

DISCIPLESHIP 501

Making Disciples

Grace Mercy Ministry

Discipleship 501

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All Scripture quotations are from the New American Standard translation.

DEDICATION

We dedicate this book to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for His Infallible Holy Word which gives us all the knowledge, understanding and wisdom we need to be true disciples of His. It is our desire that this book will help Christians bring glory to God.

We also dedicate this book to the greatest disciple of the twentieth century ó Dawson Trotman (1906-1956), founder of öThe Navigators.ö He was too busy serving Jesus to accept an invitation from Billy Graham to form a discipleship ministry for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. Yet he developed the B-rations that the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association has used ever since. Billy said of him, öI think Daws has personally touched more lives than anybody I have ever known.ö Graham interrupted his crusade in Oklahoma City to öpreach his funeralö in Colorado Springs. He also devoted a week of his öHour of Decisionö radio program to Trotman's memory. Charles E. Fuller, founder of Fuller Theological Seminary, did the same with his öOld Fashion Revival Hourö program.

The work and writings of Trotman were the inspiration and instrumental in the foundation of the Campus Outreach Ministry and Grace Mercy Ministry. His two most inspirational quotes are:

öDo what others can not and will not do.ö

öThe greatest amount of wasted time is the time not getting started.ö

We urge you to read his story in Appendixes H and I.

Our Vision

It is the vision of Grace Mercy Ministry to motivate and help every church of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to establish a discipleship program. It is also our vision that every believer on Earth go through a discipleship program, whether it is this one or another so every believer can bring the greatest amount of glory possible to God.

CONTENTS

INVITATION	7
INTRODUCTION	9
DISCIPLESHIP COURSE	11
STEP TWENTY Leading a Bible study	15
STEP TWENTY-ONE Making Disciples	19
STEP TWENTY-TWO Seminary curriculum	25
STEP TWENTY-THREE Shepherding a church	35
TEACHING OUTLINE	63
AFTERWORD	79
APPENDIX A What you must do to be saved	87
APPENDIX B Faith Check	91

APPENDIX C	
Spiritual Fitness Program	93
APPENDIX D	
Be filled with the HOLY SPIRIT	99
APPENDIX E	
Humility	101
APPENDIX F	
Spiritual success	107
APPENDIX G	
Religion: The Navigator	109
APPENDIX H	
Born To Reproduce by Dawson E. Trotman	113

INVITATION

Believer, called to be a pastor, missionary, evangelist or a Bible teacher, we invite you to study through this book slowly. Once you complete Step 23 you will be equipped to do the work of a pastor, missionary, evangelist or a Bible teacher.

INTRODUCTION

Every man who has been called to be a pastor, missionary, evangelist and Bible teacher must be equipped to carry out his duties. The Discipleship Series gives every man the knowledge he needs to grow in understanding and wisdom and perform his duties to the glory of God.

Knowledge of the Word is not the only thing a man needs to serve the Lord, but it is the starting point. As a man grows in knowledge of the Word he will also grow in understanding and wisdom if he is humble before God (James 4.10). The more a man puts the Word in his life (Job 22.22) the more he will submit and draw near to God and humble himself before the Lord (James 4.7-10). Instead of lording his position of authority over the brethren he will lead by example (1 Peter 5.1-4). He will come to understand the eternal truth that the way to the top is to be a slave of all:

*Calling them to Himself, Jesus said to them, "You know that those who are recognized as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them; and their great men exercise authority over them. But it is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall **be your servant**; and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be **slave of all**. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." (Mark 10.42-45)*

Any man who is a pastor, missionary, evangelist or Bible teacher who is not a servant of those he ministers to is not a true man of God.

DISCIPLESHIP COURSE

Follow this course at your own pace. Go as far as you can.

XX. Leading a Bible study (p. 15).

Completed _____

XXI. Making disciples (p. 19).

Completed _____

XXII. Seminary curriculum (p. 25).

Completed _____

XXIII. Learn how to shepherd a church (p. 35).

Completed _____

MAKING DISCIPLES

Once you have completed Steps 20 through 23 you will have acquired the knowledge, understanding and wisdom necessary to pastor a church. As you go through *Discipleship 501* you should pray daily that God lead you to the city He wants you to minister in. If you do not get a definite answer from Him choose a city and start a home Bible study. If that is the city God wants you to minister in He will give you growth. If it is not He will lead you elsewhere.

