

Believers

School of Ministry

Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things



Introduction to Ministry

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About the Believers School of Ministry

The purpose of the Believers School of Ministry is to prepare faithful believers in Jesus Christ to reach their world for Him by teaching foundational Bible principles and training believers to do the works of Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. Classes include practical hands-on training in ministry skills—such as witnessing, praying for the needs of others, and moving in the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

These lessons are designed to not only to produce Bible knowledge, but also action. As Paul said to Timothy, “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15, KJV. Notice that he said that you are to study, not just to fill your head with knowledge, but in order to be an effective worker.

As we study the Word together, I encourage you to be like the Bereans, “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.” Acts 17:11, KJV. Be respectful, receptive, and teachable, and search the Scriptures to see if these things are that are taught are true. The Word of God is the final authority!

NOTES TO TEACHERS

These classes are designed to be reproducible. Use these notes and take what you have learned to teach others. As Paul wrote to Timothy, “And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.” 2 Timothy 2:2, KJV. You can do this through one-on-one discipleship, home Bible studies, church youth groups, Sunday schools, or by starting a Believers School of Ministry in your area.

To prepare to teach these classes, go through each lesson and look up the Scripture references. Make notes on the side of each page and in the white spaces. As you pray, meditate and ponder the various scriptures presented in these teachings, think of illustrations and examples from your own Christian experience that you can use to illuminate these truths. Use your own testimonies in place of the testimonies in this manual if you wish. Make it your own! You will then find that as you share, the Word of God will come out of your heart and minister life to those who hear.

May these teachings help you to launch out into the deep to reach this world with the only message that can give eternal life and set the captives free, the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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Discovering New Life in Christ

INTRODUCTION TO BELIEVERS SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

“Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel. Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men. And straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him. And when he had gone a little further thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets. And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.” Mark 1:14-20, KJV.

Jesus preached the Good News of the Kingdom (where the King rules and the devil is defeated). He calls us to repent (turn from our sin) and believe the Gospel. He calls us to follow Him. When we follow Him, He “makes us to become” fishers of men. Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-20, Luke 24:46-49, John 20:21, Acts 1:8

WHO IS JESUS?

The Promised Messiah. Genesis 3:15, Genesis 12:3, Psalm 22, Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 9:6-7, Isaiah 11:10, Isaiah 52:13-15, Isaiah 53, Isaiah 62:11, Jeremiah 23:5, Daniel 2:34,44, Daniel 7:13-14, Micah 5:2, Zechariah 9:9-11

The Savior of the world. Luke 2:11

God in the flesh. John 1:1-14

The son of God who rose from the dead. Romans 1:4, 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

WHY DID JESUS COME TO EARTH?

To save us from our sin. Matthew 1:21

To put away sin. Hebrews 9:26-28

To seek and save the lost Luke 19:10

To give life and life more abundantly John 10:10

To destroy the works of the devil. 1 John 3:8

To deliver us from the fear of death. Hebrews 2:14-15

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

The power of God unto salvation. Romans 1:16

Jesus died for our sins, was buried, and rose again. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

God gave His Son that we might have eternal life. John 3:16

WHY DO WE NEED THE GOSPEL?

In the beginning God created everything Gen. 1:1

He created man and woman and blessed them. Gen. 1:26-28

When God created mankind, He said they were "very good." Genesis 1:31

Adam and Eve obeyed Satan and became separated from God. Genesis 3:1-8

Sin passed onto the human race. Romans 5:12, Romans 3:10,23

HOW DOES THE BIBLE DESCRIBE A NON-BELIEVER?

Alienated from the life of God. Ephesians 4:18

Dead in their trespasses and sins. Ephesians 2:1

An enemy of God. Romans 5:10

Strangers from the covenant, without hope and without God. Ephesians 2:12

Blinded by Satan. 2 Corinthians 4:3-4

Sinners and unrighteous. Rom 5:8, 2 Corinthians 6:14

Desperately wicked. Jeremiah 17:9

Under condemnation and the wrath of God. John 3:18, 36, Romans 1:18-19

Destined for the lake of fire. Revelation 20:15

Loved by God. (John 3:16, 2 Peter 3:9, Matthew 9:36, Luke 15:20, Psalm 118:1)

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT A BELIEVER?

Born again. John 3:3, 7

A child of God. John 1:12,13

A new creature. 2 Corinthians 5:17

NOTES

The righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

Converted. Acts 11:21 Acts 3:19

Saved. Rom 10:9-10

Cleansed by the blood of Jesus. Hebrews 9:14, 1 John 1:7-9, Hebrews 10:19

Has a personal relationship with God and Jesus Christ. John 17:3

Heaven bound. John 14:1-6

A Christian (follower of Christ) Acts 11:26

HOW DOES A PERSON BECOME A CHRISTIAN?

A. Admit—By admitting your sin. Rom 3:10,23

B. Believe—By believing the Good News that Jesus died for your sins and rose again. John 3:16, Romans 1:16

C. Confess—By repenting (turning away from sin) and confessing Jesus as ruler of your life. Romans 10:9-10

CAN YOU BE SURE YOU ARE SAVED?

Through the Word of God. 1 John 5:13, 2 Timothy 3:15, Romans 10:17

By the witness of the Holy Spirit. Romans 8:16, Galatians 4:6

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD AND SAVIOR TODAY?

Today is the day of salvation. 2 Corinthians 6:2

Pray this prayer from your heart:

Dear Heavenly Father, I know I have sinned and fallen short of your glory. Thank you for sending Jesus for die for my sins. I believe that Jesus rose from the dead and I confess Jesus as Lord of my life. I will follow Him. Thank you for saving me and giving me eternal life. I believe I am your child and I will live with you forever, Thank you Father, in Jesus name. Amen.

PRACTICAL EXERCISE

Be ready to give an answer of the hope that is in you. 1 Pet 3:15, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 Prepare to share a brief testimony of your salvation experience to share with another person.

YOUR TESTIMONY

NOTES

Use this page to write out your testimony. Use adjectives to describe each part. This will help you to prepare to share your testimony with others. Include the Gospel message.

“For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:” 1 Corinthians 15:3, 4, KJV.

1. What your life was like before you came to Christ.

2. How you came to Christ.

3. What your life has been like since your came to Christ.

Discovering New Life in Christ Quiz

NOTES

1. Jesus said, the Kingdom of God is at hand, _____ therefore and _____ the Gospel.
2. Jesus is called Savior because He _____ us from our _____.
3. Jesus came to destroy the works of the _____.
4. The Gospel is the _____ of God unto salvation to everyone that _____.
5. The Gospel message is that Jesus _____ for our sins, was _____, and _____ again.
6. The Bible says that _____ have sinned and come short of the glory of God.
7. Sin came into the human race through a person. Who? _____
8. The Bible says an unbeliever is:
 - a. alienated from the life of God.
 - b. dead in their trespasses and sin.
 - c. desperately wicked
 - d. loved by God
 - e. all of the above
9. The Bible says a believer in Christ is:
 - a. A good guy
 - b. Is very religious
 - c. A new creature
 - d. Has earned salvation
 - e. All of the above
10. Please give the ABCs of salvation:
_____ you are a sinner.
_____ Jesus died and rose again.
_____ Jesus as Lord of your life.
11. Can a person be sure that they are saved? _____
12. When is a good day to get saved? _____

Sharing Your Faith as a Lifestyle

The purpose of this lesson is to encourage believers to share their faith and to give the major keys to help them to reach others for Jesus.

INTRODUCTION

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.” Mark 16:15-20, KJV.

He told to go into ALL the world, including where you live.

The most effective form of evangelism is what you do everyday, where you live, where you work, where you play. It's just being an influence, a help, a blessing to people and bringing the knowledge of God through Jesus Christ to them right where they live.

80 to 90 percent of the people that come to Christ come as a result of the witness or invitation of a friend or relative. There's proclamation evangelism, which we need, there's media evangelism, advertising etc., but by far the most effective evangelism is you reaching out on a personal level to those around you.

Testimonies: Chuck and Lynn invite us to church. Marvin “Angel” influence. Farmer friend is led to visit father of a young man who attempted suicide. Son receives Christ.

Work with your local Bible-believing church. Be a team player. Be friendly. Be a witness by a holy lifestyle. Let people see Jesus in your life. Be a part of a team that makes disciples.

WE ARE ALL CALLED TO MINISTER Ephesians 4:11-16

v 12 AMP ...[that they should do] the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church)

Most Christians are not vocational ministers, but all are called to minister.

You are called to be a witness for Christ. Acts 1:8

God has left you in this world for a purpose. Jn. 17:15

You are called to the ministry of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

If every Christian reaches one person each year, the Church doubles.

Tommy Hicks vision: Great giant shaking himself of debris and junk. Then he melts into the earth. Rivets of gold and silver flow all over the earth. Lifestyle evangelism starts with your own relationship with God. Ordinary believers can do extraordinary things as they come to God and believe His Word. Read more in “You Can Touch the World,” page 68.

LIFESTYLE EVANGELISM IS ABOUT LOVING PEOPLE

Some people’s religion makes them mean. You don’t see that in the ministry of Jesus. He forgave people and then challenged them to go and sin no more. He ate with the sinners and showed them a better way. Be nice!

“For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world...” John 3:17, KJV.

Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.” John 8:11, KJV.

Show mercy! That does not mean that we don’t talk about sin. The Bible says that we save some with fear. But there’s a difference between telling the truth and beating someone over the head with it. Love the people! Bless people! It opens the door to share Jesus. It’s the life you live, the kindness you show, the prayers you pray.

“...not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?” Romans 2:4.

Zaccheas: Just sitting there being Jesus! Zacchaeus repents, receives salvation. Luke 19:10

Testimony: Hindu woman on airplane. Wall up. Wall down. Asked, “Has anyone ever shared with you the Gospel?” She said “No.” I shared Gospel and how to receive Christ.

We are called to release forgiveness to people. John 20:21-23, KJV.

Jesus did not hold people’s sins against them. Do that, and it will free you up to minister to them, rather than judging them. Your relationship with God can be a bridge to someone to find Jesus as their Lord and Savior. See 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

BE PREPARED TO SHARE THE GOSPEL

You can minister out of a place of peace. Rom 5:1

By having your feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace. Ephesians 6:15

Be ready to give an answer to those who ask you. 1 Peter 3:15, KJV.

Study to show yourself to be approved. But don’t wait until you know the whole Bible to share Jesus. 2 Tim 2:15

Survey—most evangelical pastors thought that their people knew how to share Christ. but the survey indicated that most people in the churches did not know how to share Christ. Study the Gospel until it becomes second nature.

THE SIMPLICITY OF THE GOSPEL The Gospel is the power. Romans 1:16, KJV.

NOTES

1. God's Creation—God created everything and made man perfect and sinless. Genesis 1:1, 26-28

2. Satan's Deception—Man listened to Satan, disobeyed, and invited sin and brought death into the human race. Genesis 3:1-8, Romans 5:12, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23

3. Christ's Substitution—Jesus Christ the Son of God died on a cross to pay the penalty for our sin and rose from the dead. John 3:16, John 14:6, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Romans 5:8,

4. Our Restoration—When we repent and receive Him as the risen Lord and Savior, He forgives us, comes into our lives in by the Holy Spirit, transforms us into children of God, and gives us divine purpose. John 1:12, Romans 10:9-10, Rev. 3:20, Mark 1:15 repent and believe the Gospel.

