

# **PENTECOSTALS OF JORDAN**

## **Beginning Your New Life Vol. 2**

### **CLASS 301 Booklet**



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## INTRODUCTION

# BEGINNING YOUR NEW LIFE

When you receive Jesus Christ into your life as your Lord and Saviour, you begin your new life, just as the Bible says, ***“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”*** (2 Corinthians 5:17) And this book, *Beginning Your New Life*, is designed to help you to begin your new life in Christ.

There are five important things you need to do as you begin your new life in Christ.

### GET A BIBLE

The **Bible** is the most important book in your life because it is the Word of God. Purchase a copy and begin to be acquainted with it. The New International Version (NIV) Bible is very readable and is used by many Christians. If you need any help in this, your sponsor will assist you. *Beginning Your New Life* will help you to know the Bible better.

### JOIN A CELL GROUP

One of the most important things you can do as a new believer is to join a cell group. It is the **Basic Christian Community**. In a cell you will meet other believers who can help you understand what it means to be a Christian. The Cell is the place where you can grow.

### READ THIS BOOK

*Beginning Your New Life Discipleship Course* has 30 lessons to be completed over 30 weeks. Each lesson has two main parts: a unit for you to read and an application section. You may want to read each lesson in a day or two. It is preferable that you read and study it over a two-day period so that you can take

the time to grasp the truths being taught. Use the following guidelines for your reading:

**1. Ask God to speak to you.**

**2. Memorize the *Scripture Memory Verse* of the week.**

The Bible says, “***I have hidden Your word in my heart that I might not sin against You***” (Psalm 119:11). Memorizing Scriptures is one way to hide God’s Word in your heart, the great advantage being that the verses you memorize are available when you need them—even when you are not near a Bible. After a few days, you may forget the verses you have learned, so you will need to review them daily to keep them in your memory bank. You may want to write the memory verse on a card and carry it with you so you can read it through the day in order to memorize it.

Perhaps you need to know how to find a Bible reference. For example, in John 3:16, “John” refers to the book, the number “3” refers to the chapter, and “16” refers to the verse. In front of your Bible, the table of contents lists which page each book starts on. Once you have turned to the book, you can find the chapters and verses you are looking for printed at the top of the page or within the text itself.

**3. Read through the lesson slowly, think prayerfully about the truths being taught, and then relate them honestly to your life.**

**4. Work on the suggested applications in the *Living Your New Life This Week* section.**

## **LISTEN TO GOD**

Listening to God is a vital part of the Christian life. In **Lesson 2** you will learn more about how to hear from God. Begin now to spend time with God **on a daily basis** to listen to Him. At

the end of each week, record the highlights of what you have heard from God in the Listen to God This Week section.

Use the *Listening Room Time Guide* provided in this book to guide you in listening to God through reading the Gospel of Mark. The guide will take you through Mark over a period of two months.

## **MEET YOUR SPONSOR**

As you begin your new life, you need someone to guide you along in your spiritual growth. The leader of your cell group will introduce you to one of the cell members who will become your sponsor. He or she will meet with you weekly to discuss what you have learned during the week and to pray with you.





## LESSON 11

# THE NEW BIRTH

### Listening Room Time Guide:

#### *Day - Scripture for Reading*

- 11 -Acts 3:11-26
- 12 -Acts 4:1-4
- 13 -Acts 4:5-17
- 14 -Acts 4:18-22
- 15 -Acts 4:23-31
- 16 -Acts 4:32-37
- 17 -Acts 5:1-11

#### *Key Lesson*

- Peter admonishes the onlookers.
- Peter and John arrested.
- Peter's Sermon to the Council.
- Peter and John must speak.
- A prayer for boldness.
- Distribution of possessions.
- Ananias and Sapphira lie in the Holy Ghost.

#### **Memorize:**

***“Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” (John 3:3)***

The Lord said in Luke 13:24, ***“Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.”*** We don't just automatically make heaven our home when we die. God has a path that leads to life. Before we even start this journey, we must qualify by being born again. This supernatural experience consists of repentance (death to our will or a change of mind), birth of water (baptism) and birth of Spirit (Holy Ghost). This lesson is structured to give you the basic knowledge of the new birth, for without it, you cannot be part of His kingdom.

### **YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN!**

1. Can flesh and blood enter into the kingdom of God? \_\_\_\_\_  
(1 Corinthians 15:50) That is why we must be born a second time.
2. The new birth consists of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.  
(John 3:5)

3. Before we can experience “new life” and be spiritually fruitful, we must be like a kernel of wheat and \_\_\_\_\_. (John 12:24)

• **Repentance** (*Death*)

The word **repentance** comes from the Greek *metanoia*, which means “*a change of mind.*” It means to experience a change in your heart and mind to *turn from sin* and *turn toward God*. It is regret that needs to be accompanied by a decision.

1. If we turn from our sins, we will surely \_\_\_\_\_, and will not \_\_\_\_\_. (Ezekiel 18:21)

2. What happens to those who do not repent?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 13:5)

3. God is “...*not willing that* \_\_\_\_\_, *but that all should* \_\_\_\_\_ *to* \_\_\_\_\_.” (2 Peter 3:9)

4. We do not arrive at that place of repentance on our own, but it is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God that leads us there. (Romans 2:4)

5. We must \_\_\_\_\_ our ways, \_\_\_\_\_ the voice of God to turn away God’s wrath toward those that disobey Him. (Jeremiah 26:13)

6. 2 Corinthians 7:9-10 tells us that there are two kinds of sorrow. What are they? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

What kind of sorrow works repentance to salvation?  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Proverbs 28:13 says that “*He that covereth his sins shall not prosper...*” What must one do with his sins to find mercy?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

8. There was a time when ignorance of God’s ways was an excuse, but now God \_\_\_\_\_ all men to \_\_\_\_\_ . (Acts 17:30)
9. Acts 3:19 says if we repent and be converted, our sins will be \_\_\_\_\_ , when the times of \_\_\_\_\_ shall come.
10. Peter answered those who asked, “***What shall we do?***” by telling them they need to \_\_\_\_\_ and be \_\_\_\_\_ in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and they shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (Acts 2:37-38)

• **Born of water (*Burial*)**

The word “**baptism**” comes from the Greek word “*bapto*” which means to immerse or dip. The New Testament was originally written in the Greek language and used the word with its original, literal meaning. This word has lost its true meaning of immersion because the method of sprinkling was substituted for convenience.

However, let’s review the scriptures where water baptism was carried out and see how it was done.

1. Does water baptism save us? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 3:20-21) “***He that believeth and is \_\_\_\_\_ shall be \_\_\_\_\_.***” (Mark 16:16)
2. Whose counsel did the Pharisees and lawyers reject by not being baptized? \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 7:29-30)
3. Water baptism is for the \_\_\_\_\_ of sins. (Acts 2:38)
4. It is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ that washes away our sins. (Revelation 1:5; Matthew 26:28)

The blood is applied through faith and our sins are \_\_\_\_\_ away when we are baptized. (Acts 22:16) *It is our faith in Jesus Christ and our obedience to the Word of God that validates our water baptism.*

5. Our sins are washed away when we are baptized in the name of \_\_\_\_\_ . (Acts 2:38; 8:15-17; 10:43; 19:4-5; 22:16; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

Not once did any of the apostles baptize using the titles, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, but in each account of water baptism, they obeyed Matthew 28:19 by baptizing new Christians in the name of Jesus Christ.

## **HISTORICAL EVIDENCE THAT THE FORMULA OF BAPTISM IN “JESUS’ NAME” HAD BEEN CHANGED**

**Britannica Encyclopedia**, 11th Edition, Volume 3, pages 365-366 – Baptism was changed from the **name of Jesus** to words Father, Son and Holy Ghost in second century.

**Canney Encyclopedia of Religion**, page 53 – The early church baptized in the “**name of the Lord Jesus**” until the second century.

**Hastings Encyclopedia of Religion**, Volume 2 – Christian baptism was administered using the words, “**in the name of Jesus**” page 377. Baptism was always in the **name of Jesus** until the time of Justin Martyr, page 389.

**Catholic Encyclopedia**, Volume 2, page 263 – Here the authors acknowledged that the baptismal formula was changed by their church.

**Schaff-Herzog Religious Encyclopedia**, Volume 1, page 453 – The New Testament knows only the baptism in the **name of Jesus**.

**Hastings Dictionary of Bible**, page 88 – It must be acknowledged that the three-fold name of Matthew 28:19 does not appear to have been used by the primitive church, but rather in the **name of Jesus, Jesus Christ** or **Lord Jesus**.