STEP TWENTY

LEADING A BIBLE STUDY

Every Christian should learn how to lead a Bible study. Fathers must know how because they are commanded to do so (Deuteronomy 4.9; 6.6-7; 11.18-19; 32.46; Psalm 78.3, 5; Proverbs 1.8; 2.1; 3.1; 4.1; 6.20) and so should all Christian mothers (Proverbs 1.8; 6.20; 31.26).

To lead a Bible study one must first know the Bible. It is not necessary to know the Bible from cover-to-cover, but it is a goal that everyone who seeks to teach Scripture should have. It is best to teach through the Bible book-by-book. You do not have to start with Genesis and work your way to Revelation.

Choose a book to teach through and master that book. It is best to start with a book that you are familiar with. If you have limited knowledge of the Bible start with the general epistles (James through Jude). Begin with James by reading the entire book once a day for one month. Pray for wisdom as you read through it (James 1.5). If you are capable of writing a commentary/exegetical study (see Book Three, Step 15) do it. Next write out a teaching outline (see Book Four, Step 16). Write out discussion/study questions to give to your students (see Book Two, Step 10). Memorize the key verses in the book. Spend as much time as possible meditating on that book. Continue reading the book once a day until you finish teaching it.

(Note: It is not recommended for pastors to make teaching outlines ó see Step 23, page 48.) Although, for someone who has not been called to be a pastor and who has not studied the

Bible very much outlines are helpful. Do not think you must stick to your outline point-by-point as you teach. If the Holy Spirit leads you to teach on something that is not in your outline do it. If your class wants to focus on something that is not in your outline do it unless it is totally unrelated to the passage and you believe it would be a distraction. If you have been studying Scripture for many years study the advice on teaching and preaching in Step 23)

As you study the Bible always keep the perfect rule of understanding in mind:

Take everything literally unless Scripture says it is symbolic or unless it is physically impossible for it to be literal or to take place in a literal manner.

Before each Bible study pray by yourself for wisdom as you teach. Also pray that the Holy Spirit give your students wisdom. If one or more men in your study want to pray with you before the study do it. Before you begin to teach have a time of prayer with everyone in the study. Let some or all of them pray too. Pray as much as possible for the *ōprayer of the upright is His delightö* (Proverbs 15.8), and *ōHe hears the prayer of the righteousö* (Proverbs 15.29). Encourage your students to pray short sentence prayers. If someone prays for several minutes speak with him/her afterward and explain that in group prayer time it is best to offer short prayers. Set an example by your prayers.

Give the students the discussion questions before you begin teaching. Ask them to write out answers to the questions before each lesson. Read the verses or let the students read the verses that you plan to teach on. Then ask them what their answers are for each discussion question. If they answer them correctly congratulate them. If they answer the question incorrectly give them the correct answer and explain the passage as much as is needed. If they answer the question correctly you can explain the passage in more detail using cross references.ther than spoon feeding your students the answers and lecturing them, motivate them to seek out the

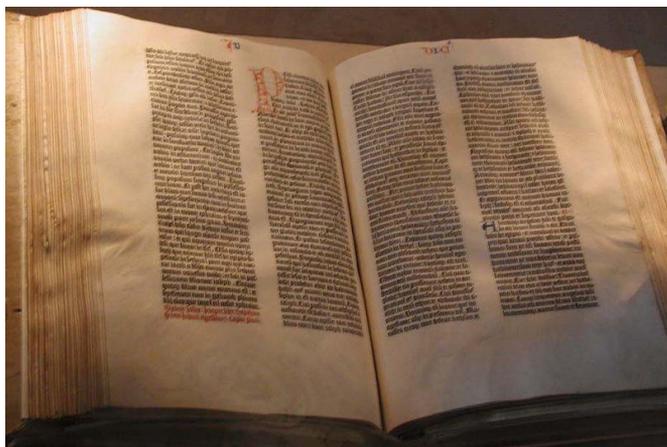
answers for themselves. Encourage them to study more, and emphasize the fact that a true disciple thirsts and hungers for God (Psalm 42.2; 63.1); for truth (John 17.17) and for righteousness (Matthew 5.6) each and every day of his life. Also explain that as one grows in knowledge and understanding of the Word one's hunger and thirst for greater knowledge, understanding and wisdom grows. If you do not display a hunger and thirst for the Word in your life and in your teaching, your students will not develop a true hunger and thirst for truth.

Remember to explain that when one has an overpowering hunger and thirst for God, His righteousness and the truth he is to study the Bible (John 7.37; 6.48). All of our spiritual knowledge, understanding and wisdom come from the Bible. It should be our primary source of spiritual food.