Some ways to Share the Gospel:

- Share your testimony
- Give a tract or use a tract (Story of shopkeeper and Tom)
- Invite them to church (1 out of 4 say they would come if invited)
- By sharing scriptures with them (Romans Road for example) Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, Romans 5:8, Romans 10:9-10

SHARING YOUR PERSONAL STORY

The Holy Spirit empowers you to be a witness Acts 1:8, KJV.

Witness (definition)—a. One who can give a firsthand account of something seen, heard, or experienced: a witness to the accident. b. One who furnishes evidence. c. Something that serves as evidence; a sign. Your personal story is the greatest testimony to the power of the Gospel. Tell them what God has done for you. Tell them how God gave you peace, healed your marriage, delivered you from drugs. revealed His love, etc.

Return to your own house and tell people what the Lord has done. Luke 8:39-40

WAYS TO INITIATE A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE LORD

Testimony: Pray and tell the Lord, I'm open for business today! Be sensitive to the opportunities. Chinese woman at Chicago airport. Look for those open doors. It means God is preparing them to receive from you. Problems. Spiritual things. References to God. Medical issues. Relationship problems. The leading of the Holy Spirit in you. Always be ready!

In some cases, people see something different about your life and they ask you about it. In other cases, with the help of the Lord you can guide the conversion. Pray: Lord, open the door, open their heart, open my mouth. You might ask them about their religious background. Don't criticize their church. Tell them about Jesus. Listen to them. When you listen to them, they will be more likely to listen to you. Also, you can share with them

about your life, interests, family, etc. This helps to bring the walls down. Relax! Be normal and share the Good News.

Use something to transition to a spiritual conversation. Like Jesus with the woman at the well. For me it might be what I do for a living. I will tell them, "I go all over the world telling people about how they can know that they are going to heaven." For Susan, "Has your pastor been in to visit you?"

Identify the "felt need" in their life. either by something that they say or do or by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. This is often an "access point" to a person's heart. Then pray for the need that is in their life. The Holy Spirit can move and God can open their heart.

Sometimes you might use the direct approach. Ask them, "Have you ever thought about where you will spend eternity?" If they say heaven, you may want to ask them why they believe that. Some people have a false assurance based on church membership, baptism, confirmation. Others may believe that everyone goes to heaven. Study these scriptures to prepare yourself. John 14:6, John 1:12, Hebrews 9:27

Do what works for you. It's based on who you are and what Jesus means to you and what is comfortable and normal in the situation. You are unique and the person you are sharing with is unique. The Holy Spirit will help you!

Note: It's good to be comfortable. But if you can't be comfortable, share anyway. Edward Kimball was being led by God to share with a young shoe salesman. Finally, he very nervously shared the Gospel. The young man's name was Dwight Moody, and he became one of the greatest evangelists of modern times.

LEADING PEOPLE IN A PRAYER OF SALVATION

Ask them: Would you like to know that your sins are forgiven and that you will go to heaven when you die?

A prayer for salvation: Dear God, I have sinned and I need forgiveness. I believe Jesus died for my sins on the cross and rose again. Today I turn from my sin and I receive Jesus as my Lord and Savior. Thank you for forgiving me and making me your child today. I call you Father, in Jesus name. Amen. (Based on Romans 10:9-10)

Then they can be baptized in water and filled with the Holy Spirit and find a place in Christ's body, the church. You can be a friend and help them along the way by being their friend, bringing them to church, sharing what you know about the Word of God and walking with Jesus.

PRACTICAL EXERCISE

Share your testimony with one other person. Include Jesus' death for our sins, burial and resurrection, and lead them in a prayer of salvation.

HOMEWORK

Study and and meditate the scriptures in this lesson.

Sharing Your Faith as a Lifestyle Quiz

NOTES

Jesus said, Go into _____ the world and preach the Gospel.

True or False 80 to 90 percent of the people that come to Christ come as the result of the witness of a friend or relative.

You are called to be a _____ for Christ and have been given the ministry of _____.

4. According to 2 Peter 3:9, how many people does God want to save?

According to Ephesians 4:11-12 in the Amplified version, who is supposed to do the work of the ministry? _____.

The Bible says to _____ to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed and also be _____ to give an answer to every man about the hope that lies in you.

What are some of the ways you can share the Gospel with others?

What is your favorite scripture(s) for sharing the Gospel?

9. The simplicity of the Gospel is:

- a. God made man perfect and _____.
- b. Man _____ and brought sin and _____ to the human race.
- c. Jesus Christ the Son of God _____ on a cross for our sins and _____ again.
- d. When we receive Him as _____ and _____, He will come into our lives by the Holy Spirit and give us the right to become _____ of God.

10. In your own words, write out a simple prayer you could use to lead some one to salvation based on Romans 10:9-10:

Building a Foundation for Faith

The purpose of this lesson is to build a strong foundation for faith from the Word of God so that we can be secure and confident in our faith and able to present a strong witness for Christ.

“If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?” Psalms 11:3, KJV.

Four foundations we will be talking about:

1. The foundation of Jesus Christ.
2. The foundation of hearing and doing the word of God.
3. The foundation of the apostles in the early Church.
4. The foundation of the doctrines of Christ.

JESUS THE ROCK

The church is built on the revelation of Jesus Christ. Matthew 16:13-18

No other foundation can be laid. 1 Corinthians 3:11

He is the stone rejected by the elders and the only name by which we can be saved.
Acts 4:11-12

He is a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation, your stability. Isaiah 28:16

The Lord is my rock and my defense, I will not be moved. Psalm 62:2

He who trusts in his own heart is a fool. Proverbs 28:26

We are not to trust in our own righteousness. Luke 18:9-14

THE FOUNDATION OF HEARING AND DOING THE WORD OF GOD

If you hear His Word and practice it, you will build your house on the rock. Matthew 7:21-27

The Lord calls us to depart from iniquity (sinfulness) and He knows if we truly belong to Him. 2 Timothy 2:19

By confessing God's Word, we can build confidence. He has said, so that we may say. Hebrews 13:5-6, Joshua 1:8-9

Don't cast away your confidence. Hebrews 10:35-36

Spend time in God's Word every day. Read it, study it, meditate it, and put it in to practice. Then you will have a strong foundation for daily life.

THE FOUNDATION OF THE APOSTLES IN THE EARLY CHURCH

The Bible speaks of the church being built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone. Ephesians 2:20

The apostle Peter established the foundation. Acts 2:37-42

In verse 38 he says:

1. Repent
2. Be baptized every one of you
3. You shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

“And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.” 1 John 5:8, KJV.

An awakening in Tolna, North Dakota came through preaching this.

Then they were baptized and continued steadfastly in:

1. The Apostles Doctrine (teaching of the word)
2. Fellowship (sharing in common with other Christians)
3. Breaking bread (the communion meal)
4. Prayers (talking to God together and alone)

THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST Hebrews 6:1-3 (Christianity 101, yet neglected any many churches)

Laying again (Greek, kataballo—casting down or overthrowing) He is saying to not cast down or overthrow these foundations, but rather build your life on them. These are essentials for a strong Christian life.

1. Repentance from dead works. Mark 1:14-15, Luke 13:3,5, Acts 3:19
2. Faith toward God Ephesians 2:8, Romans 5:1, Romans 10:17, Hebrews 11:1
3. The doctrine of baptisms...

The root of this word means to dip or immerse.

The average person who reads the word “baptism” in the Bible assumes that it means water baptism. But there are three foundational baptisms referred to in the Bible.

1. Baptism (immersion) into the Body of Christ. 1 Corinthian 12:13

2. Baptism (immersion) into water, identifying with Christ in his death, burial and resurrection. Matthew 3:13-15, Mark 16:16, Romans 6:4, Colossians 2:12

3. Baptism (immersion) into the Holy Spirit Matthew 3:11, Acts 1:4-5

Type of Baptism	Baptizer	Baptized Into
<i>Body of Christ</i>	<i>Holy Spirit</i>	<i>Body of Christ</i>
<i>Water</i>	<i>Minister or Believer</i>	<i>Water</i>
<i>Holy Spirit</i>	<i>Jesus</i>	<i>Holy Spirit</i>

4. Laying on of hands.

For healing. Mark 16:18

For the baptism of the Holy Spirit Acts 8:19

For ordination into the ministry. 1 Timothy 5:22

5. The resurrection of the dead. 1 Corinthians 15:51-54, Daniel 12:2, John 5:28-29

6. Eternal judgement.

Judgement after death. No reincarnation. Hebrews 9:28

It's eternal (permanent). Luke 16:26, Mark 9:44,46,48

Let us build upon this foundation, regardless of what man or tradition says, and let us go on to perfection (maturity).

TODAY'S EXERCISE

Share your story and include His story (the cross and the resurrection). Tell the person about the need for repentance and believing in Jesus; And lead them in a prayer of salvation.

We will practice in class, then begin to step out during the week. We have found that the law of inertia applies to witnessing. If you do nothing, you tend to continue to do nothing. But if you do something, you will continue to do something...and perhaps more. Begin to step out, even if it is quietly leaving a tract somewhere. Also, begin to pray for those who are away from Christ in your circle of friends and family. Pray for our Father to draw them, and to send laborers to them. He may send you! List the names of friends and family who need Jesus in their lives. Begin to pray for them.

HOMEWORK

Read and meditate the scriptures in this lesson.

Building a Foundation for Faith Quiz

NOTES

1. The one true foundation of the church is _____.
2. We are to _____ in the Lord and not in ourselves.
3. If you hear God's Word and _____ it, you will build your house on the rock.
4. Some of the ways to relate to God Word are:
 - a. Reading
 - b. Studying
 - c. Meditating
 - d. Practicing
 - e. All of the above
5. Peter said, _____ and be _____ every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, and you shall receive the gift of the _____.
6. The early church continued steadfastly in:
 - a. The apostle's doctrine
 - b. Fellowship
 - c. Breaking of Bread
 - d. Prayers
 - e. All of the above
7. True or False Repentance is optional for salvation.
8. By _____ are you saved through _____ and that not of yourself, it is the gift of God.
9. John truly baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the _____.
10. True or False Laying on of hands is a deeper truth reserved for mature Christians.
11. True or False When Jesus comes back, the dead will be raised.
12. Once a person leaves their physical body and dies, they will face judgement and that judgement will stand throughout _____.

Nurturing New Believers

The purpose of this lesson is to help God's people to cooperate with God's plan for nurturing new believers in the church.

GOD COMPARES THE CHURCH TO A NURSING MOTHER

Isaiah 66:10-13 Amplified Bible (AMP)

10 Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice for joy with her, all you who mourn over her,

11 That you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breasts, that you may drink deeply and be delighted with the abundance and brightness of her glory.

12 For thus says the Lord: Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream; then you will be nursed, you will be carried on her hip and trotted [lovingly bounced up and down] on her [God's maternal] knees.

13 As one whom his mother comforts, so will I comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

Jerusalem—a type of the church, a nursing mother. New believers need nourishment from their mother (the Church), and affectionate love and care.

THE NEEDS OF A NEWBORN CHILD

A documentary on hungry children in Africa stated that the first couple of years are the most critical to a child's development. They need proper nourishment during that time or they will have problems throughout their lives. Without proper care, it will become very difficult for them to become productive members of society. So this becomes one of the most critical issues in bringing hope for the future for Africa. They need:

1. PROPER FOOD—macro-nutrients and micro-nutrients. Macro-nutrients (protein, carbohydrates, calories, etc.) are by far the most important, but Micro-nutrients (vitamins, minerals, etc.) are also important.
2. LOVE AND CARE—The African children that lacked personal attention, love, care and concern were warped emotionally.

Likewise, if the spiritual children that are born again in our churches lack vital nutrients and loving care in the beginning days of their walk with God, their growth will be stunted and they will become warped emotionally. It is extremely important that we provide for their needs in the beginning days of their walk with God.