*First century Christians **INVOKED** or **CALLED** the name of Jesus over believers in water baptism. If, as some say, “the name of Jesus means the authority of Jesus,” then so much more should the **NAME**, rather than titles, be called over an individual in water baptism. (See Matthew 28:18, Acts 4:12 and Colossians 2:9)*

6. Is there any other name whereby we must be saved?

\_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 4:10-12)

7. Why was John baptizing in the location of Aenon?

\_\_\_\_\_ (John 3:23)

8. Jesus, when baptized by John, was fully immersed in the water.

Matthew 3:16 says, “**Jesus, when He was baptized** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **straightway** \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_.”

9. After Philip preached to the eunuch, he asked Philip to baptize him since they were conveniently located near some water.

Acts 8:38-39 says, “**...they went** \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, **both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they were** \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, **the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip...**”

10. Colossians 2:12 says we are \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ in baptism.

**HOW WERE SOULS BAPTIZED  
ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES?**

<b>THOSE BAPTIZED IN JESUS' NAME</b>	<b>THOSE THAT WERE BAPTIZED IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY GHOST</b>
<p><b>JEWES</b> – <i>“...Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ...”</i> Acts 2:38</p> <p><b>SAMARITANS</b> – <i>“...they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.”</i> Acts 8:16</p> <p><b>GENTILES</b> – <i>“And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.”</i> Acts 10:48</p> <p><b>EPHESIANS</b> – <i>“When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.”</i> Acts 19:5</p>	<p><b>NONE</b></p>

**Born of the Spirit (Resurrection)**

People first experienced the birth of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4). Peter explained that this was a fulfillment

of prophecy that God would pour out His Spirit upon all flesh (Acts 2:16-17).

1. Why is it necessary to be born of the water and of the Spirit?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (John 3:1-8)
2. Can you be a part of the Body of Christ without the indwelling presence of the Holy Ghost? \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 8:9-11)
3. What was the “promise” that would be given by God?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 1:4-5)
4. When they received the “promise,” they all \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ . (Acts 2:4)
5. Did Mary, the mother of Jesus speak in tongues when she received the Holy Ghost? \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 1:14; 2:1-4, 33)

Did Paul, the apostle who wrote the letter to the Corinthian church speak in tongues? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 1:1; 14:18, 39) Did the Ephesians speak in tongues? \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 19:6)

6. How did Peter know that Cornelius and his household received the Holy Ghost while he was yet preaching to them?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 10:45-46)
7. Is the “promise” still for us today? \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 2:39)
8. What do we receive with the Holy Ghost?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 1:8)

This power enables us to be a witness – which is the ability to live the Christian life, and to proclaim the Word of God.

## **WHY ARE SOME NOT SAVED?**

In Matthew 7:14, we read that the only souls that entered into heaven were the ones that found the way. This lets us know that each one of us is responsible for finding out what God's Word says about how we can enter into His kingdom.

1. Many do not know or understand the gospel. This is an indication that they are \_\_\_\_\_. (2 Corinthians 4:3)
2. Who has blinded the minds of them that believe not?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Corinthians 4:4)
3. What will happen to those who do not receive the love of the truth because they had pleasure in unrighteousness?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12)
4. Another reason why some have not obeyed the gospel is that they have not \_\_\_\_\_ it. (Romans 10:14-17)

## **CAN YOU LOSE YOUR SALVATION?**

Philippians 2:12 tells us that we must work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. We are warned not to take our salvation for granted. It is a gift, but at the same time, it is possible to forfeit or forsake the gift He has given us.

1. Was Paul concerned that even he could lose out with God?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 10:12)
2. Hebrews 3:13-14 tells us that we can be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. Under what condition can we become partakers of Christ? \_\_\_\_\_
3. According to Hebrews 6:4-8, is it possible for those who were once enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift to fall away? \_\_\_\_\_



4. John says that if we \_\_\_\_\_ in God's word, then we are His disciples. Only if we keep His word will we not see \_\_\_\_\_. (John 8:31, 51).
5. If we do not keep God's word and go back to obvious acts of our sinful nature such as sexual immorality, drunkenness and reveling, can we still be accepted into the Kingdom of God? \_\_\_\_\_ (Galatians 5:19-21).
6. ***"Having damnation, because they have \_\_\_\_\_ their first faith (pledge)."*** (1 Timothy 5:12)
7. 2 Chronicles 15:2 and Deuteronomy 30:17-18 tells us that if we forsake the Lord, he will \_\_\_\_\_ us.
8. If we continue sinning, is there any more sacrifice for our sins? \_\_\_\_\_ (Hebrews 10:26)
9. Matthew 10:22 tells us that ***"...he that endureth (stands) to the end shall be \_\_\_\_\_."***

## SUMMARY

When we repent, are baptized in Jesus' name for the remission of sins and filled with the Holy Ghost we identify with Christ's death, burial and resurrection as illustrated in the following verses taken from the **New International Version**:

***"...We died to sin, how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."*** (Romans 6:2-4 NIV)

# LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE THIS WEEK

- 1. Memorize *John 3:3*.
- 2. Review all the verses that you have memorized.
- 3. 3. Continue to read the Book of Acts daily, using the *Listening Room Time Guide*.
- 4. Listen to God this week:

*What has God revealed to me about Himself?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What has God taught me about Christian living?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What does God want me to do?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 12

# YOUR NEW LIFE

### Listening Room Time Guide:

#### *Day- Scripture for Reading*

#### *Key Lesson*

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| ○ 18 -Acts 5:12-16 | Apostles' mighty miracles.                      |
| ○ 19 -Acts 5:17-32 | Apostles are miraculously freed<br>from prison. |
| ○ 20 -Acts 5:33-41 | Gamaliel's Counsel                              |
| ○ 21 -Acts 6:1-7   | Deacons are appointed.                          |
| ○ 22 -Acts 6:8-15  | Stephen is brought before the Council.          |
| ○ 23 -Acts 7:1-8   | Stephen preaches to the Council.                |
| ○ 24 -Acts 7:9-19  | Joseph Sold by the Patriarchs                   |

#### **Memorize:**

***“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”***  
**(2 Corinthians 5:17)**

There are many in our world today that are miserable over the way they have lived their lives.

Many wish that they could somehow go back, erase their past and start all over again. That's exactly what God has done in the lives of those who have experienced the “new birth.” That is, of course, the greatest miracle any soul can ever experience in one's lifetime.

Along with this new life comes: new knowledge, new affections, new desires and new priorities.

### **A NEW CREATION IN CHRIST**

1. When God filled us with the Holy Ghost He gave us a “new” spirit that affected our heart. Ezekiel 11:19 say that He took out the \_\_\_\_\_ heart and gave us a \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The new birth gives us a new nature. However, we can still allow the old nature to control us. Ephesians 4:22-24 tells us to put OFF the former conversation, of the \_\_\_\_\_ and put ON the \_\_\_\_\_, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.
  
3. Romans 6:4 tell us that we should walk in \_\_\_\_\_.
  
4. We are to reckon the “old life” as dead. The old man is crucified with Christ. What will no longer have dominion over us? \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 6:14)
  
5. As you begin your new life, it is important not to long for those pleasures of our past that did not contribute to godly living. Jesus said, “***No man, having put his hand to the plough (plow), and looking back, is \_\_\_\_\_.***” (Luke 9:62)
  
6. After Israel had been miraculously delivered from Egyptian bondage, they actually started to lust for the Egyptian food and began to complain, being deceived in their minds that feeding their stomachs with Egyptian delicacies were more important than freedom. 2 Peter 2:21-22 says it is better not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and turn back. Peter compares it to a dog returning to its \_\_\_\_\_ or a pig that was washed to her \_\_\_\_\_.
  
7. It is important that we burn behind us those bridges of ungodly relationships and dishonest practices that could endanger our walk with God. Paul said, “***This one thing I do, ...***” (Philippians 3:13) What did he do? \_\_\_\_\_

## CONFLICT BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW NATURE

You need to keep in mind that you are young babes just learning how to walk. It is not unusual for a young child to fall. We have a merciful Father who has made a way for us to be forgiven and cleansed from all our unrighteousness.

1. We are made \_\_\_\_\_ by the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ. (Hebrews 10:14)
2. But if we sin willfully (deliberately), there remains no \_\_\_\_\_ for our sins. (Hebrews 10:26)
3. However, if we confess our sins, He is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ us our sins, and to \_\_\_\_\_ us from all our unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)
4. The child of God can live an overcoming life. ***“Shall we \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?”*** (Romans 6:1-2)
5. Is it possible to suffer temptation that is more than you can bear? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 10:13)
6. Should sin have control of your new life? \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 6:14)
7. As we continue to walk with the Lord, we learn through experience how to overcome our carnal desires and Satan’s evil devices. When is a man tempted? \_\_\_\_\_ (James 1:12-15)

8. Can we become what we think? \_\_\_\_\_ (Proverbs 23:7)

9. What are we to do with our minds so that we may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God? \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 12:2)

***IF WE CAN CONTROL OUR MIND, WE CAN CONTROL OUR ACTIONS!***

**GUIDELINES TO SPIRITUAL MATURITY**

It is not sufficient to be “*born again*.” As we know, many babies are born that never grow up to see adulthood. We need to make every effort to keep the spiritual man alive and healthy. Just as you nourish your natural man, you need to practice the following “**3-F**” diet plan to maintain your spiritual life.