It is good to read books about the Bible and transcribed sermons by men who knew the Word and lived it. Some of the best heroes of the faith to study under are ó John Wycliffe (1320s-1384), John Hus (1372-1415), Martin Luther (1483-1546), Huldrych Zwingli (1484-1531), William Tyndale (1494-1536), John Calvin (1509-1564), John Knox (1510-72), William Gurnall (1617-1679), John Bunyan (1628-1688), Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758), George Whitefield (1704-1770), Martyn Lloyd-Jones (1899-1981) and Miles Stanford (1914-1999).

Always keep in mind that when you answer a question from a student do not try to come up with a clever analogy. Rely on Scripture. Quote the Bible or turn to the appropriate passage and read it. Let God answer the question instead of you.

It is the Infallible, Holy Word of God that convicts people of their sins (Hebrews 4.12), produces faith in them (Romans 10.17) and gives them understanding and wisdom (James 1.5). Let God do the talking.



PROVERBS TO LIVE BY

Proverbs is filled with practical advice on how to live a holy life that is pleasing to God and will bring glory to Him. We encourage every believer in Jesus Christ to study Proverbs daily. This book is an aid to assist you in that great privilege.

To order your copy of *Proverbs to Live By* email [ó dovbooks@yahoo.com](mailto:odovbooks@yahoo.com)

STEP TWENTY-ONE

MAKING DISCIPLES

Making disciples is the hardest job any believer can undertake. It is much harder than pastoring a church or evangelizing the world. If it was easy every pastor and every church would have a dynamic discipleship program and most of the people on Earth would be saved.

Every pastor should disciple faithful men throughout his ministry as all pastors are commanded to do:

The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. (2 Timothy 2.2)

We must remember that it is the duty of pastors, evangelists and teachers to equip the brethren to do the work of the Lord (Ephesians 4.12). It is the brothers and sisters in the pews that are to evangelize the world not the pastors, Bible teachers and evangelists.

In virtually every church in the Western World the pastors, evangelists and Bible teachers tell the brethren that their job is to invite the lost to a evangelistic crusade, church service or Bible study. Once the lost are in the hands of the evangelist, pastor or Bible teacher their job is over.

Instead of the laymen inviting the lost to a service and letting the church take over from there they are to be the ones to do the follow up. The brethren are also supposed to do the sowing ó sharing the Gospel and praying for the lost. Once a

person trusts in Jesus Christ it is the duty of the person who brought him to the service to disciple him or her. This is why every member of every church on Earth must be disciplined.

The laymen in every church should share the Gospel in word with their family, neighbors, friends, co-workers, classmates and strangers and also in deed. All believers should be walking Bibles that shine so brightly (live holy lives that draw attention to themselves) that the lost are attracted to them (Matthew 5.14-16) and ask them why they are different. When the lost ask that question believers are to share the Gospel in a gentle and reverent manner (1 Peter 3.15).

How to make a disciple

Dozens of books have been written on how to make disciples and they all have valuable information in them. If you do not know the Scriptures inside-and-out it would be worth reading several of them.

If you do not have experience in being disciplined or in making disciples and you have not read several books on this all important subject you can use the Discipleship Series as your text books. Take your disciples through them step-by-step. If you disciple one person at a time you will be their discipleship partner (Book One, Step Five). If you disciple more than one person at a time you can be each of their discipleship partners or you can pair them up and oversee their training. Either way it is vital to stay with your disciples until they are ready to serve the Lord on their own or they bail out.

No matter what you decide you will need a discipleship book for your disciples to work through. If you do not want to use the Discipleship Series of GMM use another one or write your own.

The basics of discipleship

Examine your faith

All believers should examine their faith from time-to-time. A good way to do that is to take the faith test (Appendix B). Take the Faith Test yourself and then have your disciples take it. Also take them through the *Faith Test* companion book. If you or they spend more time in the affairs of the world than in serving Jesus your priorities must be rearranged.

Spiritual Fitness Program

Once your disciples have mastered sharing their testimony and the Gospel and they have set their priorities to put the Lord first you need to have them set up their Spiritual Fitness Program (Appendix C).