Being a nursing mother is not an easy task. It can be demanding, physically and emotionally. New babies and new believers are hungry, demanding, selfish, fussy, sensitive, easily hurt, envious, jealous, and sometimes bite. It can be frustrating and it requires patience. You've got to keep loving them, giving them milk, feeding them on the basics until they can grow and begin to feed on the Word themselves.

New believers grow through milk. 1 Peter 2:2 Milk is pre-digested food. It's our job to eat a good diet ourselves so that we can produce adequate milk for the new babies in the church. One of the biggest things is that we need to be an example for new believers and model before them how to live the Christian life. Some things are more caught than taught. Paul said, "What you see in me do..." Philippians 4:9 Follow me as I follow Christ. 1 Corinthians 11:1 "Those things you have : seen in me do..." 2 Timothy 2:2

Tips for caring for new believers and following up on visitors to our churches...

- We should have a genuine care for them, but also let them breathe.
- We should give them the basics of the faith.
- We should progressively teach them how to find answers in the Word.
- We should be there to answer questions for them.
- We should share testimonies about how God has worked in our own lives.

The process of discipling new believers is not always formal. A pastor told me about a man who came over to his house each day for an hour or so to hang out with him when he was a new believer. One day the new believer asked, "What is this speaking in tongues business?" Then the man taught him the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes the discipleship process takes place when we are just hanging out together or working together, etc. We can show them how to pray, how to seek the Lord, how to live out the Word in our daily life, how to handle relationships, etc by precept and example.

Use wisdom in your relationships with people of the opposite sex. It is scriptural for men to primarily disciple men and women to primarily disciple women. (1 John 2:13, Titus 2:3-4) One reason is that the bond can become strong and then cause a temptation or a misinterpretation, especially for an immature Christian.

Sometimes we need advice and help in knowing how to care for new believers. My daughter's baby was crying all the time, not sleeping at night. A team of medical professionals checked her out, recommended changing her feeding program. Fixed problem, baby sleeps 11 hours and is much happier. Godly pastors can help us to learn how to care, also.

BASIC TEACHING NEEDED TO PRODUCE GROWTH IN NEW BELIEVERS

All the foundational truths from the previous lesson.

1. The foundation of Jesus Christ Himself. 1 Corinthians 3:11
2. The foundation of hearing and doing the word of God. Matthew 7:21-27
3. The foundation of the apostles in the early Church. Acts 2:37-42
4. The foundation of the doctrines of Christ. Hebrews 6:1-3

How to have a devotional life. Spending time with God.

Life through Prayer.

Worship. John 4:23,24, Ephesians 5:18-20

Petition. Philippians 4:6, Mark 11:24

Intercession. 1 Timothy 2:1-6, Ephesians 6:18-19

Praying in other tongues. 1 Corinthians 14:2,4, Jude 20

Life in the Word of God.

Reading. 1 Timothy 4:13

Studying. 2 Timothy 2:15

Confession and Meditation. 1 Timothy 4:15, Hebrews 10:23, Joshua 1:8

Practicing. James 1:22

Understanding the Bible. The Old Testament and the New Testament

The 66 books of the Bible. Sections:

- The Pentateuch (Five books of Moses)
- History
- Wisdom and Poetic Books
- Prophets
- The Gospels
- Acts
- The Epistles (only part written directly to the church)
- Prophetic (Book of Revelation)

It is not enough to tell new believers that they need to pray and read the Bible. We also must help them to develop an appetite for the Word of God and for the Holy Spirit. Feed them the sincere milk (pre-digested food) of the Word and model a life in the Spirit before them. Show them how to pray and seek the Lord and live in the Word.

TEACHINGS FOR GROWTH AND MATURITY

We are to grow from being infants to children to adolescents to adults. We all are in a maturing process in different areas of our lives. As we mature in the Lord, we are called to get off the bottle and to teach others. Hebrews 5:11-14

We can grow in grace by:

Growing in the Knowledge of Christ. Ephesians 4:13, 2 Peter 1:1-4

Becoming a spiritual rather than a carnal Christian. They were saved, but still baby Christians (carnal). Transformation is needed. 1 Corinthians 3:1-4

Understanding Spirit, Soul and Body. 1 Thessalonians 5:23

Renewing the mind. Romans 12:1-2

Putting on the New Man In your daily life. Ephesians 4:22-24

Praying the Ephesians Prayers. Ephesians. 1:15-23 & 3:14-21

Comprehending the role of repentance, forgiveness, and holiness for the Christian believer. 2 Corinthians 7:10, 1 Peter 1:13-16, 1 John 1:9

Renouncing all ties to spiritual and physical wickedness. 2 Corinthians 4:2, 2 Corinthians 7:1, Acts 8:18-23

Developing our faith. Romans 10:17

Putting on the armor of God. Ephesians 6:10-19

Walking in Love. 1 Corinthians 13 (Amplified), 1 John 1-5

Developing healthy human relationships. Ephesians 5:21-6:9

Enjoying our relationship with God! Knowing Jesus and growing in His grace are tremendous blessings. Don't live under a heavy yoke of religion, condemnation and spiritual bondage. Enjoy your own personal relationship with God and share that joy with others around you. Matthew 11:28-30, Psalm 37:4

Learning about who we are in Christ.

- New Creatures. 2 Corinthians 5:17
- The Righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21
- Children of God. 1 John 3:1-3
- Heirs of God. Galatians 4:7, Romans 8:17
- Accepted in the Beloved. Ephesians 1:6
- One spirit with the Lord. 1 Corinthians 6:17
- Walking in the fruit of the recreated human spirit. John 15:1-13, Galatians 5:22-23

Satan is going to make his play for the lives of new believers. It may be through temptation of sexual immorality or greed. It may be through disappointment or offense toward other Christians. It may be through condemnation and defeat. We need to help them to protect themselves from the onslaught of the enemy and become overcomers in life.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Practice sharing your testimony and the Gospel message with someone. Lead them in a prayer of salvation and make arrangements to meet with them or bring them to a Bible Study where they can grow in the faith.

HOMEWORK

Read, study, meditate and practice the scriptures in this lesson. Make them a part of your thinking and vocabulary.

Nurturing New Believers Quiz

NOTES

1. In Isaiah 66, God compares Jerusalem, a type of the the Church to:
 - a. sheep
 - b. a leopard
 - c. a nursing mother
 - d. none of the above

2. Two basis needs of both natural and spiritual children are _____ and _____.

3. True or False. Taking care of spiritual children is easy work.

4. The Bible calls the basic food needed for new believers _____.

5. One of the most important things we can do for new believers is to be an _____ of the Christian life before them.

6. Which of the following things should we do for new believers.
 - a. Give them the basics of the faith.
 - b. Teach them to find answers in the word of God
 - c. Be available to answer questions for them.
 - d. Share testimonies from our own Christian experience.
 - e. All of the above.

7. True or False. The process of discipling new believers should always be in an organized setting with structured teaching.

8. Basic teaching to help new believers grow includes:
 - a. Foundational doctrines from the Word of God.
 - b. How to have a devotional life.
 - c. Understanding the Bible.
 - d. How to grow in grace.
 - e, All of the above.

9. True or False. It is important for new believers to learn who they are in Christ.

10. We need to help new believers to protect themselves from the onslaught of the _____ and become _____ in life.

11. True or false. Nurturing new believers should be left to professional ministers.

Receiving Power to Change the World

The purpose of this lesson is to discover what the Bible tells us about the third person of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit and His gifts and to encourage all of us to press into a closer relationship with Father God in order to be witnesses for Jesus in the earth.

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” Acts 1:8, KJV.

RECEIVING POWER TO BE A WITNESS

Some people think receiving the Holy Spirit is about emotionalism, but in reality it's about power. You shall receive power when? You shall be witnesses (proof producers) where?

Jesus said wait until you be endued (clothed) with power from on high. Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4,5

Paul ministered, not in enticing words of man's wisdom, but in the power and demonstration of the Spirit. 1 Corinthians 2:4

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A PERSON

He is God. Matthew 28:19, John 15:26, 2 Corinthians 13:14, 1 John 5:7

He convicts the world of sin. John 16:8-11

He is a Comforter, Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener and Standby. John 14:16 Amplified version.

He guides us into all truth. John 16:13

He helps us overcome our weaknesses and helps us to live the Christian life. Romans 8:26

He insures that we are not alone. John 14:18, John 16:7

He brings the Father and Son to us and speaks their words. John 14:15-26

He imparts the knowledge of our salvation. Romans 8:16, Galatians 4:6, Ephesians 1:13

He imparts God's love. Romans 5:5

He is sensitive and easily grieved. Ephesians 4:30

He desires communion (koinonia—fellowship, association, community, joint participation, intimacy) with you. 2 Corinthians 13:14

THREE LEVELS OF WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN DO IN OUR LIVES

1 WITH YOU. Jesus disciples had the Holy Spirit with them. The Holy Spirit will also work in the lives of unbelievers to bring them to Christ. John 14:17, John 16:7-11

2. IN YOU. The water that I give him will be in you a well. John 4:14, 1 John 4:4

3. UPON YOU. Out of your belly shall flow rivers of living water. John 7:37-38, Acts 1:8

The same Holy Spirit that convicts us and brings us salvation also empowers us to be witnesses. There is no difference in substance in water in a well and water in a river. The difference is quantity and force.

We are to continually be filled with the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 5:18, Acts 4:31

THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES GIFTS TO HELP US MINISTER (more in lesson seven)

Gifts of utterance (tongues, interpretation of tongues and prophecy) 1 Corinthians 12:7-11)

Gifts of revelation (word of knowledge, word of wisdom, discerning of spirits)

Gifts of power (gifts of healing, working of miracles, gift of faith)

THE EARLY CHURCH WAS BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

The scriptures speak of three foundational baptisms:

1. Baptism (immersion) into the Body of Christ. 1 Corinthian 12:13

2. Baptism (immersion) into water, identifying with Christ in his death, burial and resurrection. Matthew 3:13-15, Mark 16:16, Romans 6:4, Colossians 2:12, Acts 19:4-5

3. Baptism (immersion) into the Holy Spirit Matthew 3:11, Acts 1:4-5

The disciples had already received the Holy Spirit in salvation. John 20:22

But they were told to wait for something more. Acts 1:4-5

THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME UPON THEM IN POWER

They were waiting on the Lord in prayer and in unity. Acts 2:1

The Holy Spirit came in wind and fire. Acts 2:2-3

They spoke in other languages as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4

1. DEVOTIONAL PRAYER. I would that ye all spoke in tongues. (as a devotional prayer language) 1 Corinthians 14:2-5, Jude 20
2. SIGN. Tongues as a sign to them that believe not. 1 Corinthians 14:22, Acts 2:5-13
3. MINISTRY. Do all speak in tongues? (context is ministry) 1 Corinthians 12:30 It is given for a message in the assembly (church) ! Corinthians 12:10, 1 Corinthians 14:5-6,13,18-19
4. FOR INTERCESSION with groanings. Romans 8:26-27

Some of the controversy around tongues is because these uses are not distinguished.

Speaking in unknown tongues is a gateway into moving into the other gifts. ! Corinthians 14:1-6

Testimonies: Tom on vacation, pastoring, Dave Roberson, Jackie Pullinger in Hong Kong.