**1. Fellowship**

Attend church and Home Friendship meetings regularly:

***“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.”*** (Romans 10:17)

***“Not forsaking the \_\_\_\_\_ of ourselves \_\_\_\_\_, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the \_\_\_\_\_, as ye see the day approaching.”*** (Hebrews 10:25)

***“Till I come, give attendance to \_\_\_\_\_, to \_\_\_\_\_, to \_\_\_\_\_... continue in them; for in doing this thou shalt both \_\_\_\_\_ thyself, and them that hear thee.”*** (1 Timothy 4:13, 16)

***“Those that be planted in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the LORD shall \_\_\_\_\_ in the courts of our God.”*** (Psalm 92:13)

## 2. Food

Continue to keep yourself familiar with the word by daily reading and meditating.

*“It is written, That man shall not live by \_\_\_\_\_ alone, but by every \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.”* (Luke 4:4)

*“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the \_\_\_\_\_, that ye may \_\_\_\_\_ thereby.”* (1 Peter 2:2)

*“\_\_\_\_\_ to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.”* (2 Timothy 2:15)

## 3. Fortification

Establish regular prayer time.

*“But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, \_\_\_\_\_ in the Holy Ghost.”* (Jude 1:20)

*“And He spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, and not to faint.”* (Luke 18:1)

*“\_\_\_\_\_ without ceasing.”* (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

## THE FAMILY OF GOD

As a result of being born again, God has become our Heavenly Father and we His begotten children by His Spirit, making us spiritual brothers and sisters in the family of God.

1. *“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_, whereby we cry, Abba, \_\_\_\_\_. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that WE ARE THE CHILDREN OF GOD.”* (Romans 8:14-16)

2. “Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the \_\_\_\_\_: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not. Beloved, NOW ARE WE THE SONS OF GOD...” (*1 John 3:1-2*).
3. “Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same \_\_\_\_\_. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them \_\_\_\_\_.” (*Hebrews 2:11*)

## **BECOMING FAMILIAR WITH WORSHIP**

Let’s examine the scriptures to see what they say about worship in the sanctuary. Look up the scriptures and fill in the blanks.

1. (Psalm 150:3-5) tells us to worship the Lord with \_\_\_\_\_ instruments, such as trumpets, timbrels, harps, organs and loud cymbals.
2. (Psalm 98:4) instructs us to make a joyful \_\_\_\_\_ unto the LORD.
3. (Psalm 134:2) “*Lift up your \_\_\_\_\_ in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD.*”
4. (Psalm 47:1) “\_\_\_\_\_ your hands, all ye people, shout unto God with the voice of triumph.”
5. (Psalm 149:3) “*Let them praise His name in the \_\_\_\_\_.*”
6. (2 Chronicles 20:19) “*And the Levites... \_\_\_\_\_ up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high.*”



7. (Revelation 19:1, 6) “...*I heard a great \_\_\_\_\_ of much \_\_\_\_\_ in heaven, saying, Alleluia... And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia...*”

## **SUMMARY**

It is the will of God that you become familiar with your new surroundings and become involved in this spiritual environment. Let us be faithful in striving for perfection by daily making a conscious effort to live for God and remember to whom we now belong.

Be not weary in well doing, knowing that God is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him and desire to do His will. If you fail, learn from your experience and get up and go on. May this scripture be of strength and encouragement to you. Never forget it!

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

# LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE THIS WEEK

- 1. Memorize 2 *Corinthians* 5:17.
- 2. Review all the verses that you have memorized.
- 3. Continue to read the Book of Acts daily, using the *Listening Room Time Guide*.

4. Listen to God this week:

*What has God revealed to me about Himself?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What has God taught me about Christian living?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What does God want me to do?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 13

# THE CHURCH

### Listening Room Time Guide:

#### *Day- Scripture for Reading*

- 25 -Acts 7:20-36
- 26 -Acts 7:37-50
- 27 -Acts 7:51-53
- 28 -Acts 7:54-60
- 29 -Acts 8:1-3
- 30 -Acts 8:4-8
- 1 -Acts 8:9-25

#### *Key Lesson*

- Through Moses God Delivered Israel
- Raising Up a Prophet
- Stephen Accuses His Accusers
- The Stoning of Stephen
- Persecution of the Church
- Philip Preaches in Samaria
- Simon's Attempted Purchase

#### **Memorize:**

***“From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” (Ephesians 4:16)***

You may have heard the word **church** all your life. Perhaps you considered it to be the building where you attended services; but it is much more than that. The word “church” comes from the

Greek “*ekklesia*,” which means, “**called out.**” It is the mystical body of Christ of which He is the head (Ephesians 1:22-23). God has called us out of this present world of darkness into a glorious relationship with Him and with other believers who have become our brothers and sisters in the Lord. The true church of Jesus Christ is a spiritual building made up of believers whose bodies has become the holy habitation of God (Ephesians 2:21-22; 1 Corinthians 3:9).

### **WE ARE “CALLED OUT”**

Read the following scriptures and complete each sentence:

1. We are called according to His \_\_\_\_\_. (Romans 8:28)
2. God has called us to \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Corinthians 7:15)
3. He has called us by His \_\_\_\_\_. (Galatians 1:15)
4. He has called us to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (moral excellence). (2 Peter 1:3)
5. God did not call us unto \_\_\_\_\_ but unto \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Thessalonians 4:7)
6. We have been called out of \_\_\_\_\_ and into His \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Peter 2:9)
7. God has called us to be \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Peter 1:15)
8. We have been called out to become the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. (1 John 3:1)

## THE CHURCH BODY

1. In Ephesians 2:20-22, the church body is likened to a building, built to be a \_\_\_\_\_ of God through the Spirit.
2. *“Now ye are the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ in particular.”* (1 Corinthians 12:27)
3. Read **1 Corinthians 12:12-14**. These verses tell us that the body is made up of many \_\_\_\_\_. And God has placed you in the body as it has pleased Him.

4. “*So we, being many, are \_\_\_\_\_ body in Christ, and every one members \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.*”  
(Romans 12:5)

## EARLY CHURCH MEETINGS

The “church” of the Old Testament came together for worship and edification in the man-made tent known as the tabernacle and later in the temple and other buildings known as synagogues.

The New Testament “church,” however, had no designated buildings for the first three centuries. And it was in these first three centuries that it experienced its most rapid growth. It often met in halls for teachings and celebrations, but the life of the church was nurtured in their homes.

1. The following scriptures illustrate that the church assembled in one of two places: the temple or someone’s home. Look up the following scriptures and indicate where they met and what they did:

<i>Scripture</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Temple</i>	<i>House</i>
1.) Acts 2:46	<u><i>Broke bread</i></u>	<u>√</u>	<u>√</u>
2.) Acts 3:1	_____	_____	_____
3.) Acts 5:20	_____	_____	_____
4.) Acts 5:42	_____	_____	_____
5.) Acts 12:12	_____	_____	_____
6.) Acts 16:40	_____	_____	_____
7.) Acts 20:20	_____	_____	_____
8.) Acts 28:30-31	_____	_____	_____
9.) Psalm 27:4	_____	_____	_____
10.) Isaiah 2:3	_____	_____	_____

2. Where did the church meet in each of the following scriptural references? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 16:19; Colossians 4:15; Philemon 2; Romans 16:5)

## **HOME FRIENDSHIP GROUPS (OIKOS Groups)**

No man can minister to thousands effectively; likewise, the pastor of a large church cannot effectively minister to all the individual needs of the congregation and relies on the members to minister and to help one another.

1. Paul told Timothy to pass on his knowledge to others in 2 Timothy 2:2, “*And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men...*” What will these men do in turn?  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. When a body of believers gather together in a home, should there be only one designated individual to minister?

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 14:26)

3. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 says we are to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ one another.

## **Eight Purposes of the Home Friendship Groups (HFG)- Oikos**

1. *To make disciples...* discipleship is a process by demonstration.
2. *To develop a prayer life...* prayer is used continually to help the cell.
3. *For fellowship...* a productive, positive caring and sharing takes place.
4. *To manifest the gifts...* saints are given opportunity to minister through the Spirit.

5. *To allow everyone to minister...* everyone can edify.
6. *A greater measure of needs are met...* 90% of personal needs are provided through HFG (Oikos Groups)
7. *Souls can be saved daily...* church only happens on special days... HFG (Oikos Groups) can occur everyday.
8. *To evangelize...* HFG puts its emphasis upon reaching others.