Prayer life

All believers need to be taught how to pray, it does not come naturally or supernaturally. Take your disciples through Step Seven in Book Two. You can also use as many books on prayer as you think is needed. Some of the best are:

The Complete Works of E.M. Bounds ó E.M. Bounds

Answers to Prayer ó George Muller

The Ministry of Intercession ó Andrew Murray

Power in Prayer ó Andrew Murray

Spurgeon on Prayer & Spiritual Warfare ó C.H. Spurgeon

Spiritual Warfare

Your disciples also need to study the subject of spiritual warfare. Take them through Step Eight in Book Two and also *Believer's Soap*. You may also want to take them through books on the subject that you know are scriptural. Here are a few good books on it:

The Christian in Complete Armor ó William Gurnall
Spurgeon on Prayer & Spiritual Warfare ó C.H. Spurgeon
Spiritual Warfare in a Believer's Life – C. H. Spurgeon and Robert Hall

Study to show yourself

The most important aspect of discipleship is the study of the Word of God. A disciple can pray twelve hours a day, minister to the brethren, share the Gospel and do good deeds, but if he is not a diligent student of Scripture he will not be used of God to the fullest extent possible:

*He who turns away his ear from listening to the law,
Even his prayer is an abomination.* (Proverbs 19.8)

Carefully study the following passages to see how important Bible reading, study, memorization and meditation is to God:

Reading Scripture (Deuteronomy 17.19; Isaiah 34.16; Revelation 1.3).

Studying Scripture (Proverbs 2.1-5; 8.34; John 5.39; Acts 17.11; Romans 15.4; 2 Timothy 2.15).

Memorizing Scripture (Deuteronomy 6.6; 11.18; 30.14; Psalm 37.31; 40.8; 119.11; Proverbs 2.1; 3.1, 3;

4.1, 21; 6.21; 22.18; Isaiah 51.7; 59.21; Ezekiel 3.10; Romans 10.8; Colossians 3.16).

Meditating on Scripture (Joshua 1.8; Job 22.22; 23.12; Psalm 1.2; 4.4; 19.14; 63.6; 77.12; 104.34; 119.15, 23, 27, 48, 78, 97, 99, 148; 143.5; Colossians 3.16).

*I will bow down toward Your holy temple And give thanks to Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For **You have magnified Your word** according to all Your name. (Psalm 138.2)*

The Hebrew reads *“You have magnified Your word above Your name.”* The name of God ó YAHWEH and YAHSHUA ó is exalted above all names:

*For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is **above every name**. (Philippians 2.9)*

*Which He brought about in **Christ**, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, **far above** all rule and authority and power and dominion, and **every name that is named**, not only in this age but also in the one to come. (Ephesians 1.20-21)*

Since God places His Word above His name we should do the same. All believers should spend time every day in His Word ó reading, studying, memorizing and meditating upon It.

Take your disciples through **Treasure Hunt** to help them understand the importance of studying Scripture. Once you have explained how important it is for your disciples to get the Word into their hearts you need to help them set up their Spiritual Fitness Program (SFP). Take them through the companion book **Spiritual Fitness Program** and then through the Seminary Course (Step 22), Step 23 and all of the appendixes.

One of the most important aspects of discipleship is working together. You must pray, read, study and memorize Scripture with your disciples. You must also worship with them share the Gospel with the lost with them along with break bread and hang out with them. You need to be a father or big brother to them.

Sharing the Gospel

The first thing you should do is take your disciples through the Gospel to make sure they know what the Gospel is (Book One ó Steps Two & Three) and also have them share their testimony. If they have no testimony as to when they trusted Jesus Christ to save them it is strong evidence they may not be born from above. If they have difficulty in sharing their testimony you will need to help them learn how to do it.

Once you are certain your disciples are truly born from above you need to teach them how to share the Gospel in a clear and easily understood manner. Share the Gospel with them one-on-one and then have them do the same with you. Once they have confidence in sharing the Gospel take them out to do it. Let them watch you share the Gospel with several people and then let them do it. You should spend at least one day a week with each disciple in the field sharing the Gospel.

You can go door-to-door or to shopping malls or any place where there are large numbers of unsaved people. Have them watch you and then let them take the lead. Take each disciple out with you alone and also as a group. Continue to go out sharing the Gospel with the lost with your disciples until you have finished discipling them.

STEP TWENTY-TWO

SEMINARY CURRICULUM

Most men who seek the office of pastor (1 Timothy 3.1) think it is necessary to graduate from seminary to be fully equipped. That is not true. All seminaries emphasize the study of commentaries and books by men they consider to be faithful to Scripture. This seminary course emphasizes the study of Holy Scripture and avoidance of all commentaries and books. The best way for a man to be properly equipped to be a pastor is through daily reading, study, memorization and meditation of Scripture with intense prayer. It is the Word of God that prepares a man to be an under-shepherd of Jesus, not the study of denominational doctrines, commentaries and books.