As we will see, in three places in the book of Acts when believers received the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Scriptures specifically declare that they spoke in unknown languages. In one place where it doesn't mention tongues, it is obvious that something miraculous happened, because a man wanted to pay money have the gift of imparting the Holy Spirit to others. We know also that Paul received the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 9:17) and later said, "I speak in tongues more than ye all." 1 Corinthians 14:18

Another reason for controversy is that some people don't believe that the Holy Spirit is doing the same things He did in the early church. Hebrews 13:8 Let's just believe the Bible and don't fight about it. God does not want us to argue about the Holy Spirit, He wants us to enjoy the Holy Spirit.

THE BIBLICAL PATTERN IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

1. The initial outpouring in the book of Acts. They had already received the Holy Spirit when Jesus breathed upon them. So obviously this was something more. Acts 2:1-4
2. The Samaritan believers receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. They had already been saved and baptized. Acts 8:5-17
3. The Gentiles simultaneously receive salvation and the gift of the Holy Spirit and then are water baptized. Acts 10:44-48
4. The disciples as Ephesus receive the gift of the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands and speak in tongues and prophesy. Acts 19:1-6

THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL OPEN MANY BLESSINGS IN YOUR LIFE

Magnifying God. Acts 2:11, Acts 10:46, 1 Peter 2:9

Unveiling of truth. 1 Corinthians 14:2,4 Example: Oral Roberts receives direction.

Boldness to be a witness. Luke 22:54-62, Acts 2:14, Acts 4:29-31

Supernatural gifts to help others. 1 Corinthians 12:7-12

A greater awareness of the presence of God. Acts 3:19

HOW YOU CAN RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. Receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. Roman 10:9-10, John 1:12
2. Ask for the Holy Spirit and believer you receive. Luke 11:9-13, Mark 11.24
3. Yield yourself to the Holy Spirit and His gifts. God fills those who are hungry. Acts 2:4, 1 Corinthians 14:32, Matthew 5:6, Jeremiah 29:13

Remember the Holy Spirit is a person. If you are a child of God, He already lives in you. He wants to give you gifts. Do you want the Holy Spirit to have a greater role in your life and ministry? Ask the Father and He will give you the gift of the Holy Spirit. Whether you speak in unknown tongues or manifest other gifts immediately or not, just believe God's promise and receive all He has for you. Yield yourself to God in prayer. The Holy Spirit gives the inspiration. You do the speaking!

A PRAYER TO RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Dear Father, I thank you for your Son Jesus. I believe He died for me and rose again. Jesus is my Lord and I yield my life to Him. Father, you said if I would ask, you would give me the Holy Spirit and He would empower me to be a witness. I ask you Father to fill me with your Holy Spirit. Empower me to be a witness. I will receive all that you have for me. I believe I will speak in other languages, and move in the gifts of the Spirit according to your will in Jesus name. Now I yield myself to the Holy Spirit, in Jesus name.

PRACTICAL EXERCISE

Share about the the gift of the Holy Spirit with others by sharing the simple truths in this lesson and praying with them. Lead them in the above prayer and tell them to begin speaking from their heart, not using their native language. Lay hands on them and pray quietly with them in the Spirit. Do not scream, rock, or push. Encourage them to speak in an unknown language and rejoice with them as they begin. If they do not immediately speak, encourage them to believe in the promise and continue to seek the Lord for the manifestation of speaking in unknown languages.

HOMEWORK

Study and meditate on these scriptures on the Holy Spirit. Practice yielding yourself more and more to Him in praying in unknown languages.

Receiving Power to Change the World Quiz

NOTES

1. The Holy Spirit is a:

- a. a thing
- b. an influence
- c. a person
- d. none of the above

2. True or False. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is primarily an emotional experience.

3. Which of these words describe the Holy Spirit:

- a. God
- b. Comforter
- c. Advocate
- d. Strengthener
- e. All of the above

4. In John 4, Jesus described the Holy Spirit as a _____ of water springing up to eternal life. In John 7, he said of the Spirit, out of your belly (innermost being) shall flow _____ of living water.

5. Describe 3 foundational baptisms:

Baptism into the _____ of Christ.

Baptism in _____.

Baptism in the _____.

6. True or False. The Holy Spirit lives in every believer in Christ.

7. Some of the ways that gift of tongues (unknown languages) are manifested are:

- a. As a sign to unbelievers.
- b. Devotional prayer language.
- c. Message for the church which needs to be interpreted.
- d. All of the above.

7. Paul said, "I speak in _____ more than you all.

8. Jesus said, "You will receive _____ when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be _____ unto me in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the uttermost parts of the earth.

9. The keys to receiving the gift or baptism of the Holy Spirit are:

- a. Receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.
- b. Ask the Father for the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- c. Yield yourself to the Holy Spirit.
- d. All of the above.

Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit

The purpose of this lesson is to help the believer in Christ to cultivate the fruit of the Spirit so that they can be an effective witness and glorify God in their daily life.

WE ARE IN A WAR! (weeds vs. fruit)

“This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.” Galatians 5:16-26, KJV.

On our farm, we are trying to produce good fruit. But every year, the weeds keep coming up. We must pull the weeds and nurture the fruit. It’s best to get started early and to be thorough and consistent. Otherwise, the weeds grow and multiply, and the crop is hindered. The gifts of the Spirit can come instantly. But the fruit of the Spirit must be cultivated and developed throughout your lifetime. It’s called growing in godly character. In order to win the war outside, we must win the war inside. The flesh lusts against the Spirit and Spirit lusts against the flesh. Lust—strong desire.

Paul talked about this war, saying in my flesh is nothing good. Romans 7:18-25, But the law of the Spirit of life makes us free. Roman 8:1-4

This battle will continue throughout this life. When Jesus returns, we will be like him. We will have redeemed bodies, but until then we have to contend with the flesh. Romans 8:23

WORKS OF THE FLESH (weed identification) Genesis 3:18

FLESH—he’s talking here about the sinful element in man’s nature, because of his descent from Adam. A related word in the new testament is “carnal” or fleshly. When a Christian is carnal, it is a sign of immaturity. 1 Corinthians 3:1-3

1. Sexual sins...

ADULTERY—sexual intercourse with the spouse of another or someone other than your spouse.

FORNICATION—sexual intercourse outside of marriage.

UNCLEANNESS—morally filthy, impure, lewd, including homosexual behavior, pornography, crude speech, and thoughts.

LASCIVIOUSNESS—excess, absence of restraint, shameless conduct

2. Spiritual sins...

IDOLATRY—worshipping or serving idols (an image to represent a false god); a sin of the mind and heart against God. Exodus 20:3 first commandment. a root issue.

WITCHCRAFT—or sorcery (Greek: pharmakia) the use of medicine, drugs, spells; incantations, appeals to occult powers with the provision of charms (object said to have magic powers), amulets (object or jewelry thought to give protection), in order to supposedly win favor with or protect one from demonic powers. Occult—(definition) supernatural, mystical, or magical beliefs, practices, or phenomena. The root is “secret.”

3. Relationship sins...

HATRED—enmity (the verb for enemy), the opposite of agape love.

VARIANCE—(contentions) to cut in two, cause division

EMULATIONS—(jealousy) jealousy or feeling or showing envy of someone or their achievements and advantages

WRATH—hot anger or passion; an outburst of wrath from inward indignation

STRIFE—(selfish ambitions) contention; the expression of enmity; debates

SEDITIONS—a standing apart; dissension, division

HERESIES—a choice; choosing an opinion; especially a self-willed opinion that is contrary to the truth of God’s word, and leads to division and formation of sects.

ENVYINGS—the feeling of displeasure produced by witnessing or hearing of the advantage or prosperity of others, including the desire to deprive them of what they have.

MURDERS—killing or slaughter

DRUNKEDNESS—habitual intoxication; to be drunk. Intoxicate—(root: toxic, to poison) to cause someone to lose control of their faculties or behavior.

REVELLINGS—carousing, behaving in noisy way, especially with dancing as a result of plentiful drinking. (and SUCH LIKE, meaning there are more.)

Wack the weeds and nurture the fruit.

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT (fruit identification)

FRUIT—the produce of trees, fields, or the earth by the inherent energy of the living organism(s). Likewise the fruit of the Spirit is produced by the life of Christ within the Christian believer. The life-force is in every believer to produce fruit. This accentuates the importance of the teaching of who we are in Christ. We are new creatures, so we can produce Christ-like fruit. “For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.” Ephesians 5:8-10, KJV. Producing the fruit of the Spirit is normal for the Christian.

LOVE—apape, the God-kind of love, not based on performance or what we can get. It is long-suffering and patient towards those who provoke and injure us. We are not capable of this kind of love without the help of the Holy Spirit. All of the fruit of the Spirit flows out of this fruit.

The kind of love that Jesus demonstrated on Calvary. Romans 5:8

It is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Romans 5:5

What is love? 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Demonstrates that we have passed from death to life. 1 John 3:14

So people can know that you that are Jesus’ disciples. John 13:34-35

JOY—abiding happiness, not because of circumstances, but because of God’s love. When God makes his salvation real to us, joy and thanksgiving spring out of our spirits.

It’s our strength. Nehemiah 8:10

It is available in spite of suffering. 1 Thessalonians 1:6

It comes when we believe in Him. 1 Peter 1:8

PEACE—the Holy Spirit brings this spiritual substance to us by an inner assurance that all is well with our soul.

It comes from Jesus by the Holy Spirit. John 14:25-27

It comes in spite of troubles. John 16:33

Jesus is the prince of peace (with God, in hearts, and among men). Isaiah 9:6-7

It comes when we cast our care on him and let him know our needs. 1 Peter 5:7, Philippians 4:6-8

LONGSUFFERING—(or patience) to bear pains or trials calmly and without complaint, to be steadfast despite opposition, difficulty or adversity, to manifest forbearance under provocation or strain.

GENTLENESS—(or kindness) goodness of heart, pleasant, gracious, disposed to be helpful, a sympathetic nature. A kind person relieves the suffering of others in their daily life, by a good word, a smile, an understanding heart, putting people in the best light. Colossians 3:12-14

GOODNESS—the moral quality of being good in character and beneficial, including such characteristics as being upright, dependable, generous, honest, and pure. In other words, more like Jesus. Ephesians 5:8-11, Romans 15:14

FAITH—The Greek is faith—a firm persuasion, a conviction based upon hearing, faith in God and His message. In contrast, faith as a GIFT of the Spirit is special faith to believe God in a particular situation.

MEEKNESS—(gentleness) inwrought grace of the soul, the temper of spirit in which we accept God's dealings with us as good; it is closely linked with the word for humility, toward God and before men. 1 Peter 3:4,15, important for evangelism.

TEMPERANCE—(self-control) the root of the Greek word is strength; the controlling power of the will, under the influence of the power of the Holy Spirit, to avoid abuse of natural pleasures and to bring our human desires, impulses, passions and appetites under control. How many ministries and lives have been destroyed by the lack of this fruit of the Spirit? Titus 1:7-9

Greek definitions are primarily from Vines Expository Dictionary of NT Words.

SOME BIBLICAL INSTRUCTION FOR CULTIVATING FRUIT

Partake of the divine nature by building upon the promises of God. 2 Peter 1:3-11, 2 Peter 3:18

Bring forth fruit by abiding in the vine, letting God's Word live in you, and by receiving the pruning of the Lord in the seasons of your life. John 15:1-8

PRACTICAL EXERCISE

Pray for one another for weed identification, habitual abiding in Christ, spiritual growth, and fruitfulness in the Christian life. Take time to pray in the Spirit, wait upon the Lord, and hear what God is saying to your fellow believers in Christ. Do not embarrass them.

HOMEWORK

Study and meditate on these scriptures and talk to the Lord about cleansing, abiding and fruitfulness. Train yourself to walk in the fruit of the spirit. Pull the weeds and nurture the fruit. "For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:" Ephesians 5:8, KJV.

Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit Quiz

NOTES

1. Walk in the _____ and you will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh.
2. The battle against sinful tendencies will be over when we have a _____ body.
3. We must _____ the weeds and _____ the fruit.
4. The works of the flesh include:
 - a. Sexual sins.
 - b. Spiritual sins.
 - c. Relationship sins.
 - d. All of the above.
5. The fruit of the Spirit is produced by the _____ of Christ in the believer.
6. Agape love is the _____-kind of love.
7. True or false. Joy comes only when the circumstances are right in your life.
8. _____ is the inward assurance that all is well with your soul.
9. We partake of the divine nature by building on the _____ of God.
10. True or false. Pruning is not necessary in the Christian life.

Moving in the Gifts of the Spirit

The purpose of this lesson is to inspire, encourage and train the believer to move in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We will give a definition of each gift and have a time of practice at the end of the session.

“Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.”
1 Corinthians 12:1-11, KJV.

GIFTS—charisma—a favour which one receives without any merit of his own; the gift of divine grace; the gift of faith, knowledge, holiness, virtue; grace or gifts denoting extraordinary powers, distinguishing certain Christians and enabling them to serve the Church of Christ, the reception of which is due to the power of divine grace operating on their souls by the Holy Spirit.

ADMINISTRATIONS diakonia {dee^-ak-on-ee'-ah} service, ministering, especially of those who execute the commands of others, such as of the office of prophets, evangelists, elders etc., also the office of the deacon , etc

OPERATIONS energema {en-erg'-ay-mah} thing wrought; effect, operation

Example: The Lord tells a woman in one of our churches that the furnace had misfired, so she returns to the church to restart the furnace. Therefore, we had heat for the service. This is an example of the Word of Knowledge operating in the ministry of helps.

There are three types of gifts (gifts that say something, gifts that reveal something), and gifts that do something.

GIFTS THAT SAY SOMETHING (Utterance)

Prophecy—inspired utterance which builds up, encourages and comforts.

But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.
(1 Corinthians 14:3, KJV).

“For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.” 1 Corinthians 14:31, KJV.

Revelation gifts may flow through the gift of prophecy. Simple prophecy vs. prophecy with revelation. Simple prophecy brings inspiration for the moment. Prophecy with revelation includes special knowledge or wisdom from the mind of God.

Tongues—inspired utterance in an unknown language; in relation to ministry it is distinguished from devotional tongues;

But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God. (1 Corinthians 14:28, KJV).

This is not a prohibition of worshipping in tongues in the church . . . although we should be sensitive to others and not dominate the service with the gift of tongues.

Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues. (1 Corinthians 14:39, KJV).

For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, (Acts 10:46, KJV).

Interpretation of Tongues—tongues and interpretation of tongues is the equivalent of prophecy. It is interpretation, not translation; in other words, the gist of what God is saying. It may be given by the same person or another person.

Example: Tom in Park River receives interpretation each night. Then, one night he holds back and someone else gives the same interpretation he receives.

GIFTS THAT REVEAL SOMETHING (Revelation)

Word of Knowledge—supernatural knowledge from God about certain facts.

Example: Jesus and the woman at the well... (5 husbands) John 4:18

Testimonies: Word of knowledge at Devil’s Lake. Man’s shoulder at Lake Park, ladies arm at Howard Lake, heart pain healed at Hendricks, chest burning in Nepal.

Word of Wisdom—supernatural wisdom about the mind and purpose of God. This would include prophecies about the future, as well as the counsel and plan of God.

Example: Samuel is directed by God to anoint David as King. This is not a word of knowledge, as David was a shepherd, not a King. But it is a Word of Wisdom, concerning the plan and counsel of God.

It is direction concerning the plan and counsel of God. This gift should be used and also received with caution. When you receive a word of wisdom from someone, do not automatically assume that it is a word from God. God is going to confirm it in your own heart. If a word you received brings bondage, there is reason to question it.

“Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.” 2 Corinthians 3:17, KJV.

Illustration: God shows minister to use wisdom in the gifts and that he would use him in a mighty way. Be careful not to embarrass people.

Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. (1 Corinthians 14:29, KJV).

Anyone can miss it. And also, some people have used a supposed gift of the spirit as a tool of manipulation.

Discerning of Spirits—the ability to discern (or see) the operation of a spirit, either good or evil.

Ex: Paul and the damsel possessed with a spirit of divination Acts 16:16-18

Spirits of Infirmity. Luke 13, Acts 10:38. ND pastor and woman with pain.

Testimony: Tom discerns angels at a place he is ministering. Also, a sense of evil in certain places or towns.

GIFTS THAT DO SOMETHING (Power)

Gifts of healing—supernatural ability to bring healing; notice it is gifts of healing . . . some people that move in gifts of healing are more gifted with certain types of diseases.

Examples: Apostle Peter, Oral Roberts, Kathryn Kuhlman. Charles and Francis Hunter emphasized the ministry of healing for the body of Christ at large.

Testimony: Tom, “Marvin, we need to pray for you right now.” Gift of healing operating with the word of wisdom. Problem was from an accident with a PTO on a tractor, where it tore the muscles off the bone. After this, the man had no more pain.

Working of Miracles—supernatural ability to change the course of natural events or laws.

Ex: feeding of the 5,000; parting of the red sea, walking on the water, raising the dead.

Testimony: Ministry on the Amazon holds pastors conference and does not have enough food. However, every one was fed and filled.

Gift of Faith—supernatural faith to receive from God; this is faith beyond the normal faith, which is obtained through hearing and believing God’s word.

Ex: Daniel in the Lions Den; prophecies of Jacob concerning his sons; miraculous intervention in auto accidents; ability to impart the gift of the Holy Ghost; a gift given by God “as the spirit wills;” the ability cast out devil in some cases would fall under this category.

Samson kills a lion with his bare hands (working of miracles). . .vs. Daniel (different anointing, gift of faith) Samson—more active. Judges 14:5-6

Jacob and Joseph speak by the gift of faith. Hebrews 11:21, 22

Testimony: My daughter was very young and Susan and her were by a windmill. Heidi put her finger in a hole on the shaft of the windmill. The wind was blowing, but Susan commanded it to stop in the name of Jesus and it did. Heidi still has her finger.

We can see that the various gifts dovetail together to accomplish the Lord's purposes.

Expect these gifts to flow in your life and ministry as the Spirit wills.

KEYS TO RELEASING THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT IN YOUR LIFE

1. Receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:8
2. Tongues are a gateway into the other gifts. We can see a progression—tongues and the utterance gifts, revelation gifts, and power gifts. Jude 20 Example: Bob Buess
3. Worship brings a release of the gifts. Acts 13:1-4
4. Learn wait upon God in quietness. Psalm 46:10
5. Do not be afraid to have your prophecies judged. 1 Corinthians 14:29
6. Try the spirits by the Word of God. Don't just listen to voices. Focus on the Lord. Have peace in your heart. And when He speaks, you will know it. The gifts of the Spirit will always glorify Jesus Christ. 1 John 4:1-3
7. Claim the scripture, I hear the voice of the Good Shepherd and the voice of a stranger I will not follow. John 10:4-5, 27
8. Do something! Step out! Be sensitive. Be eager to learn. Not proud. But do something. The church is a good environment to stretch you wings and learn to fly. "Let all things be done decently and in order." 1 Corinthians 14:40, KJV. But first it says, "Let all things BE DONE..." Do it!

PRACTICAL EXERCISE

Minister to another person by the gifts of Spirit. Take time to worship, pray in the Spirit and wait on the Lord, and then share with humility what the Holy Spirit gives you for edification, exhortation, and comfort. A picture or a word or a scripture may be quickened to you. Share it in love. Ask the person if it relates to their situation and pray for the person in line with the revelation.

HOMEWORK

Study and meditate the scriptures in this lesson. Spend time worshipping, praying in the Spirit and waiting on God. Look for opportunities to pray for others and minister to them by the gifts of the Spirit.

Quiz for Moving in the Gifts of the Spirit

NOTES

1. True or False. You have to earn the right to use the gifts of the Spirit.
2. True or False. The gifts are intended only for those called into the 5-fold ministry.
3. The gifts of the Spirit include:
 - a. Gifts that say something.
 - b. Gifts that reveal something.
 - c. Gifts that do something.
 - d. All of the above.
4. A prophecy is an _____.
5. Prophecy is edification, exhortation and _____.
6. Tongues and interpretation of tongues is equivalent to _____.
7. Describe the difference between the word of knowledge and the word of wisdom.

8. True or False. You should follow every prophecy given to you.
9. Gifts of healing often operate in conjunction with the word of _____.
10. The feeding of the 5,000 is an example of which gift? _____
11. Daniel in the lions den is an example of which gift? _____
12. Receiving the _____ of the Holy Spirit is a key to moving in the gifts of the Spirit.

Name some other things that can help you to move in the gifts:

Hearing the Voice of God

The purpose of this lesson is to create faith that you, as a believer, can hear the voice of God and to help you to discern His voice and to act on what you are clearly hearing from the Lord.

“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.” John 10:27, KJV.

The promise here is to followers of Jesus.

YOU CAN HEAR THE VOICE OF THE LORD

Adam and Eve heard the voice of the Lord walking in the garden, but because of sin, they hid from God and God blocked the way into His presence. Gen. 3:1-8,24.

Jesus, through His death, burial and resurrection, became the door back into the presence of God and the Good Shepherd to lead us into the abundant life. Jn. 10:1-18

Hearing God’s voice is foundational to successful ministry. Jesus continually operated in this. John 5:19-20

The Holy Spirit will lead and guide us, and show us things to come. Jn. 16:13

Our attitude should be, “speak for your servant is listening.” 1 Sam 3:10

YOU MUST DISCERN THE VOICE OF THE LORD

Maturity is a major key in discerning God’s voice. You must have your senses exercised to discern good and evil. Heb. 5:14

Tom’s testimony of hearing from God, and later being deceived. Calf 357, impressions can come from many sources. Our friend’s life is saved by an “unction” while driving.

Mental institutions are filled with people who think that they are hearing God’s voice. Listening to false voices can get you into a world of hurt. Fortune tellers, Ouija Boards, etc. operate by evil spirits. Renounce any previous associations with these things.

I once met a woman who got into confusion by listening to voices. Then she threw the baby out with the bath water and refused to listen to anything. Entire denominations have done the same thing. But if you took divine guidance and people hearing the voice of God out of the Bible, you would have no Bible, no Abrahamic covenant, no Israel, no Moses or his ministry, no prophets, no Jesus, no apostles, no Church. The entire thing is built on supernatural divine revelation. And God intended that supernatural revelation and guidance would continue up to today and until Jesus returns. The phrase “Voice of the Lord” is found 48 times in Scripture.

Despise not prophesyings. 1 Thes. 5:20

NOTES

Sources of other voices:

- Flesh
- Emotions
- Society (Advertising & Media)
- Family and friends
- Strongholds 2 Cor. 10:3-5, Is. 54:17
- Satan and demons

The devil can quote scripture and sound religious. (Luke 4:10-11 quoting Ps 91:11)

You are called to test the spirits. 1 John 4:1-3

“Is there iniquity in my tongue? cannot my taste discern perverse things?” Job 6:30, KJV.

If you like the supernatural, but you are not pure in your heart and your speech, you can easily be deceived.