## **SUMMARY**

It is important to be involved in church activities. We should gather in the sanctuary for corporate worship to hear the Word preached by the pastor and to be strengthened by prayer.

This will help equip us for our service to the Lord during the week. It is also vital that we get together in small intimate groups where we can minister to and encourage one another. Then we can work together to reach out to those who have not yet made a decision to make Jesus Christ Lord of their life.

## LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE THIS WEEK

1. Memorize *Ephesians 4:16*.
2. Review all the verses that you have memorized.
3. Continue to read the Book of Acts daily, using the *Listening Room Time Guide*.
4. Listen to God this week:

*What has God revealed to me about Himself?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What has God taught me about Christian living?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What does God want me to do?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## LESSON 14

# YOUR PASTORS

### Listening Room Time Guide:

#### *Day- Scripture for Reading*

- 2 -Acts 8:26-40
- 3 -Acts 9:1-9
- 4 -Acts 9:10-18
- 5 -Acts 9:19-22
- 6 -Acts 9:23-25
  
- 7 -Acts 9:26-31
- 8 -Acts 9:32-35

#### *Key Lesson*

- The Ethiopian Eunuch's Baptism
- Saul's Conversion
- Ananias and Saul
- Saul in Damascus
- The Disciples Save Saul from Death
- Saul in Jerusalem
- Aeneas Healed by Peter

### Memorize:

***“I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.” (Jeremiah 3:15)***

Most of you are just beginning your new life in Jesus Christ. It is a new path and unfamiliar, with many question marks. Therefore, it is a wonderful thing to follow someone who has walked this way for many years. The guiding and helping hand of a godly pastor is invaluable in your walk with God. Paul said, ***“Be ye followers (imitators) of me, even as I also am of Christ.”*** (1 Corinthians 11:1)

In this lesson, we will examine the vital role our pastors play in our spiritual lives.

## THE PASTOR AND HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO THE CHURCH

In 1 Peter 5:4, Peter tells us that Jesus is the **Chief Shepherd**. However, scriptures teach us that **God has appointed** unto us “pastors” or “undershepherds” directly responsible to Christ as leaders of local assemblies. An example of an

undershepherd in the Old Testament would be David, ***“He chose David... to be the shepherd of His people... And David shepherded them with integrity of heart with skillful hands he led them.”*** (Psalm 78:70-72, NIV)

1. In Psalm 100:3, the Psalmist refers to the children of God as:  
***“...We are His people, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of His pasture.”***

2. According to 1 Timothy 3:1-13, list the qualifications one must meet to hold a position of leadership in the Church.

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1) _____ | 9) _____  |
| 2) _____ | 10) _____ |
| 3) _____ | 11) _____ |
| 4) _____ | 12) _____ |
| 5) _____ | 13) _____ |
| 6) _____ | 14) _____ |
| 7) _____ | 15) _____ |
| 8) _____ | 16) _____ |

3. The responsibilities of a pastor are to satisfy the needs of his flock as summed up in one verse... Isaiah 40:11.

***“He shall \_\_\_\_\_ His flock like a shepherd: He shall \_\_\_\_\_ the lambs with His arm, and \_\_\_\_\_ them in His bosom, and gently \_\_\_\_\_ those that are with young.”***

a. He sees that the sheep are fed...  
***“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost has made you overseers, \_\_\_\_\_ the church of God...”*** (Acts 20:28).

**“\_\_\_\_\_ the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind...”** (1 Peter 5:2).

**“And I will set up shepherds over them, which shall \_\_\_\_\_ them: and they shall \_\_\_\_\_ no more, nor be \_\_\_\_\_, neither shall they be \_\_\_\_\_, saith the LORD.”** (Jeremiah 23:4)

b. He will protect the flock (*from distortion of the truth*)...

**“Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them \_\_\_\_\_ from me.”** (Ezekiel 3:17)

**“I charge thee therefore before God... preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ with all longsuffering and doctrine, for the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine... and they shall turn away their ears from the truth...”** (2 Timothy 4:1-4)

**“I have set \_\_\_\_\_ upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall \_\_\_\_\_ hold their peace day nor night...”** (Isaiah 62:6)

c. He will lead and guide by his experience and example...

**“And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.”** (Jeremiah 3:15)

**“Neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being \_\_\_\_\_ to the flock.”** (1 Peter 5:3)

d. He will equip the saints for the work of the ministry...

God has given pastors for “... *the \_\_\_\_\_ of the saints, for the work of the \_\_\_\_\_, for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the body of Christ.*” (Ephesians 4:12)

## **OUR RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD THE PASTOR**

1. The Apostle Paul exhorts us to respect and honor our spiritual leaders. Read 1Thessalonians 5:12-13 and 1Timothy 5:17 and fill in the blanks.

*“And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which \_\_\_\_\_ among you, and are \_\_\_\_\_ you in the Lord, and \_\_\_\_\_ you; And to \_\_\_\_\_ them very highly in \_\_\_\_\_ for their work’s sake. And be at peace among yourselves.”*

*“Let the elders that \_\_\_\_\_ well be counted worthy of double \_\_\_\_\_, especially they who \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.”*

2. List three ways in which we can support our pastors.
- a. \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 15:30)
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (Hebrews 13:17)
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 9:11, 13-14)

## **SUMMARY**

It is important that we respect, follow, and work with the man of God chosen as our pastor. We should guard our tongues and be careful not to criticize or find fault. The pastor is accountable to God; and it is not our responsibility to reprove him. Rather, we need to always support him in our prayers and labor together for the advancement of the kingdom of God.

# LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE THIS WEEK

- 1. Memorize *Jeremiah 3:15*.
- 2. Review all the verses that you have memorized.
- 3. Continue to read the Book of Acts daily, using the *Listening Room Time Guide*.
- 4. Listen to God this week:

*What has God revealed to me about Himself?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What has God taught me about Christian living?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What does God want me to do?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# LESSON 15

## SOUL WINNING

### Listening Room Time Guide:

#### *Day -Scripture for Reading*

- 9 -Acts 9:36-43
- 10 -Acts 10:1-8
- 11 -Acts 10:9-22
- 12 -Acts 10:23-33
- 13 -Acts 10:34-43
- 14 -Acts 10:44-48
- 15 -Acts 11:1-18

#### *Key Lesson*

- Dorcas Raised from Death
- Cornelius' Vision
- Peter's Trance and Vision
- Peter Visits Cornelius
- Preaching to Cornelius
- Gentiles Received the Holy Spirit
- Jewish Believers Challenge Peter

### Memorize:

***“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that WINNETH SOULS is WISE.” (Proverbs 11:30)***

Because of your new experience in Christ, you are anxious to tell others about what the Lord has done for you. However, as babes in the Lord, you may feel inadequate to give them the gospel message according to the Bible. The intent of this lesson is to show you how you can express Christ's love to your family and friends and introduce them to Jesus Christ.

### **YE SHALL BE WITNESSES UNTO ME...**

1. Acts 1:8 tells us the power of the Holy Ghost was given to us for the purpose of being Christ's \_\_\_\_\_ all over the world.
2. 1 Peter 3:15 tells us to ***“...be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you...”*** What does this mean?

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3. How do we let our light shine before all men?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 5:16)
4. ***“He that winneth souls is \_\_\_\_\_.”*** (Proverbs 11:30)
5. Paul prayed that he might ***“Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how \_\_\_\_\_.”*** (Colossians 4:5-6)
6. Before you can win a soul, you need to win them as a friend. How can we do that? \_\_\_\_\_ (Proverbs 18:24)
7. People don’t care what you know until they know that you care. Don’t judge, criticize or offend the individual you are witnessing to. Remember that you are sent as witnesses, not prosecuting attorneys. What is harder to win than a strong city? \_\_\_\_\_ (Proverbs 18:19)
8. We must speak the truth in \_\_\_\_\_. (Ephesians 4:15)
9. When we share the gospel, we should not be argumentative, but be \_\_\_\_\_ and instruct with \_\_\_\_\_ and have a \_\_\_\_\_ spirit. (2 Timothy 2:24-25)
10. What is accomplished when you are able to turn a sinner from the error of his way? (James 5:19-20)
- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_



11. Even though we may not be eloquent with the scriptures, what two things can we make known to other people? (1 Chronicles 16:8-9)
- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Paul did not come with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ and of \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Corinthians 2:4)
13. What reward is laid up for all faithful witness?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Timothy 4:8)
14. What will happen to those who turn many to righteousness?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Daniel 12:3)
15. What did Jesus say about the harvest and the workers?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 9:37)
16. For what did the Lord tell us to pray?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 9:38)

## SANCTIFICATION

The word “**sanctification**” means “*to set apart, to make holy.*” Because of your sanctification in Christ, you now are the main link in the salvation of your family members and friends.