Reading program

Students are to follow the prescribed daily reading program:

Read one chapter of Proverbs and two chapters each day from the following divisions of the Bible:

1. Torah (Genesis ó Deuteronomy)
2. Historical books (Joshua ó Esther)
3. Poetical books (Job ó Song of Solomon)
4. Major prophets (Isaiah ó Ezekiel)
5. Minor prophets (Daniel ó Malachi)

6. Gospels & Acts
7. Pauline Epistles (Romans ó Hebrews)
8. General Epistles & Revelation (James ó Revelation)

This reading program is 17 chapters per day. It may seem like it is a lot of reading, but it is necessary. Since there are 929 chapters in the Old Testament and 260 in the New Testament you will read through the OT about four times, the New Testament more than 8.4 times and Proverbs 12 times each year.

Memorization program

Students are to memorize as many of the following 765 verses as possible. Choose a translation and stick with it.

New Testament

Matthew 5.13-16, 44, 48; 6.9-13; 7.12-16a, 21-23; 25.46; 28.19-20 (22 verses)

Mark 8.36-37; 10.42-45; 12.29-31 (8 verses)

Luke 13.24; 12.20-21; 16.15; 17.5, 10; 19.10 (7 verses)

John 1.1-14, 18, 29; 3.3, 14-18, 36; 5.24; 6.29, 37, 44; 7.24; 8.31-32, 36; 10.27-30; 13.34-35; 14.1-6, 13-17, 23; 15.1-8, 13-17, 23; 16.8, 33; 17.3, 17; 20.31 (68 verses)

Acts 1.8; 2.42, 44-46; 5.42; 6.4; 17.11; 13.48 (9 verses)

Romans 1.16; 3.10-12, 23; 4.3; 5.3-5, 8; 6.23; 8.1-2, 18, 28-29, 38-39; 9.22-23; 10.9-10, 13, 17; 12.1-2, 9-21 13.8, 10; 14.19 (42 verses)

1 Corinthians 2.10, 16; 3.16-17; 6.19-20; 10.13, 31; 15.1-4, 51-52, 58; 16.13-14 (17 verses)

2 Corinthians 4.3-4, 17-18; 5.10, 17, 20; 6.2; 9.7; 10.3-5; 11.13-15; 13.5 (16 verses)

Galatians 1.9; 2.20; 5.13-26; 6.2, 6-10 (22 verses)

Ephesians 1.7; 2.8-10; 4.11-13, 26-27, 30-32; 4.11-16, 30-32; 5.18; 6.10-18 (31 verses)

Philippians 1.21, 29; 2.3-4; 3.14, 19-21; 4.6-8, 13, 19 (13 verses)

Colossians 3.1-2, 16, 23 (4 verses)

1 Thessalonians 4.16-18; 5.1-6, 8-9, 16-19 (15 verses)

2 Thessalonians 2.1-3 (3 verses)

1 Timothy 2.9-15; 3.1-7; 5.8; 6.7-14, 17-19 (25 verses)

2 Timothy 1.7; 2.2-4, 7, 15, 21-22; 3.12, 16-17; 4.2-4 (14 verses)

Titus 1.5-9; 2.11-13; 3.4-6, 14 (12 verses)

Hebrews 1.14; 3.12-13; 4.12-13; 5.12-14; 6.1-2; 9.27; 10.12, 14-17, 24-25; 11.1, 6; 24-26; 12.1-2; 13.1-2, 5-8, 16-17 (33 verses)

James 1.2-10, 12-15, 19-20, 22; 2.10, 17, 26; 3.1, 13; 4.1-10, 14, 17 (33 verses)

1 Peter 1.15-16, 24-25; 2.1-2, 21, 24; 3.15; 4.1-2; 5.1-9 (20 verses)

2 Peter 1.5-7; 3.9 (4 verses)

1 John 1.5-10; 2.5-6, 15-17, 27; 3.2-3, 16-18, 23-24; 4.1, 4, 7-8, 10-13, 19, 21; 4.18-21; 5.11-13, 20-21 (37 verses)

Revelation 3.20; 20.10-15; 21.6; 22.12-13, 17 (11 verses)

(Total verses in the NT = 466)

Old Testament

Genesis 1.1-2; 15.6 (3 verses)

Exodus 3.14, 15b (2 verses)