GOD’S WORD WILL HELP YOU TO HEAR HIS VOICE CLEARLY

The Word of God is alive and permeated by His presence. Heb. 4:12, Jn. 6:63

The Word of God will produce stability. Following feelings will cause instability. Mt. 7:24-27, Romans 10:17

Everyone who is of the truth hears my voice. John 18:37

We need to sit at Jesus’ feet and listen to what He has to say. Luke 10:40-42

- Reading the Word. 1 Tim. 4:13
- Studying the Word. 2 Tim. 2:15
- Meditating the Word. 1 Tim 4:15
- Doing the Word. James 1:22

Intimacy with the Lord. “The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” Rev. 19:10

Tune your ears to the Word of God. A healthy devotional life is a great aid to hearing God’s voice and staying in balance. The same goes for a healthy dose of God’s Word in church and in Bible studies. Establish a relationship with God’s Word and you will begin to hear His voice. God will never guide you contrary to His Word, because His Word is His will.

Terry Law tells the story about how when he was ministering in the former Soviet Union years ago, he and his group would travel for hours on trains and buses. He would spend those hours meditating on the truths of God’s Word. It was then, he said, that the supernatural “word of knowledge” according to 1 Cor. 12:7-10 began to operate in his ministry.

He received amazing revelations about people's lives. One time he received a revelation about a fist fight which had occurred in a Bible School earlier that same day. The students had been fighting over. . . guess what. . . the gifts of the Spirit. After Terry described the events of day, everyone quickly repented and became believers that 1 Cor. 12 is for today.

RELATIONSHIP AND ASSOCIATION WITH THOSE WHO HEAR FROM GOD CAN HELP YOU HEAR FROM GOD

Tom flows in word of knowledge after spending time with Bob Buess.

As many as are led by the Spirit (not led by prophets), they are the mature sons of God. We need our own guidance system, but others may confirm. Rom. 8:15

But confirmation from prophetic believers can help you discern God's voice. 1 Cor. 14:29

"In the mouth of two or three witnesses." 2 Corinthians 13:1, KJV. Balance.

PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT WILL HELP YOU TO HEAR HIS VOICE

Speaking in tongues is the gateway gift to the other gifts of the Spirit. Dave Roberson begins to have words of knowledge after praying in tongues for hours. Kenneth Hagin receives revelation about the upcoming healing revival coming which happened after WWII after praying in tongues for hours. He says he "hit a gusher."

Praying with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit. Eph. 6:18

Building yourself up in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit. Jude 20

Receiving revelation from God by praying in tongues. When you edify yourself, you can edify others. 1 Cor. 14:2-4

When you speak in tongues, pray that you may interpret. 1 Cor. 14: 13

SOME OF THE WAYS THAT GOD COMMUNICATES

Visions while in a trance. Acts 10:9-16

Dreams. Acts 16:9

Mini-visions or inward pictures. Jn. 5:19, Eph. 6:18

Inward Witness (stop and go light) You just know. You are led by His Spirit. Col 3:15

Still small voice. 1 Kings 19:12

Authoritative voice of the Holy Spirit. Acts 10:19-20

Alignment of circumstance. Acts 10:21

Share some of the ways that God has spoken to you:

NOTES

Beware of following circumstances alone or following fleeces. Wait on the Lord for confirmation before acting on major decisions. Satan can counterfeit. You are safer to start with general revelation. It is more or less a confirmation or inspiration concerning what is already in the Word. But when it comes to special revelation as guidance, such as you should go to such-and-such a place and minister, you need to be more careful. Look for 2 or 3 witnesses. The witness may be the vision or word that you receive, the inward witness, the Word of God, and the agreement of another mature believers. Proceed with caution, use wisdom, but do not fear. Trust God to speak to you, just as He said He would. There is nothing wrong with waiting on the Lord until you are sure you are hearing from God.

Testimony: Jackie Pullinger buys a one-way ticket to China after receiving guidance from the Lord. Many people told her not to go and circumstances were against her. No one would take her into their missionary organization. She had no support. But a pastor who she respected told her that she must go if God was truly leading her. She worked in the Walled City in Hong Kong where she was instrumental in seeing a multitude of gang members, drug addicts, and prostitutes find Jesus and find deliverance.

YOU MUST ACT UPON THE VOICE OF THE LORD

If you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. Heb. 3:15

Be not only hearers, but doers of the Word. James 1:22

Isaiah hears His voice and obeys. Is. 6:1-8

Peter hears His voice and obeys. Acts 10:9-20

The Church at Antioch hears God's voice and sends out Saul and Barnabas. Acts 13:1-3

Paul and his team led by God into Europe. Acts 16:6-9

All of these are extremely significant instances of God's guidance which resulted in tremendous advance for the church. Likewise, if you will listen to God, you will see tremendous results for the Kingdom of God.

PRACTICAL EXERCISE

Pray for another person with a need in their life. Take time to pray in the Spirit and wait upon God. Share what you receive with humility and ask the person if what you have shared relates to their situation.

HOMEWORK

Look up the scriptures in this lesson and meditate on them. Pray in the Spirit and wait upon God as you read, and write down what the Lord shows you from the Word of God, especially how to apply the Word to your life and ministry.

Hearing the Voice of God Quiz

NOTES

1. True or False. Every voice that you hear is from God.
2. _____ separated mankind from God and kept us from knowing Him and hearing His voice.
3. Jesus is the _____ back into the presence of God.
4. A major key to discerning God's voice is _____.
5. Some of the other voices that we can hear in our minds are:
 - a. Our flesh.
 - b. Our friends.
 - c. TV commercials.
 - d. Demons.
 - e. All of the above.
6. True or False. Studying God's Word is not necessary for hearing God's voice.
7. True of False. Don't ever listen to input from others about what God is saying.
8. Speaking in tongues is the _____ gift to the other gifts of the Spirit.
9. Which of the following is not a good way to hear from God.
 - a. Voice of the Holy Spirit.
 - b. A vision.
 - c. Spin the bottle.
 - d. The inward witness.
10. True or false. Hearing from God is optional for a successful ministry.
11. True or false. Holiness will help you to hear from God.
12. Jesus said that His followers would hear His voice and the voice of a _____ they would not follow.

Doing the Works of Jesus

The purpose of this lesson is to encourage believers to DO the same works that Jesus did.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. (John 14:12-14, KJV).

Testimony from India village home. Man healed of leg problems. Two girls delivered from demonic oppression. Deaf girl healed; met woman raised from the dead.

THE BODY OF CHRIST IS CALLED TO COMPLETE JESUS' MINISTRY

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. Hebrews 13:8

We to continue in all that Jesus began to do and teach. Acts 1:1

We are the fullness of Him that fills all in all. Eph. 1:22-23

Like him, we are to make disciples and teach others to do the same. Mt. 28:18-20

He lives in us to do the works. Jn. 14:10, Col. 1:27

FOLLOWING JESUS TO RECEIVE HIS MINISTRY

Follow me and I will make you fishers of men. Mt. 4:19, Mark 1:17

As Elisha pursued Elijah, we must pursue Jesus and receive His anointing. 2 Kings 2:1-14

Be imitators of God. Eph. 5:1-2

That men may see your good works and glorify. Mt. 5:14-16

As he is, so are we in this world. 1 John 4:17

GOD HAS GIVEN US GIFTS TO EQUIP US TO DO THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY

“And His gifts were [varied; He Himself appointed and gave men to us] some to be apostles (special messengers), some prophets (inspired preachers and expounders), some evangelists (preachers of the Gospel, traveling missionaries), some pastors (shepherds of His flock) and teachers. His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), [that they should do] the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church),” Ephesians 4:11, 12, Amplified.

Apostles—sent ones, foundation layers, establishing the Kingdom of God in regions and nations.

Prophets—prophetic ministers, gifted in revelations gifts, with a mission to bring purity into the body of Christ.

Evangelists—anoointed preachers of the Gospel

Pastors—shepherd of the flock

Teachers—teach the Word of God.

Each of these ministries has a part in equipping and developing God's people to DO the work of the ministry.

WHAT ARE THE WORKS OF JESUS?

His plan is to duplicate His character, love and works (Acts 10:38, 1 Jn 4:17, Rom 8:29, Phil 3:13-14, Eph 3:20)

We can do the works of Jesus. We can:

- Win souls. The greatest work is leading someone to Christ.
- Heal every kind of sickness and disease.
- Teach the Word of God.
- Preach the Gospel of the Kingdom
- Do miracles (walking on water, stopping storms)
- Overcome the power of Satan
- Command spirits to submit to us.
- Multiply food
- Raise the dead
- Cast out devils
- Cleanse lepers
- Teach believers to do everything Jesus commanded
- Be baptized in the Holy Spirit
- Move in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Be His witnesses in all the world.
- Make disciples of all nations.

THE WORKS OF JESUS GLORIFY GOD

The Father is glorified when we use the name of Jesus. Jn. 14:12-13

Tommy Hicks vision, ordinary believers glorifying God and doing the works of Jesus.

Jesus said to believe in Him because of the miracles. John 14:11

5000 people believed because of the miracle at the Gate Beautiful. Acts 4:4

People in Samaria believed because of the miracles that Phillip did. Acts 8:5-7

Miracles glorify God. They are displays of God's awesome power, which cause the reality of God's power to be manifested in the earth.

Testimony: Tom comes to Jesus after seeing a miracle of healing.

WE DO THE WORKS OF JESUS THROUGH FAITH

“he that believeth on me. . .” Power plant keeps producing, but it takes a \$2 switch to turn on the lights.

All things are possible to him who believes. Mark 9:23

For with God nothing shall be impossible. Luke 1:37

Without faith it's impossible to please God. Hebrews 11:6,

If you believe in your heart, you can speak to the mountain. Mark 11:22-24

Jesus told people that their faith made them well. Luke 17:19

Jesus promised that we would lay hands on the sick and they would recover. Mark 16:18

The Word of God says that the prayer of faith will save the sick. James 5:15

WE DO THE WORKS OF JESUS THROUGH THE NAME OF JESUS

What ever you ask in my name [as presenting all I AM] John 14:13, Amplified Version

Peter used the name of Jesus to raise up the lame man. Acts 3:1-8, 3:16

We are to do all and say all in the name of Jesus. Colossians 3:17

Delegated authority, power of attorney—“And whatsoever you shall ask in my name. . .”

The name of Jesus is above every name. Philippians 2:9-11

In His name we cast out devils. Mark 16:17

Expect him to confirm the word with signs following. Changed lives, deliverance, miracles, multiplied food, dead raised. Take the limits off! Mark 16:15-20

WE DO THE WORKS OF JESUS THROUGH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

“because I go to my Father. . .”

Redemptive work completed. . . I won't be here, but. . . through my redemptive work...

- New Covenant instituted.
- Gospel given to the Gentiles.
- Jesus and His Church exalted above all principalities.
- Door opened for the new birth and the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- Power of the Holy Spirit poured out.

The tangibility of the Spirit...

He gave us power to be witnesses. Acts 1:8

Virtue (power) had gone out of him. Mark 5:30

As many as touched him were made whole. Matthew 14:36, Mark 6:56

The anointing carried on handkerchiefs and napkins. Acts 19:11-12

WE DO THE WORKS OF JESUS THROUGH COMPASSION

Jesus was moved with compassion and healed the sick. Mt. 9:36, Matthew 14:14

The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Romans 5:5

Gifts of the Spirit. . . look for the access point. The person's felt need. Woman on airplane. "How's things in your family?" Basically it's the compassion of Christ in action working through the sensitivity of your own heart in your relationship with the Lord. The divine flow. . . Follow the love path.

It's HIS POWER, it's HIS NAME and HIS COMPASSION. Our part is to be the conduit (by faith) to bring HIS works into the earth. Decide to be a believing believer turned on to the mighty power of God and doing the works of Jesus in His name.