1. How is a child, an unbelieving husband or wife made holy?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (1Corinthians 7:12-16)
2. God sent Peter to Cornelius to preach the gospel so that he and his \_\_\_\_\_ might be saved. (Acts 11:12-15)
3. Who, besides Lydia, was saved in Acts 16:12-15?  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Who, besides the jailer, was saved in Acts 16:27-34?

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## PREPARING THE HEART

Before we can be effective in reaching others, we need to cleanse our hearts. Likewise, we need to ask the Lord to prepare the hearts of those we want to reach.

1. David realized he needed a **clean heart** before he would be able to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 51:1-13).
2. Before Paul came to Thyatira to witness to Lydia, what did the Lord do to her heart that she might receive his testimony?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 16:14)
3. Also, we need to pray that God would \_\_\_\_\_ a  
\_\_\_\_\_ for us to be able to share the gospel with the person whose heart God has prepared. (Colossians 4:3)
4. Before a birth takes place in the physical world, a woman experiences labor pains. It is the same in the spiritual world. One may have to agonize in prayer unto the Lord with much travail, before a soul can be born into the kingdom of God. What does God promise to those who go forth and plant seed with weeping and compassion? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 126:6)
5. We need to pray that the Lord give us the words and the wisdom to reach others. Read Isaiah 50:4. ***“The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned...”*** Why?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. When we have to give witness and defense for the gospel, what will happen? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Matthew 10:18-20)

## SUMMARY

One of the most thrilling experiences in life is winning someone to God. Next to that, is seeing them grow, and in turn, win others to the Lord. However, this doesn't happen by accident. Only by our consistent, loving example, can we nurture them to maturity, and finally, bring these precious souls to Him with rejoicing. Paul's desire for the Church is expressed in Philemon 6, ***"I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have free understanding of every good thing we have in Christ."***

## LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE THIS WEEK

1. Memorize *Proverbs 11:30*.
2. Review all the verses that you have memorized.
3. Continue to read the Book of Acts daily, using the *Listening Room Time Guide*.
4. Listen to God this week:

*What has God revealed to me about Himself?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What has God taught me about Christian living?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What does God want me to do?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## LESSON 16

# CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

### Listening Room Time Guide:

#### Day- Scripture for Reading

#### Key Lesson

- |                     |                                   |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ○ 16 -Acts 11:19-26 | Barnabas Sent to Antioch          |
| ○ 17 -Acts 11:27-30 | Relief for Judea                  |
| ○ 18 -Acts 12:1-6   | Persecution by Herod              |
| ○ 19 -Acts 12:7-19  | The Angel of the Lord Frees Peter |
| ○ 20 -Acts 12:20-25 | God Smites Herod                  |
| ○ 21 -Acts 13:1-3   | Saul and Barnabas Commissioned    |
| ○ 22 -Acts 13:4-12  | Saul and Barnabas Sail to Cyprus  |

#### Memorize:

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

One of the most important questions that we can ask is: “What is the evidence and proof that someone is a Christian, a true follower of the Lord Jesus Christ?” We know that attending church does not make one a Christian any more than standing in your garage makes you a car.

### HOW WILL OTHERS KNOW YOU ARE A TRUE CHRISTIAN?

***“Ye shall know them by their \_\_\_\_\_. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a \_\_\_\_\_ tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A \_\_\_\_\_ tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the \_\_\_\_\_. Wherefore by their \_\_\_\_\_ ye shall know them.” (Matthew 7:16-20)***

What Jesus was telling us in these verses is that people produce fruit just as trees do. Their fruit (the way they live their lives) is the result of their character. The inward condition of a person is seen in their outward actions.

People are either one of two types of trees:

1. **Bad Tree** (Bad Character) - Produces bad fruit, which is the works of the flesh.
2. **Good Tree** (Good Character) - Produces good fruit which is the fruit of the Spirit.

## **WORKS OF THE FLESH** (Galatians 5:19-21)

**Adultery** *A married person who has sexual relations with someone other than their spouse*

**Fornication** *Sexual immorality. Includes all forms of illicit sexual relations*

**Uncleanness** *Moral impurity in thought, word and deed*

**Lasciviousness** *Open shameless display of sexual sins, lustful behavior*

**Idolatry** *Something or someone you love and honor more than God*

**Witchcraft** *Sorcery, entering into the realm of evil spirits*

**Hatred** *Intense feeling of anger or hostility toward someone*

**Variance** *Acts of hatred*

**Emulations** *Jealousy*

**Wrath** *Outbursts of temper*

**Strife** *Fighting, arguing*

**Seditions** *Divisions into separate groups*

**Heresies** *False teachings*

**Envyings** *Evil desire to possess what belongs to someone else*

**Murders** *Destruction of human life*

**Drunkennes** *Intoxication with strong drink*

**Revellings** *Wild parties*

Paul concludes his list of the works of the flesh with “...and such like,” letting us know that this is only a sampling of bad fruit.

## **THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT** (Galatians 5:22-23)

**Love** *An intense desire to please God and to do good to our fellowman without expecting anything in return.* (1 Corinthians 13:1-7)

**Joy** *Inner happiness as a result of having peace with God.* (1 Peter 1:8)

**Peace** *Absence of conflict. A calm assurance that all is well and God is in control.* (John 14:27)

**Longsuffering** *Patience toward others and the circumstances we find ourselves in.* (1 Timothy 1:16)

**Gentleness** *Kindness and courtesy in our dealings with others.* (1 Thessalonians 2:7)

**Goodness** *Desire to benefit and help others.* (Galatians 6:10)

**Faith** *Not saving faith, but faithfulness (trustworthy, loyal and dependable).* (Revelation 2:10; 17:14)

**Meekness** *Strength and power under control. A meek person does not retaliate when wronged.* (Titus 3:2)

**Temperance** *Self-control. A life controlled by God’s Spirit and not other influences.* (1 Corinthians 9:25)

1. Paul said the manifestation of a Christ-like life was compared to observers reading an \_\_\_\_\_, written not with ink, but with the \_\_\_\_\_.  
(2 Corinthians 3:2-3)
2. How will men know if you are a disciple of Christ?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (John 13:35)
3. Is it possible to profess to be a Christian, but in your actions deny Him? \_\_\_\_\_ (Titus 1:16)

## HOW TO PRODUCE GOOD FRUIT

1. ***“But the \_\_\_\_\_ that is from \_\_\_\_\_ is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and \_\_\_\_\_ ...”*** (James 3:17)
2. How can we help ourselves become fruit-bearing trees?
  - a. We must desire \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. (1 Peter 2:1-2)
  - b. We must yield ourselves unto \_\_\_\_\_. (Romans 6:13)
  - c. We must deny our \_\_\_\_\_. (Romans 8:13; 1 Peter 4:2)
  - d. We must abide in \_\_\_\_\_. (John 15:5)
3. On which two commandments hang the law and the prophets?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 22:36-40)

## OUR GOOD FRUIT AFFECTS OTHERS

1. What are we fruitful in, according to Colossians 1:10?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the effect on others when they see your good works?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Matthew 5:16)
3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-27. These verses tell us that all members of the body (of believers) are important and that ***“...the members should have the same care one for another...”*** How can we do that?  
(Galatians 6:2) \_\_\_\_\_  
(John 13:35) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Ephesians 4:32) \_\_\_\_\_



(Romans 12:10) \_\_\_\_\_

(Romans 12:13) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Are you your brother's keeper? \_\_\_\_\_ (Genesis 4:9)

5. Our example can either be help or a hindrance to our brother or sister in the Lord. We should be careful that we don't become a \_\_\_\_\_ to our brother and give occasion for him/her to fall. (Romans 14:13)

6. List ways in which we can be a good example to our brother/sister:  
(Galatians 6:9-10; Luke 19:13) \_\_\_\_\_

(1 Timothy 2:9-10) \_\_\_\_\_

(Proverbs 17:9; 18:8) \_\_\_\_\_

7. List ways in which we can be a stumbling block to our brother/sister:  
(Romans 14:21) \_\_\_\_\_

(Proverbs 11:22) \_\_\_\_\_

(Hebrews 10:25) \_\_\_\_\_

## SUMMARY

**First Corinthians 3:16-17** tells us that we are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in us. This means that God actually lives in us. He is always with us. Jesus is the source of our good character. With His help and our desire to do so, we can live the Christian life and produce the spiritual fruit which is required of all true Christians and thus glorify God.

# LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE THIS WEEK

- 1. Memorize *Galatians 5:22-23*.
- 2. Review all the verses that you have memorized.
- 3. Continue to read the Book of Acts daily, using the *Listening Room Time Guide*.
- 4. Listen to God this week:

*What has God revealed to me about Himself?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What has God taught me about Christian living?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What does God want me to do?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 17

# HOW TO PRAY

### Listening Room Time Guide:

#### *Day- Scripture for Reading*

- 23 -Acts 13:13-41
- 24 -Acts 13:42-52
- 25 -Acts 14:1-7
- 26 -Acts 14:8-18
- 27 -Acts 14:19-20
- 28 -Acts 14:21-28
- 29 -Acts 15:1-21

#### *Key Lesson*

- Paul's Sermon in Antioch
- Paul and Barnabas Expelled
- Paul and Barnabas at Iconium
- Ministry in Lystra
- Paul Stoned and Left for Dead
- Ministry on the return trip and report on the First Missionary Journey
- A Dispute Over Circumcision

#### **Memorize:**

*“After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”*

**(Matthew 6:9-13)**

The most important thing we can do for God, ourselves, and for our world is to PRAY. It is the most powerful force in the universe. Prayer releases the hand of God who spoke the world into existence to do the otherwise impossible. God longs to reveal Himself to man through answered prayer. In this lesson, we will learn the keys to answered prayer.

Prayer is communicating with your Heavenly Father. As you know, communication is essential for a successful relationship; i.e., marriages, families, businesses, etc. When there is a communication breakdown, the relationship is doomed. If you want to be successful in your walk with God, you need to communicate with Him. We know that He is near and always

accessible to us by His Word. ***“That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after Him, and find Him, though He be not far from every one of us.”*** (Acts 17:27)

Prayer is two-way communication between man and God. The Lord will speak back to you in one of three ways:

- 1. Through a ***“still small voice.”*** (Isaiah 30:21; 1 Kings 19:12)
- 2. Through reading His Word. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- 3. Through the anointed preaching of a minister. (2 Timothy 4:2)

**WE HAVE AN INVITATION TO APPROACH GOD IN PRAYER**

1. The scriptures tell us, ***“...yet you have not, because you ask \_\_\_\_\_.”*** (James 4:2)

2. What three things are we invited to do? (Luke 11:9-10)

- A \_\_\_\_\_
- S \_\_\_\_\_
- K \_\_\_\_\_

What will be the results when we do them?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What were the disciples instructed to do? \_\_\_\_\_ (John 16:24)

What two things would happen if they would ask in His name?

\_\_\_\_\_

**IF WE ASK IN THE RIGHT MANNER, WE WILL RECEIVE**

***We must pray with the right attitude***

1. Prayer must be done in sincerity and simplicity. In Matthew 15:8, Jesus said that the hypocrites honored Him with their

\_\_\_\_\_ but their \_\_\_\_\_ was far from Him.

2. James 4:6 tell us how God responds to our attitude when coming to Him. He \_\_\_\_\_ the proud and gives \_\_\_\_\_ to the humble.
3. What attitude did the Pharisee display in Luke 18:10-15?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What attitude did the publican display in Luke 18:10-15?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. The Lord is nigh unto them that call upon Him in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Psalm 145:18-19) What will He do for those who fear Him?  
\_\_\_\_\_

***We must pray with our whole heart***

6. What will happen when we seek God with ALL of our heart?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Jeremiah 29:13)

***We must pray with faith***

7. Whatever we ask in prayer will be ours if we  
\_\_\_\_\_ that we will receive it. (Mark 11:24)

***Prayers from the righteous are powerful***

8. What kind of a man is effective and powerful in his prayer life?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (James 5:16)

What kind of prayer does he pray?  
\_\_\_\_\_

***Obedience to God causes us to receive answers to our prayers***

9. God hears those who keep His \_\_\_\_\_.  
(1 John 3:22)

***Prayer must be according to God's will***

10. If we ask according to the will of God, what will happen?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (1 John 5:14)

***Prayer is effective if we stay close to Christ and His word***

11. "If ye \_\_\_\_\_, and my words  
\_\_\_\_\_, ye shall ask what ye will,  
and \_\_\_\_\_ unto  
you." (John 15:7)

**HINDRANCES THAT KEEP PRAYERS FROM  
BEING ANSWERED**

***PRAYERS WILL NOT BE ANSWERED...***

***If we hide secret sins in our heart***

1. What happened to the Psalmist when he kept sin in his heart?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 66:18; Isaiah  
59:2)

***If we are indifferent to God***

2. What two reasons will keep us from finding God and receiving  
an answer from Him? \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Proverbs 1:28-29)

***If we despise God's law***

3. If we refuse to hear God's law, our prayer becomes an  
\_\_\_\_\_ to God. (Proverbs 28:9)

***If we neglect mercy***

4. What happens if we shut our ears to the cry of others?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Proverbs 21:13)

***If we are not stable***

5. What are we likened to when we doubt?

\_\_\_\_\_ (James 1:6-7)

Will that man receive anything from the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_

***If we have wrong motives***

6. What will happen if we ask for things with wrong motives?

\_\_\_\_\_ (James 4:3)

***If it is not the will of God for our lives***

7. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. The Lord would not answer Paul's prayer because His \_\_\_\_\_ was sufficient. The reason God did not remove Paul's infirmity was because God knew when Paul was weak, the grace of God would take over and he would become \_\_\_\_\_.

***If we have an improper relationship with our spouse***

8. What happens to our prayers when we don't treat our spouse properly? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 3:7)

***If we do not forgive***

9. When you are praying and you harbor ill feelings against someone, what are you supposed to do? \_\_\_\_\_ (Mark 11:25-26)

**KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL PRAYER**

1. Jesus said, "***If you shall ask anything in \_\_\_\_\_, I will do it.***" (John 14:14)
2. "***If my people, which are called by my name, shall \_\_\_\_\_ themselves, and pray, and \_\_\_\_\_ my face, and \_\_\_\_\_ from their wicked ways; then will I \_\_\_\_\_ from***

*heaven, and will \_\_\_\_\_ their sin, and will  
\_\_\_\_\_ their land.”* (2 Chronicles 7:14)

3. We need to be persistent in our prayers. Jesus told His disciples that they should always pray and not to \_\_\_\_\_ . (Luke 18:1-8)

Jacob, after wrestling all night with a man (the Lord Himself), said to Him, ***“I will not let thee go, except thou  
\_\_\_\_\_ me.”*** (Genesis 32:26)

4. In Matthew 6:9-13, Jesus’ disciples asked Him to teach them to pray. Jesus gave them an outline to follow, which is commonly referred to as the “Lord’s Prayer.” The prayer has six different parts. Can you find them?

(Put a vertical line between each of the six parts.)

***“...Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”***

5. When we unite in prayer, there is a promise that anything we ask will be done. How many are necessary for this to happen? \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 18:19)

Prayer meetings are a means of receiving special blessings. What special blessing did the people receive when they came together in one place in Jerusalem? \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 2:1-4)

In Acts 12, Peter was miraculously delivered from prison. In verse 12, it tells us that when he considered what took place, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John, where \_\_\_\_\_ people had gathered together and were praying.



6. When we pray, we must approach God with thanksgiving in our hearts. How often are we to give thanks to God?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 5:20)
7. When we approach God with confidence, He hears and answers. What two things will we receive when we come boldly to the Lord in time of need? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (Hebrews 4:16)

## **PRAYER IS THE MEANS GOD USES TO PROVIDE OUR NEEDS**

God's promises are like money in a bank - it doesn't do any good unless it's withdrawn, and prayer is the way we make our withdrawals.

The Bible tells us to pray specifically for:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Timothy 2:1-2
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Matthew 5:44
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Luke 10:2
4. \_\_\_\_\_ James 1:5
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Matthew 26:41
6. \_\_\_\_\_ James 5:16

## **PRAYING WITH THE SPIRIT**

When we pray with the spirit (praying in tongues), our spirit is speaking mysteries unto God.

1. When we pray with the spirit, our mind is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(1 Corinthians 14:14-15) So we should do both; pray with our \_\_\_\_\_ (*unknown tongue/language*) and pray with our \_\_\_\_\_ (*known tongue/language*).

2. What two things can we do with our spirit? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 14:15)
3. Do we speak in tongues to communicate to man or to God? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 14:2)  
Can anyone understand when we pray in tongues unto God?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. The scriptures tell us that we don't know how to pray, as we ought. What does the Spirit do for us with groans that words cannot express? \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 8:26)
5. To help build yourselves up spiritually, how should you pray?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Jude 20)

## **PRAYER IS THE INFALLIBLE MARK OF A CHRISTIAN**

To be a Christian is to be Christ-like. To be a man/woman of prayer is to be like Christ.

