her fear.
- d) Learn to know and love God more.

20 The prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 that Jesus gave us to pray shows us that we

- a) don't need to ask God for food.
- b) need to put God's name, kingdom, and will first.
- c) should always pray short prayers.
- d) need to say the same words each time.

END OF REQUIREMENTS FOR UNIT THREE. Follow the remaining instructions on your answer sheet and return it to your ICI instructor or office in your area. This completes your study of this course. Ask your ICI instructor to recommend another course of study for you.

Prayer and Worship

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

ANSWER SHEET FOR UNIT ONE

CS1211

Congratulations on finishing your study of the lessons in Unit One! Please fill in all the blanks below.

Your Name

Your ICI Student Number
(Leave blank if you do not know what it is.)

Your Mailing Address

City Province or State

Country

Age Sex Occupation

Are you married? How many members are in your family?

How many years have you studied in school?

Are you a member of a church?

If so, what is the name of the church?

What responsibility do you have in your church?

.....

How are you studying this course: Alone?

In a group?

What other ICI courses have you studied?

.....

.....

Cut this page and send to your ICI instructor.



ANSWER SHEET FOR UNIT ONE

Blacken the correct space for each numbered item. For all questions, be sure the number beside the spaces on the answer sheet is the same as the number of the question.

1	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	8	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	15	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
2	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	9	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	16	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
3	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	10	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	17	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
4	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	11	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	18	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
5	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	12	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	19	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
6	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	13	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	20	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
7	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	14	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D					

Write below any questions you would like to ask your instructor about the lessons.

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Now look over this student report answer sheet to be sure you have completed all the questions. Then return it to your ICI instructor or office in your area. The address should be stamped on the copyright page of your study guide.

<i>For ICI Office Use Only</i>	
Date	Score

Christian Service Program

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

ANSWER SHEET FOR UNIT TWO

CS1211

We hope you have enjoyed your study of the lessons in Unit Two! Please fill in all the blanks below.

Your Name

Your ICI Student Number
(Leave blank if you do not know what it is.)

Your Mailing Address

City Province or State

Country

Cut this page and send to your ICI instructor.



ANSWER SHEET FOR UNIT TWO

Blacken the correct space for each numbered item. For all questions, be sure the number beside the spaces on the answer sheet is the same as the number of the question.

1	A	B	C	D	8	A	B	C	D	15	A	B	C	D
2	A	B	C	D	9	A	B	C	D	16	A	B	C	D
3	A	B	C	D	10	A	B	C	D	17	A	B	C	D
4	A	B	C	D	11	A	B	C	D	18	A	B	C	D
5	A	B	C	D	12	A	B	C	D	19	A	B	C	D
6	A	B	C	D	13	A	B	C	D	20	A	B	C	D
7	A	B	C	D	14	A	B	C	D					

Write below any questions you would like to ask your instructor about the lessons.

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Now look over this student report answer sheet to be sure you have completed all the questions. Then return it to your ICI instructor or office in your area. The address should be stamped on the copyright page of your study guide.

<i>For ICI Office Use Only</i>	
Date	Score

Christian Service Program

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

ANSWER SHEET FOR UNIT THREE

CS1211

We hope you have enjoyed your study of the lessons in Unit Three! Please fill in all the blanks below.

Your Name

Your ICI Student Number

(Leave blank if you do not know what it is.)

Your Mailing Address

City Province or State

Country

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

The ICI office in your area will be happy to send you information about other ICI courses that are available and their cost. You may use the space below to ask for that information.

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Christian Service Program

Cut this page and send to your ICI instructor.



ANSWER SHEET FOR UNIT THREE

Blacken the correct space for each numbered item. For all questions, be sure the number beside the spaces on the answer sheet is the same as the number of the question.

1 <input type="checkbox"/> A	8 <input type="checkbox"/> A	15 <input type="checkbox"/> A
2 <input type="checkbox"/> B	9 <input type="checkbox"/> B	16 <input type="checkbox"/> B
3 <input type="checkbox"/> C	10 <input type="checkbox"/> C	17 <input type="checkbox"/> C
4 <input type="checkbox"/> D	11 <input type="checkbox"/> D	18 <input type="checkbox"/> D
5 <input type="checkbox"/> A	12 <input type="checkbox"/> A	19 <input type="checkbox"/> A
6 <input type="checkbox"/> B	13 <input type="checkbox"/> B	20 <input type="checkbox"/> B
7 <input type="checkbox"/> C	14 <input type="checkbox"/> C	

Please write below one specific comment about the unit:

.....

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CONGRATULATIONS!

You have finished this Christian Service course. We have enjoyed having you as a student and hope you will study more courses with ICI. Return this unit student report answer sheet to your ICI instructor or office in your area. You will then receive your grade on a student score report form along with a certificate or seal for this course in your program of studies.

Please print your name below as you want it on your certificate.

Name

<i>For ICI Office Use Only</i>	
Date	Score

Christian Service Program