Testimonies: Tom's son healed of a crooked neck. Marvin. Agape Acres. Tom Elie's Crusade. Tumor disappears in India. Man in North Dakota healed of high triglycerides as compassion comes on Tom.

Share miracle testimonies which you have experienced or heard about here:

PRACTICAL EXERCISE James 1:22

Share the message of miracles using your favorite scriptures and a testimony of healing. Ask the person if they would like to receive and minister to them in the name of Jesus. Pray and believe God for a miracle in their life.

HOMEWORK

Write a short message about why you believe that God still does miracles today. Include one or two scriptures that prove that God still does miracles, a testimony that you have either heard or experienced. Be ready to share a 3-5 minute message in the next class session.

Doing What Jesus Did Quiz

NOTES

1. True or False. We can do the same works that Jesus did.
2. True or False. God is still doing the things that He did in the Gospels and the book of Acts.
3. Jesus said, _____ me and I will make you fishers of men.
4. God gave _____, _____, evangelists, _____, _____ to help us to develop our ministries.
5. The works of Jesus include:
 - a. Raising the dead.
 - b. Casting out devils.
 - c. Making disciples
 - d. Reaching the lost..
 - e. All of the above.
6. True or false. It is wrong to believe in Jesus because of miracles.
7. People came to Jesus because of the _____ that Phillip did.
8. _____ things are possible to him that believes.
9. When you believe, you can _____ to the mountain.
10. The name of Jesus is _____ every name.
11. God has given us the _____ _____ to enable us to do the works of Jesus.
12. True or False. God's love is in us to have compassion on hurting people.

Healing the Sick

The purpose of this lesson is to impress upon the believer the call to minister healing to the sick and to give basic instructions on how to minister healing.

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen. Mark 16:15-20, KJV.

HEALING IS JUST AS MUCH A PART OF THE GOSPEL AS SALVATION

Forget not ALL His benefits. Psalm 103:1-5

Healing is part of the redemptive package. Isaiah 53:4-6

(v4, Youngs Literal Translation) Surely our sicknesses he hath borne, And our pains, he hath carried them.

By His stripes we were healed. 1 Peter 2:24

The devil wants you sick. God wants you well. Acts 10:38, 3 John 2

Jesus wants to heal you. Matthew 8:2-3, Mark 1:40-42, Luke 5:12-13

Jesus was anointed to heal and set the captives free. Luke 4:18,19, Acts 10:38

Jesus' ministry included teaching, preaching and healing the sick. Matthew 9:35

JESUS WANTS YOU TO HEAL THE SICK

You are to continue to do what He began. Acts 1:1

He said to heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead. Matthew 10:1-8, Luke 10:8-9

You can do the works of Jesus. John 14:12

As He is, so are we. 1 John 4:17,

You are the body of Christ (the Anointed One) 1 Corinthians 12:27

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. Hebrews 13:8

5,000 men come to the Lord after the healing of the lame man. Acts 4:4

A city comes to God as a result of Philip's miracle ministry. Acts 8:6-8

Healing closes the mouths of the skeptics. Acts 4:13-14

Testimony: Tom is drawn to the Lord after seeing a healing miracle.

WHAT ABOUT THOSE WHO ARE NOT HEALED?

Remember, you are the delivery person, not the healer, so do what He says and leave the results to Him. There are many reasons why people are not healed, and there are times when we just don't know. There were times in Jesus' ministry when He healed them all. (Matthew 12:15, Luke 6:19) But it also says of Jesus' ministry in His hometown, "And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching." Mark 6:5, 6, KJV.

Regardless, God's Word is still true! There are times that we can help people overcome their obstacles to receiving healing, but we don't want to be like Job's comforters blaming people for their problems. Be compassionate, not critical. David Livingstone had one convert, but that doesn't mean the message of salvation doesn't work. Likewise, the message of healing remains true, even when there are little results.

There was also a time when Jesus laid hands on someone after He had already ministered healing to them. (Mark 8:22-26)

Sometimes people need ministry to their inner man before they can receive healing for the outer man. God's plan is healing and restoration--spirit, soul and body. (1 Thessalonians 5:23) "...Jesus Christ maketh thee whole..." Acts 9:34, KJV.

Some healings are progressive. Luke 17:14

Sometimes healing requires standing on the Word of God. Ephesians 6:13

There is no defeat for the child of God. Minister salvation. 1 Corinthians 15:55-58

The greatest healing anyone will ever receive is the new birth. John 3:3, 2 Cor. 5:17

SOME BIBLICAL METHODS OF MINISTERING HEALING

- Through the laying on of hands. Mark 16:18
- Through commanding in the name of Jesus. Acts 3:1-8, 16
- By teaching God's willingness to heal. Mt. 8:1-3, Luke 13:10-16
- Through the prayer of agreement. Matthew 18:19
- Asking the person if they believe they will be healed. Matthew 9:28
- Through anointing with oil. James 5:14-15

- By commanding the sickness to go and healing to come. Acts 9:40-41
- Through the Word of Knowledge. Acts 14:9-10
- Through using your authority and binding evil powers. Matthew 16:19, Luke 10:19
- Through compassion. Matthew 20:34
- Through the manifested presence of God. Luke 6:17-19
- Through commanding the person to act. Acts 14:8-10, Mark 3:1-6, Acts 3:1-8
- Through wisdom about lifestyle changes. James 1:5
- Through ministering forgiveness of sins. Psalm 103: 2-3,
- By releasing forgiveness to others. Matthew 18:34-35
- Through the power of the Word. Psalm 107:20, Luke 7:1-10
- By using the Word to build faith. Romans 10:17
- Through sharing testimonies of God's healing power. Mark 5:27

HEALING THROUGH THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

You shall receive power to be a proof-producer. Acts 1:8

Power (Greek, *dunamis*, from which we get our word, dynamite) force, miraculous power, ability, abundance, might, power, strength, The same word is used when the healing power went out of Jesus to heal the woman with the issue of blood and in other places. Mark 5:30 Testimony of Charles and Francis Hunter, who prayed for many people for healing, but had little results, until they were baptized in the Holy Spirit. Later, through consistency, they said that they began to see about 80 percent of the people they prayed for healed.

HEALING THROUGH THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

Mark 16:18 (LB) they will be able to place their hands on sick people and heal them.

The Holy Ghost is the power source, laying on of hands is the way the connection is made, the name of Jesus is the authority. Get busy laying hands on the sick and seeing them recover, in Jesus name. Seek God for guidance and wisdom. Your confidence will grow.

USING COMMANDS TO HEAL THE SICK

Jesus rebuked the fever of Peter's mother in law. Mt. 8:14-15, Mk. 1:29-31, Luke 4:38-39

Speak the Word only and my servant will be healed. Luke 7:1-10

Jesus prayed out loud only for the sake of those around him, but then commanded Lazarus to rise. John 11:41-43, KJV.

Notice the method. Peter commanded him to rise up and walk in the name of Jesus. He didn't pray for Him to be healed, he spoke it to be. Acts 3:1-8

Tabitha, get up. Acts 9:40-42

HEALING THROUGH FAITH

Daughter, your faith has made you whole. Mt. 9:20-22, Mk. 5:25-34, Luke 8:43-48

His name through faith in His name. Acts 3:16

If you can believe all things are possible. Mk. 9:23

Paul saw that the crippled man had faith to be healed. Acts 14:8-10

These signs shall follow them that believe. Mk. 16:15-20

HEALING THROUGH AGREEMENT

Ask the person what they want from the Lord. Mt. 20:29-34

Come into agreement with them at their level of faith. Mt. 18:19

HEALING THROUGH REVELATION

I do what I see my Father doing. John 5:19

Fingers in the ear and spit on the tongue. Mk. 7:32-37

Wigglesworth: It all depends on what the Father is saying.

TIPS FOR DEVELOPING THE HEALING MINISTRY

1. Meditate on the promises and commands of Jesus concerning healing. Joshua 1:8
2. Meditate on the miracles of Jesus and the apostles, reminding yourself of John 14:12
3. Associate with those who are healing the sick. Deuteronomy 34:9
4. Be willing to receive instruction about how to minister. Matthew 17:19-21
5. Live the spirit-filled life and walk in love. Galatians 5:6
6. Practice the things you have learned. Illustration: Doctors practice. James 1:22
7. Pray in the Spirit. Jude 20
8. Remember that the Greater One lives in you. 1 John 4:4
9. Cultivate an awareness of the presence of God. Luke 6:17-19
10. Intercede for those you are going to minister to. Rom 8:26-27
11. Cultivate group faith and a corporate anointing for healing. Acts 4:23-33
12. Always give God glory for the miracles that he does. Beware of receiving glory for God's miracles. Luke 17:1, Acts. 3:12-13, Pr. 27:21

PRACTICAL EXERCISE James 1:22

Share the message of divine healing using your favorite scriptures and a testimony of healing. Ask the person if they would like to receive healing from the Lord and then minister to them using one or more of the methods we have shared.

HOMEWORK

Study and meditate the scriptures in this lesson, prepare yourself to minister to the sick through prayer and practice ministering to the sick.

Healing the Sick Quiz

NOTES

1. True or False. Healing is a part of the redemptive package.
2. True or False. The Bible tells us as believers to heal the sick.
3. After the healing of the lame man at the Gate Beautiful, _____ people came to the Lord.
4. People came to the Lord during Phillip's ministry at Samaria, because of hearing and seeing the _____ which he did.
5. The power for healing the sick comes through the _____ of the Holy Spirit.
6. We can minister healing through:
 - a. Laying on of hands.
 - b. Prayer of agreement.
 - c. Commanding the sickness to go.
 - d. Through the Word of God.
 - e. All of the above.
7. True or False. You are responsible to see that the person is healed.
8. True or False. Divine healing pertains only to the physical body.
9. Jesus could do no mighty works in his home town because of their _____.
10. True or False. We always know why a person is not healed.
11. List some possible hindrances to healing.

12. List some ways that you can increase your effectiveness in ministering healing to the sick.

Using Your Authority in Christ

The purpose of this lesson is to encourage God's people to rise up in their God-given authority and rout the forces of darkness in the world today.

“And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.” Luke 10:17-20, KJV.

THE CHURCH HAS BEEN GIVEN AUTHORITY IN THE EARTH

He has made us kings and priests. Revelation 1:6

We are reign in life. Romans 5:17 Amplified ...reign as kings in life:...

Pray for revelation of who we are, what we have and what we can do. Ephesians 1:15-23

The devil has been defeated. Col. 2:13-15

Today we are facing spiritual adversity on every side . . . but thank God, the devil is defeated and in this hour God is going to invade these strongholds and bring down these evil powers. He will use you!.

Do you know your authority in Christ? Do you have your armor on? Are you equipped for the battle that is at hand? If not, don't wait, it's time to get ready—for yourself, for your family, for your nation, for the world. Will you face the challenges that lie ahead by chewing your fingernails and wondering when God is going to do something OR will you stand up as a soldier in the army of the Lord to do battle against the forces of darkness?

LET'S GET EQUIPPED

Put on the whole armor of God. Ephesians 6:10-19

He says, YOU be strong in HIS might. . . It's God's power and authority working in you. To succeed you must put on His armor. You need to be established in truth, in righteousness. You must have your Gospel get-ready shoes on, and your shield of faith. You must be ready to wield your “It is written” sword. You must be prepared through communion with the Father and study of the Word of God.

USE THE WORD OF GOD

He cast out the spirits with His Word. Matthew 8:16, 17, KJV.