1. What time of day did Jesus pray in Mark 1:35?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How long did Jesus pray in Luke 6:12?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. If we are to be like Christ, we must possess the same spirit of prayer He possessed, which will result in our praying whenever possible. According to 1 Thessalonians 5:17, how often should we pray? \_\_\_\_\_

## **WHERE TO PRAY**

1. Jesus said that when we pray we should enter into our "private" \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 6:6)

2. Not only can we pray privately in seclusion, but also when we read Luke 1:10, Acts 2:1, we can also pray as a group
- 

## SUMMARY

The mighty men and women of the Old and New Testament communicated freely with their Heavenly Father and greatly affected nations' destinies. We, likewise, must have a consistent prayer life and keep the channel of communication open to Him. By praying, we maintain our spiritual well-being and a close relationship with God. Since prayer is such a powerful tool of the Christian, we should not permit it to be crowded out of our busy schedule and thus be neglected. It has been said that the Church of Jesus Christ moves forward on its knees.

As you spend more time communicating with your Father, you will truly get to know Him better and understand His will, His ways, and His plans for your life. ***“My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.”*** (Psalm 5:3)

# LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE THIS WEEK

- 1. Memorize *Matthew 6:9-13*.
- 2. Review all the verses that you have memorized.
- 3. Continue to read the Book of Acts daily, using the *Listening Room Time Guide*.
- 4. Listen to God this week:

*What has God revealed to me about Himself?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What has God taught me about Christian living?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What does God want me to do?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 18

# HIDING THE WORD IN OUR HEART

### Listening Room Time Guide:

#### *Day -Scripture for Reading*

- 30 -Acts 15:22-35
- 1 -Acts 15:36-41
- 2 -Acts 16:1-5
- 3 -Acts 16:6-10
- 4 -Acts 16:11-19
- 5 -Acts 16:20-25
- 6 -Acts 16:26-35

#### *Key Lesson*

Letters to the Gentile Believers  
Paul and Barnabas Disagree  
Timothy Joins Paul and Silas  
Paul's Macedonian Vision  
Lydia is Converted and Baptized  
Paul and Silas are Beaten and Jailed  
Conversion of the Prison Keeper

#### **Memorize:**

*“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.” (Matthew 24:35)*

We know God exists by the testimony of creation, *For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.*” (Romans 1:20) But to learn of God's character and His will and plan for us, this can only be understood through the revelation of His written word to us.

### **OVERVIEW OF THE BIBLE**

The Bible consists of 66 books. The first 39 books are referred to as the Old Testament. It covers 3,600 years of man's history. The remaining 27 books are referred to as the New Testament. These cover a period of 100 years beginning with the birth of Christ.

The Old Testament contains books about the Jewish religion and history. It also has poetry and prophecy relating to the Jews particularly and all of civilization.

The New Testament contains the gospel (good news about Jesus Christ), the history of the early church, letters written to various churches and end-time prophecy.

## **EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE BIBLE AS INFALLIBLE**

Thirty-two different men were responsible for writing the Holy Scriptures; however, there is only one author.

1. 2 Timothy 3:16 say that \_\_\_\_\_ scripture is given by \_\_\_\_\_ of God. (The word *inspiration* in this case means, “God-breathed.”)
2. Did men write from their own will and understanding? \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Peter 1:20-21)

### **History and Archeology**

Biblical names of people, cities, nations and events have been confirmed through archeological findings. In 1947, two shepherd boys discovered the Dead Sea Scrolls dating back 1,900 years.

Included in the scrolls was found a copy of the book of Isaiah, a thousand years older than any manuscript previously known. Yet when compared to manuscripts, such as were used to translate the King James version, the Dead Sea Scrolls paralleled word-for-word in more than 95 percent of the text. The less than five-percent differences consisted of spelling and punctuation variations.

### **Prophecy**

There is no other book other than the Bible that contains prophecies that have been fulfilled with utmost accuracy since the time it was written. There are over 10,000 predictions in the Bible that we know of which have been fulfilled in its minutest detail. In the lifetime of Christ alone, 333 prophecies were fulfilled. At

least 29 of them were fulfilled in one 24-hour period relating to the betrayal, trial, suffering, death and burial of Jesus Christ.

## **THE ENDURANCE OF GOD'S WORD**

In a world of uncertainty and constant changes, it is comforting to know we can build our lives on a sure foundation that will stand the tests of time.

1. *“The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the \_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_ shall stand \_\_\_\_\_.”* (Isaiah 40:8)
2. *“Heaven and earth shall \_\_\_\_\_, but my \_\_\_\_\_ shall \_\_\_\_\_ pass away.”* (Matthew 24:35)
3. *“But the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ endureth \_\_\_\_\_...”* (1 Peter 1:25)

## **THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD**

1. *“For the word of God is \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ than any two-edged \_\_\_\_\_, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”* (Hebrews 4:12)
2. *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God unto \_\_\_\_\_ to every one that believeth...”* (Romans 1:16)
3. *“Is not my word like as a \_\_\_\_\_? saith the LORD: and like a \_\_\_\_\_ that breaketh the rock in pieces?”* (Jeremiah 23:29)

## **BENEFITS OF GOD’S WORD**

1. Psalms 119:72 tell us that the Word of God is more valuable than *“thousands of gold and silver.”* The following scriptures list some of the invaluable benefits we receive from God’s word. List those benefits:

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 1:23-25; James 1:18)
- (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 10:17)
- (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (Hebrews 4:12)
- (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 2:2)
- (5) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 1:3)
- (6) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (Joshua 1:8)
- (7) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 119:98-100)
- (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (John 8:31-32)
- (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (John 6:63)
- (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 119:165)
- (11) \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 119:105)
- (12) \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 119:9; Ephesians 5:26)

2. What profit do the scriptures give the believer? (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

- (a) \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) \_\_\_\_\_
- (c) \_\_\_\_\_
- (d) \_\_\_\_\_

3. *“That the man of God may be \_\_\_\_\_, thoroughly furnished unto all \_\_\_\_\_.”*



## THE WORD OF GOD IN OUR HEARTS

1. Does God **suggest** or **command** that the word be hid in our hearts? \_\_\_\_\_ (Deuteronomy 6:6)
2. Why should we hide the word in our heart?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 119:11)
3. Proverbs 6:20-23 tells us that we need to keep God's Word before us continually. If we do, when we walk, it will \_\_\_\_\_ us, when we sleep, it will \_\_\_\_\_ us, and when we awake, it will \_\_\_\_\_ to us.

## HOW TO USE THE WORD

The following selected passages of scripture instruct us on how to effectively use the Word of God. (Fill in the blanks)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 17:11)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Timothy 2:15)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 10:17)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 119:11)
5. \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 1:2)
6. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ (Revelation 1:3)
7. \_\_\_\_\_ (John 14:23)

## HOW TO MISUSE THE WORD

1. Match the following scriptures:
  - a. Hosea 4:6 \_\_\_\_\_ Adding or taking away from what is written
  - b. 2 Corinthians 4:2 \_\_\_\_\_ Rejecting it
  - c. Revelation 22:18-19 \_\_\_\_\_ Distorting the true meaning
  - d. 2 Peter 3:16 \_\_\_\_\_ Handling deceitfully

## SUMMARY

***“My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; so that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.”*** (Proverbs 2:1-5)

It’s as if God is saying, “Take my Word seriously.” There is nothing automatic about gaining wisdom from the Lord. One never just drifts into it. There must be a deliberate decision to read all He has written. One must respond with intense determination and single-hearted devotion. Love the Word of God! Read it, honor it, and share it! It will not be long until the Bible will actually become a part of you. And you, like David can say: ***“How sweet are thy words unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!”*** (Psalm 119:103)

## LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE THIS WEEK

1. Memorize *Matthew 24:35*.
2. Review all the verses that you have memorized.
3. Continue to read the Book of Acts daily, using the *Listening Room Time Guide*.
4. Listen to God this week:

*What has God revealed to me about Himself?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What has God taught me about Christian living?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What does God want me to do?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 19

# SPIRITUAL WARFARE

### Listening Room Time Guide:

#### *Day -Scripture for Reading*

- 7 -Acts 16:36-40
- 8 -Acts 17:1-4
- 9 -Acts 17:5-9
- 10 -Acts 17:10-15
- 11 -Acts 17:16-21
- 12 -Acts 17:22-34
- 13 -Acts 18:1-17

#### *Key Lesson*

- Paul's Refusal to Depart in Secret
- Preaching at Thessalonica
- Jason's House Assaulted
- The Night Journey to Berea
- Paul Waits in Athens
- Paul Addresses the Men of Athens
- Paul Makes Tents at Corinth

### Memorize:

***“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ...” (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)***

When we became a Christian, we enlisted in the “**Army of the Lord.**” There is no neutral ground. All Christians will enter into this spiritual battle. When we were “born again,” Jesus did not take us to heaven, but left us here to wage war on the kingdom of darkness, and equipped us with the “armor” we need to fight this battle. ***“And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.”*** (Matthew 11:12)

I have good news for you! I have read the outcome of this war and WE WIN. So take heart and don't give up! Jesus, the “Captain” of our salvation (Hebrews 2:10) has never lost a battle, and He never will.