Leviticus 19.2, 18 (2 verses)

Number 23.19

Deuteronomy 6.4-7; 8.3 (5 verses)

Joshua 1.8; 24.15 (2 verses)

Judges 21.25

1 Samuel 15.22, 29; 16.7 (3 verses)

2 Samuel 7.10; 22.29 (2 verses)

1 Kings 8.60-61 (2 verses)

1 Chronicles 16.23; 28.9 (2 verses)

2 Chronicles 16.9a

Nehemiah 8.3

Job 1.20-22; 19.25-26; 23.11-12; 28.24; 34.21 (9 verses)

Psalms 1.1-6; 9.10; 10.3-4; 14.1-3; 15.1-5; 16.8; 17.15; 19.7-11; 23.1-6; 25.4-5, 9-10; 33.14-15; 34.7, 18; 37.3-5, 18, 31; 39.1; 42.1-2; 45.6; 51.5, 10; 12-13, 16-17; 53.1-3; 58.3; 68.19; 81.15; 84.12; 90.12; 96.2; 101.6-7; 103.11-12; 111.9; 112.1, 5, 9; 118.8-9; 119.9-11, 18, 71-72, 88-89, 97-99, 124-125, 129-130, 132-133; 145.18-19 (94 verses)

Proverbs 1.7; 2.6-7; 3.1-12; 6.16-19; 7.1-3; 8.13, 17, 32-36; 9.8-10; 10.16, 21, 23; 11.2, 30; 12.1, 15; 13.14, 20; 14.12,

29, 34; 15.3; 16.16, 18, 20, 32; 18.15; 19.8, 17; 21.3; 22.15; 23.6-7, 17; 24.1; 25.17, 26, 28; 27.2, 17; 28.9; 29.11, 18; 30.4, 8-9 (66 verses)

Ecclesiastes 3.18; 7.2-5, 20, 29; 12.13-14 (10 verses)

Isaiah 1.16-18; 3.12; 5.20-21; 8.20; 9.6; 11.1-4; 26.3-4, 7-9; 33.22; 40.6b-8, 31; 42.1-4; 43.10-11; 44.6; 46.8-10; 48.16; 52.13-15; 53.1-12; 55.8-9; 57.15; 61.1-2; 64.6 (50 verses)

Jeremiah 2.13; 9.23-24; 17.5, 7, 9-10 32.19, 27 (9 verses)

Ezekiel 7.10; 14.3a

Daniel 12.2-3 (2 verses)

Hosea 4.6; 6.3a, 6 (3 verses)

Amos 3.7; 8.11 (2 verses)

Micah 5.2; 6.8 (2 verses)

Habakkuk 2.4

Malachi 4.2-3 (2 verses)

(Total verses in the OT = 280 ó Grand total 746)

Study program

Do a study of the doctrines listed below. Do not use commentaries or books. Use only Bibles, an interlinear Bible, a Strong's concordance, a word study book and Greek and Hebrew lexicons. Let the Holy Spirit teach you. If you have already done the studies on Sin, Judgment, Grace and Salvation, Hell and the Lake of Fire, Trinity, Rapture, Millennial Kingdom and Eternal Kingdom in Steps 18 and 19 you do not need to do them again. If you have not completed Steps 18 and 19 you must do all of the following studies:

Qualifications and duties of pastors and deacons ó Do a complete study on this topic. List every qualification for a pastor and also for a deacon and explain each one. Then list the duties of the deacons. Next list the duties of a pastor and explain each one as best you can. No man should think of becoming a pastor until he has done a study of the qualifications and duties of a pastor.

Book study ó Pick one book in the Bible and do a thorough study of it. The way to prepare for a teaching lesson or a sermon is to read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture as much as possible. If the book is not too large, 15 chapters or less, read through it once a day for 30 days to get acquainted with it. If it is more than 15 chapters divide it up. Take two or more months to read and study through it.

During the month or so that you are reading through a book choose key verses to memorize and hide them in your heart. Study the meaning of key words checking the Hebrew or Greek. Find as many cross references for each verse and write them in your Bible. Pick a Bible suitable for writing notes in. Wide margin Bibles are the best. When you teach ó these verses and notes will be your teaching outline. Meditate on each chapter of the book. Let the Holy Spirit teach you (1 John 2.27). Lastly write your own commentary on the book. Once you have done this you will be ready to teach on that book. You should study a few books of the Bible thoroughly and be prepared to teach/preach on them by the time you finish this course. Once you become a pastor you can teach through that book and as you are doing that you can start on the next book you decide to teach through. If you can study through several books before you become a pastor it will be beneficial. Study Step 22 to learn more about teaching and preaching.