Jesus said, "It is written Satan." Luke 4:8

NOTES

A Christian cannot be possessed of a demon, but can be oppressed. Jesus defeated the devil by using the Word of God. Below are scriptures that I have found to be effective against spiritual, mental and emotional oppression, anxiety and depression in Christians. Confess them three times a day and you will notice the oppression lifting. Quote the scripture and then confess that it belongs to you. Confession brings possession, in Jesus name. You can possess anything that is promised you in the Word of God, as you believe it, confess it, embrace and possess it. Confess it now: "I'm free in Jesus name." Use these scriptures to minister to others also.

Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. (Galatians 5:1, KJV).

Confess: I'm standing fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made me free; I will not be entangled again in a yoke of bondage.

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. (John 8:31-32, KJV).

Confess: I continue in the Word of God and I am Jesus' disciple indeed. I know the truth and the truth makes me free.

Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. (Luke 10:19, KJV).

Confess: Jesus has given me power over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt me.

If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. (John 8:36, KJV).

Confess: The Son of God has made me free and I am free indeed, in Jesus' name.

Neither give place to the devil. (Ephesians 4:27, KJV).

Confess: I refuse to give place to the devil of fear, anxiety, doom, gloom and hopelessness.

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

Confess: I submit myself to God and his love and power. I resist the devil [of fear, anxiety, oppression, depression and torment] and he flees from me in terror. Go, devil, go, in Jesus' name.

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. (1 Peter 5:8-9, KJV).

Confess: My adversary the devil, as a roaring lion goes about seeking whom he may devour. He may not devour me. I resist him steadfast in the faith. (Make a fist now and say it with force.) I resist you Satan, in Jesus name.

USE THE BLOOD OF JESUS

We overcome by the blood of the lamb. Revelation 12:11

The blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin. 1 John 1:7-9

USE THE NAME OF JESUS

In His name we cast out devils. Mark 16:17

His name through faith in His name. Acts 3:16

Whatever you ask in my name I will do it. John 14:12-14

God has given Him a name above every name. Phil 2:9-11

The name of Jesus carries all the authority of God. This is the authority that He gave us when He sent us into all the world. All authority is given unto me, Go ye therefore. . . (Mat. 28) Every knee shall bow to the name of Jesus.

Paul I know. Jesus I know, but who are you? Acts 19:13-20

The name of Jesus is not a magic formula for success in the spirit realm, it is a divine signature given to the followers of Christ to use against the enemy . . . to stand in the evil day. This day qualifies and it's time for the church to stand.

USE THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal...1 Corinthians 12:7-11, KJV.

The revelation gifts, including the discerning of spirits, are especially important in dealing with demons.

CASTING OUT SPIRITS

Jesus came to set the captives free... Luke 4:18, 19

Jesus cast out demons. Mt. 8:16-17, Mk 9:25-27

Jesus calls his us to cast out spirits... Matthew 10:1, 7-8, Mark 16:17-18

All power is given to Jesus. Go therefore... Matthew 28:18-20

Cast out a spirit for healing... Luke 13:11-13

Sometimes the devil can sound very religious. He may even flatter you. But he comes as an angel of light. He comes in a masquerade. This is why we need the discerning of spirits in this hour.

YOU MIGHT BE DEALING WITH DEMONS

- When pain moves from place to place in a person's body. Spirit of infirmity.
- When there is depression. Spirit of heaviness. Is 61:3
- When there is cancer.
- When someone has self-accusation, excessive guilt, shame, self hatred, it can be a spirit of condemnation.
- When someone is dealing with suicidal thoughts or PTSD, spirit of death and murder.
- When there are generational curses, evil spirits can be involved.
- When there is unforgiveness, occult activity, sexual immorality, pornography.
- When there are addictions.
- When there has been sin (idolatry, witchcraft, etc.) in past generations.

HOW TO DEAL WITH EVIL SPIRITS

Be led by the Spirit. Each situation is different. Roman 8:15

At some point, lead the person to confess Jesus as Lord and to believe in the His death, burial and resurrection. Roman 10:9-10, 13, The power is in the Gospel. Romans 1:16

It is important that the person wants to be delivered and is cooperating with their deliverance. Have them renounce Satan and any sin (idolatry, occult activity, etc.) Mt. 18:19

Plead (claim the benefits of) the blood to the covenant promise of freedom, healing and life. Plead the blood over yourself and your family also.

Command the demon to go in the name of Jesus and then call forth the healing that Jesus purchased on Calvary.

PRACTICAL EXERCISES

Pray for individuals who are experiencing spiritual problems. Pray in the Spirit and ask the Lord to reveal if evil spirits are involved. Don't try and manufacture something, but if God reveals it clearly, bring it to light and and take authority over that spirit, in Jesus' name. Share scriptures that come up in your spirit with the person needing ministry and pray for them. Lead them to confess Jesus as Lord and believe He is risen from the dead.

HOMEWORK

Meditate and confess the scriptures in this lesson, especially in the section called "USE THE WORD OF GOD" Do this for several days and begin to use them to minister to others also.

Using Your Authority Quiz

NOTES

1. Jesus said, "I give you _____ over all the power of the enemy and _____ shall by any means hurt you.
2. Paul told us to be strong in the Lord and the power of _____ might and to put on the whole armor of God that we may be able to _____.
3. In Luke 4, Jesus defeated the devil by using the _____.
4. Revelation 12:11 says we overcome Satan by the _____ of the lamb, the _____ of our testimony and we love not our lives unto the _____.
5. The lame man at the gate beautiful was healed by faith in the _____ of _____.
6. (True or False) The name of Jesus carries the authority of God.
7. (True or False) Anyone can use the name of Jesus.
8. Which of the nine gifts of the Spirit are given especially to deal with demonic powers.

9. Sometimes the devil comes as an _____ of _____.
10. Some sicknesses are caused by _____ _____.

Bringing Healing to Families, Communities and Nations

The purpose of this lesson is to encourage believers to be agents of mercy, forgiveness and healing to a dark a troubled world.

WE BRING HEALING BY FOLLOWING JESUS

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.” John 14:12-14, KJV.

As He is, so are we. 1 John 4:17, Walk as He walked. 1 Jn. 2:6

As the Father sent Jesus, so He has sent us. John 20:21-23, KJV.

1. We have the same calling as Jesus
2. We need the Holy Spirit to accomplish it.
3. We must release forgiveness rather than judgement.

“Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.” 1 Corinthians 12:27

YOUR MINISTRY STARTS AT HOME

Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and into all the world. Acts 1:8

Where you live, where you work, where you shop, where you play. Jerusalem is your hometown. You have a ministry in your hometown. Sometimes that is the most difficult place to minister. And your ministry may not be as effective there as in other places, but nonetheless it is your calling.

“But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country...”
Mark 6:4-6

Jesus’ ministry was not as effective in His hometown, nevertheless He continued to minister and to teach God’s Word, so faith might arise. Remember in ministering to people, their first reaction is not the end of the story. Continue to be faithful to live the life before them and to teach God’s Word.

Return to your own house and tell what great things the Lord has done. Luke 8:39

Practice the love of God in your own home. Ephesians 5:22-6:4

COMPASSION IS THE HEARTBEAT OF MINISTRY

“When he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion,...” Matthew 9:35-38

Jesus was moved by compassion. This is the heartbeat of true ministry, to have compassion on people, in your home, in your church, in your community, in your home.

REDEMPTION STARTS WITH PRAYER.

Your kingdom come. Your will be done. Matthew 6:9-15

Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done...

- In me
- In my family
- In my church
- In my community
- In my nation
- In the world

WE ARE CALLED TO RECONCILE PEOPLE TO GOD

He has given us the ministry of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

All healing starts with healing in our relationship with God. God did His part. He sent Jesus. Jesus did his part. He died on the cross. Now, we must do our part, by bringing the Good News of God's love and forgiveness to others. We can bridge the gap between God and man by our life, by our love, by our witness, and by our prayers.

“Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.” 2 Corinthians 3:6, KJV.

This does not mean we never talk about judgement. That would be unscriptural. All the Old Testament and New Testament preachers talked about judgement. But we present the mercy, love and forgiveness of God as the answer to judgement.

Mercy rejoiceth against judgment. James 2:13

“For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.” John 3:17, KJV.

We are called to give people a way of escape from Judgement though Jesus Christ.

He came to save, not to destroy. Luke 9:54-56

Sometimes Christians have a tendency to try and fight fire with fire. We point the finger and condemn the world, when the emphasis should be on our own lives. We need to learn to live by the Word and manifest Christ in the earth. People are saying to us, “Sir, we would see Jesus.” According to Jesus, we should react to evil with the opposite spirit. “Turn the other cheek.” Pray for those who despitefully use you and persecute you.” “Overcome evil with good.” “Where there is no wood the fire goes out.”

HEALING AND FORGIVENESS ARE INALTERABLY LINKED

If we want to bring healing to people, we must minister forgiveness and also teach them to forgive. Judgmentalism and legalism will not bring redemption and healing.

Forgives all our iniquities. Heals all our diseases. Psalms 103:1-5, KJV.

Lest they should be converted, and I should heal them.” Matthew 13:15, KJV.

If they have committed sins, they shall be forgiven them. James 5:15, 16, KJV.

MINISTRY IS SERVING AND INVOLVES SACRIFICE

Present your bodies a living sacrifice. Romans 12:1, 2

Ministry (*diakonia*) serving

If you want to be great, be a servant. Luke 22:25-27

We bring forth Christ in the earth as we:

- Honor people
- Love people
- Sacrifice for people
- Serve people
- Forgive people

Take on the mind of Christ. Philippians 2:5-8

Deny yourself and take up the cross and follow Jesus. Matthew 16:24, 25

YOU ARE ORDAINED TO GO! WILL YOU FOLLOW THE CALL?

Jesus is ordaining you to go and bring forth fruit. John 15:16

PRACTICAL EXERCISE

In prayer, confirm your commitment to present your body to God as a living sacrifice, to be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you might prove the good, acceptable and perfect will of God. Receive Jesus’ call to reach your world for Him.

This is the time to lay hands on the students and commission them to take the Gospel to the world, believing that God will give them every good gift to accomplish their ministry.

HOME WORK

Pray daily, “Thy kingdom come in me, my family, my church, my community, my nation and my world.” Then Go! Go! Go! Take the Gospel to the world!

Healing Family, Communities and Nations Quiz

NOTES

1. Describe in your own words what God has spoken to you through the Believers School of Ministry.

2. What practical steps do you plan to take as a result of what you have learned?

3. What is the number one thing that you would like for the Lord to do for you so that you can fulfill your destiny and accomplish your ministry?

About Tom Shanklin Ministries

“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”

Tom Shanklin Ministries is an interdenominational evangelistic ministry dedicated to working with the whole Body of Christ to take the whole Gospel to the whole world. Through our partnership with churches, ministries, and individuals, we are bringing a message of God's love and grace and power to the nations.

The foundation of this ministry is Jesus Christ, and the work that He accomplished when He was sent to the earth by God our Father, died on the cross of Calvary for our sins, and rose again from the dead to give us victory over sin, death, and the devil. The Holy Spirit is anointing Christian believers all around the world to bring this message of spiritual, emotional, physical, and relational healing to a lost, hurting, and needy world. As we unite, we see multitudes finding the peace, rest, and healing that comes from knowing Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Tom Shanklin Ministries is not limited to working with one denomination, group, stream, or local church, but we are called by God to unite with Christ's entire body to bring in the harvest in these last days. We share in the common goal of reaching the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We invite you to join hands with us, as the Holy Spirit leads you, to see a great harvest of souls in the earth, that Jesus may be lifted up and our heavenly Father may be glorified.

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