## KNOW YOUR ENEMY

1. Read 2 Timothy 2:3-4 and complete the verse. *“Though therefore endure hardness, as a good \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please Him who hath chosen him to be a \_\_\_\_\_.”*

2. The Christian has three enemies.

*What Are They?*

*How Can They Be Overcome?*

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 5:8)

\_\_\_\_\_ (James 4:6-7;  
Ephesians 4:27)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ (James 4:4)

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 John 2:15)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 12:2)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (James 4:4)

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ (Galatians 5:17)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Galatians 5:16)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Galatians 5:24)

The battlefield is your mind. It is the door whereby the enemy enters into your territory. We are instructed in 2 Corinthians 10:3-6, to pull down **strongholds**. When we allow a negative thought or temptation to linger in our imagination that contradicts God’s word, it becomes a stronghold. It is through this device that Satan can overwhelm you with fear, torment, sickness and defeat.

As soon as we realize we have allowed him in, we need to cast him out before he gets a chance to fortify those thoughts and feelings.

3. *“...just as Eve was deceived by the serpent’s cunning, your \_\_\_\_\_ may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.”* (2 Corinthians 11:3, NIV)

4. Lies can bring you into bondage; what can set you free?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (John 8:32)

5. Read Philippians 4:6-8, the word “think” in this reference means to concentrate, increase strength in, or to focus on. List those things we are to “think” on.

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) \_\_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
(5) \_\_\_\_\_ (6) \_\_\_\_\_  
(7) \_\_\_\_\_ (8) \_\_\_\_\_

**Application:** Take a 3 x 5 inch card and write down all the good things that God has done for you. Pull it out whenever your mind is being attacked with negative thoughts that try to discourage you and draw you away from God.

6. *“I will keep him in perfect peace, whose \_\_\_\_\_ is stayed \_\_\_\_\_.”* (Isaiah 26:3)

## **PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD**

After reading Ephesians 6:10-18; fill in the blanks:

1. Helmet of \_\_\_\_\_
2. Breastplate of \_\_\_\_\_
3. Loins girded with \_\_\_\_\_
4. Sword of the \_\_\_\_\_
5. Shield of \_\_\_\_\_
6. Feet shod with the \_\_\_\_\_

In order for the armor to do you any good, what must you do with it on a daily basis? \_\_\_\_\_ (Verse 11)

7. What will happen to the enemies’ attacks on our lives if we remain faithful to God? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Isaiah 54:17)

## HOW TO OVERCOME OUR FLESH

1. Knowing that our own flesh is probably our greatest enemy, it is important to understand how it wars against us. If we do not control it (flesh), it (flesh) will control you! Carefully read James 1:13-15 and answer the following questions:\

Are we tempted by God? \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 13)

What causes us to be tempted? \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 14)

What does sin bring? \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 15)

2. In 1 Corinthians 10:13, we find that with every temptation we face, the Lord has made a way of \_\_\_\_\_.

3. According to the corresponding scriptures, list five ways we can keep our spiritual man strong:

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (Jude 20)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 119:11)

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ (Galatians 5:16)

(4) \_\_\_\_\_ (Hebrews 10:25)

(5) \_\_\_\_\_ (Isaiah 58:6-8)

## MORE THAN CONQUERORS

We are guaranteed victory if we continue to abide in the Lord. He has given us His word and

God cannot lie! Romans 8:37 *“Nay, in all these things we are more than \_\_\_\_\_ through Him that loved us.”*

1 John 4:4 *“...greater is He that is in \_\_\_\_\_, than he that is in the world.”*

List 7 forms of adversity from Romans 8:35 that **cannot** separate you from Jesus Christ:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## SUMMARY

As enlisted soldiers in God’s army, let’s ***“Fight the good fight of faith...”*** (1 Timothy 6:12). We must be able to endure hardness as a good soldier and not become entangled with the affairs of this world. Keep your eyes on the prize! Remember, this world will pass away, but that which we cannot see will remain forever. ***“While we look not at the things, which are seen, but at the things, which are not seen: for the things, which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.”*** (2 Corinthians 4:18)

## LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE THIS WEEK

1. Memorize *2 Corinthians 10:3-5*.
2. Review all the verses that you have memorized.
3. Continue to read the Book of Acts daily, using the *Listening Room Time Guide*.
4. Listen to God this week:

*What has God revealed to me about Himself?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What has God taught me about Christian living?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What does God want me to do?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_





## LESSON 20

# STEWARDSHIP

### Listening Room Time Guide:

#### *Day -Scripture for Reading*

- 14 -Acts 18:18-23
- 15 -Acts 18:24-28
- 16 -Acts 19:1-10
- 17 -Acts 19:11-22
- 18 -Acts 19:23-41
- 19 -Acts 20:1-6
- 20 -Acts 20:7-12

#### *Key Lesson*

- Paul Completes His Journey
- Apollos Speaks in the Synagogue
- The Baptism of John's Disciples
- God's Miracles Through Paul
- Confusion in Ephesus\
- Paul Visits Macedonia and Greece
- Eutychus is Raised from the Dead

#### Memorize:

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

David established a fundamental truth in Psalm 24:1 ***“The earth is the LORD’S and the fullness thereof, the world, and they that dwell therein.”*** In other words, we don’t own anything. It all belongs to Him. He has allowed us to have possessions, but we will be held accountable for everything He has given us, be it our children, talents, material possessions or spiritual revelations. He has made us stewards over His possessions.

A steward is one who manages the affairs of another person. It may be their household, estate, finances, or property. The parable in Matthew 25:14-30 tells us about a man who gave his money to his servants for safekeeping before he left on a long journey. When he returned, he asked them to give an account of what they were given. Similarly, we will have to give an account of ourselves to God. Understanding this, we want to faithfully manage all of life’s possessions in the light of His great trust.

## GOD'S OWNERSHIP

1. According to 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 "*For ye are bought with a price...*" Who do we belong to now? \_\_\_\_\_
2. In Matthew 25:14-30, how did the servant with the one talent displease his master? \_\_\_\_\_
3. As good stewards, what should we do with our gifts?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 4:10)
4. Is God going to take an accounting of our works?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 14:12-13)

## STEWARDSHIP IN POSSESSIONS

1. Read John 6:1-14. How big was the boy's lunch?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. After Jesus blessed it, what happened?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. In Mark 9:41, Jesus talks about a cup of water. What does this tell us about the value God places on small things?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. In Proverbs 24:30-34, we read that the slothful man doesn't take care of his property. What will he experience?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (verse 34)

## STEWARDSHIP IN FINANCES

The scriptures, both Old and New Testament, make reference to paying tithes unto the Lord. The word tithe comes from the Greek word *deka*, which means a **tenth**.

1. Did Jesus, when scolding the Pharisees for their hypocrisy, tell them that it was no longer necessary for them to pay their tithes? \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 23:23)
  
2. Proverbs 3:9, tells us to honor the Lord with \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, and with the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
  
3. What happens if we honor the Lord by giving generously unto Him? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Proverbs 3:10)
  
4. Read Malachi 3:8-11. Is it possible to rob from God?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- How? \_\_\_\_\_
- Where are we supposed to bring the tithe? \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. What two promises does God give us if we are faithful and pay our tithes? (Malachi 3:10-11)
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_
  
6. To whom does the tithe belong?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Leviticus 27:30)
  
7. What kind of giver does the Lord love?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Corinthians 9:7)
  
8. If we give generously, God will give  
\_\_\_\_\_. (Luke 6:38)

God says that in the same measure we give, it will be measured back to us.

## STEWARDSHIP FOR THE FUTURE

1. Jesus said there are something more valuables than the world itself. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 16:24-26)
2. The Lord promises that all our needs would be taken care of if we seek first \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 6:33)
3. Jesus said we should lay up treasures (*make an investment*) in \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 6:20-21)

Why is this so important?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Paul fought a good fight, and finished his course. What did he look forward to receiving from the Lord?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Timothy 4:7-8)

## SUMMARY

It is a privilege to be a child of God. It is a rewarding way of life because now there is significance to the things you do, great or small. Because you acknowledge Him to be Lord of your life, you will try to serve Him with all of your heart, mind and body by faithfully using the talents and possessions He has given you for the advancement of His kingdom. ***“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”*** (Galatians 6:9)

# LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE THIS WEEK

- 1. Memorize *Matthew 6:33*.
- 2. Review all the verses that you have memorized.
- 3. Continue to read the Book of Acts daily, using the *Listening Room Time Guide*.
- 4. Listen to God this week:

*What has God revealed to me about Himself?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What has God taught me about Christian living?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What does God want me to do?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_