Sin and Judgment ó Explain what sin is, what it does to man, what the results of it are, if everyone is born in sin and list as many sins as possible using Scripture. Explain whether or not man will be judged when he dies, what he will be judged for and when he will be judged.

Grace and Salvation ó Explain what grace is, what it does, who gives it. Explain what salvation is, how one is saved, and what he is saved from. Explain what the öGospelö is and conclude with a clear and concise presentation of the Gospel.

Punishment of the wicked in Hell and the Lake of Fire ó Explain whether or not those who die in their sins will be punished and how long. Also explain what that punishment will be in Hell (Hades) and in the Lake of Fire (Gehenna). Make sure to explain whether or not the descriptions of punishment in Hell and the Lake of Fire are literal or symbolic. Describe where Hell is located and also where the Lake of Fire will be located. Also note whether or not the wicked in the Lake of Fire will be able to see New Jerusalem.

Trinity ó Explain the doctrine of the Trinity as best you can. Make an exact and literal translation of Deuteronomy 6.4 and a paraphrase translation. Also give a full explanation of what it says. Describe the Father, Son and Holy Spirit as best you can. Make sure to explain as many of their qualities as you can and if They are equal to each other in all ways. Include the Sonø deity, virgin birth, sinless life and sacrifice, and bodily resurrection. Describe what you believe they consist of and where they dwell. Do not forget to explain whether They are bound by time or exist apart from it. Explain why the word Elohim is used in the Old Testament and should it be translated öGodö or öGods.ö Lastly, explain whether or not They think and if They can change Their minds.

Spiritual Warfare ó Do a complete study of this subject using every verse in the Bible that touches on it.

Rapture ó Explain what the Rapture is, when it will take place, if it can take place at any moment, and if all believers will be raptured. Explain how long it will take and if there will be any warning beforehand. Make sure you explain whether there is a gap between the Rapture and the Tribulation if you believe it takes place beforehand. List each position for the

timing of the Rapture and give biblical reasons why you do not believe the Rapture will not take place at the other times.

Tribulation ó Explain what the Tribulation is, how long it is and if the events described in Revelation and elsewhere concerning it are literal. Describe who the Antichrist and False Prophet are and what nations each of them will come from. Do not forget to explain what the mark of the Beast is. Make sure you explain what the creatures in Revelation nine are and who made them. List the things and events in Revelation that are literal and those that are symbolic. List the passages in the Old Testament that describe the Tribulation.

Millennial Kingdom ó Explain whether or not there will be a literal 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ on Earth. Give as much detail of it as you can. Explain whether babies will be born and whether or not anyone will die during it. Try to calculate how many people could be born during that time. Explain what Christians will be doing during it. Also make sure you explain how a person is saved during that dispensation. Do not forget to explain what happens at the end of that kingdom. List as many passages in the Old Testament dealing with that Kingdom.

Eternal Kingdom ó Describe what the Eternal Kingdom will be like using every passage in the Bible dealing with it.

Free will versus election ó Find every verse in the Bible that speaks about free will and also election. List them and then explain what each one means, in context. Then explain what you believe the Bible teaches ó that everyone has free will to trust Jesus or no one has a free will to be saved and that Jesus chooses the people He wants to save and then saves them. Conclude by explaining if it is necessary to explain to the lost that they have free will or not when one shares the Gospel. If you cannot come to a decision on this doctrine explain why.

The cults (Explain the major false doctrines that the following cults teach ó Mormonism, Watchtower Society, Seventh Day Adventists, Worldwide Church of God and Church of Christ. Give a solid argument why they cannot be of God and whether anyone can be saved by becoming a member of one of them. Include a brief summary of how each cult began.

Also list and explain the major false doctrines that the Roman Catholic Church teaches. Explain whether or not a person can be saved by becoming a Roman Catholic.

Personal training

Every man who has been called to be a pastor must have on the job training (OJT). One pastor or more should train him how to teach, preach, lead prayer meetings, disciple men, minister to believers and the unsaved, share the Gospel, rebuke and refute false teachers, overthrow philosophies of Satan and tear down the gates of Hell!

The Bible does not command pastors to send faithful men called to be pastors to Bible college or seminary. God commands every pastor to personally train faithful men to be pastors. There should not be a single Bible college or seminary on Earth. Training pastors is the solemn duty of every pastor.



JAMES: BIBLE SENSE TO LIVE BY

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STEP TWENTY-THREE

SHEPHERDING A CHURCH

The men who have completed this discipleship program will know Scripture well enough to teach and preach the Word. They will need some guidance on shepherding a church. This step is designed to give them that guidance.

Qualifications of a Pastor

Every man who desires to be a pastor seeks a good thing (1 Timothy 3.1), yet he must meet the qualifications for the position:

1. Be above reproach (living a holy life)
2. Husband of one wife (if married)
3. Be sensible
4. Be modest
5. Be hospitable
6. Able to teach
7. Holding fast to the Word
8. Not a novice (recently saved)
9. Not greedy.
10. Not be a lover of money
11. Be sober (not a regular drinker of wine)
12. Not addicted to any kind of alcohol
13. Not quarrelsome
14. Not a brawler

15. Be gentle
16. Able to rule his own family
17. His children are obedient
18. Have a good reputation
19. Have a love for what is good
20. Be just.
21. Be devout
22. Have self-control (1Timothy 3.1-7; Titus 1.6-9)

The qualifications are strict, but necessary. If you fall short in any of them it is best to wait until the Lord has given you the grace and strength to fully meet them all. If you are married and one or more of your children are juvenile delinquents it is best that you take a position of Bible teacher in a church. If you have divorced after being saved and your wife was saved it might be best to be just a Bible teacher.

Duties of a Pastor

Once you are certain that you meet all the qualifications you need to do a thorough study of the duties of a pastor. You can read books about this, but the only way to know exactly what the duties are is to study the Bible. The primary books to study are the letters to Timothy and Titus. Other duties of pastors can also be found in Ezekiel 34.4; Acts 6, Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, Hebrews 13 and 1 Peter 3 and 5.

Before you become a pastor study those books and chapters to learn what your duties are. It is foolhardy to take a *öjobö* without knowing what your duties are. Being a pastor is a *öjobö* but it is foremost a ministry. Pastors minister to the needs of the congregation (1 Peter 5.1-3). Jesus is the Chief Shepherd over all the churches in the world (1 Peter 5.4), and pastors are under-shepherds. A pastor *ö lips should keep knowledge, and they [congregation] should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hostsö* (Malachi 2.7). *öThe lips of the righteous feed manyö* (Proverbs 10.21). Be very careful to not feed the flock false doctrine.

The primary duties pastors are prayer and the ministry of the Word (Acts 6.4). They must not be caught up in financial matters, individual counseling of members, and organizing activities. Pastors need to choose faithful men to handle those things or let the congregation choose them. When a pastor gets involved in those matters it takes away too much time from prayer and the ministry of the Word.

Give careful consideration to getting 501C3 status. If you do you will be under the authority of the government which can limit what you say from the pulpit. You will also need a board. If you have a board make sure it is set up by the deacons and that it has authority over the church property. A board can never have authority over the pastors. If a church has just one pastor and he violates his office he must be disciplined by the pastors of a sister church. The sheep are not qualified to discipline a pastor. If the church has three or more pastors, as all churches should have, the other pastors should deal with him.

Making Pastors

Once you are a pastor train at least two other faithful men to be associate pastors with you. Every church needs a minimum of three pastors who have equal authority. When spiritual decisions must be made the three pastors are to vote. Obviously the vote will be unanimous or split. A church must always have an odd number of pastors who vote on a spiritual decision so there will never be a stalemate. As more pastors are added to the staff they must be added in even numbers. If a church cannot pay the other pastors a salary they are to serve without pay.

Deacons or men in the church cannot have a vote on spiritual matters. Deacons and other men in the church can only vote on non-spiritual matters. Pastors should refrain from voting on non-spiritual matters. They need not be distracted by non-spiritual matters in the church (Acts 6.4). It also gives the deacons and others responsibility which is necessary in the

spiritual growth of a congregation. Pastors should not attend church business meetings. The deacons can handle that.

Ministries of the Church

Below are some ministries that pastors may wish to consider:

1. Home/church Bible studies.
2. Home/church prayer meetings and daily prayer at lunch time.
3. Saturday night Bible study for youth and adults.
4. Personalized home Bible studies. (A teacher holds a personal Bible study for a single person, couple, family or a small group.)
5. Sunday school classes teaching book-by-book.
6. Class to teach fathers how to conduct family devotions.
7. Discipleship program.
8. Memorization club.
9. Bible reading club. (Read a book of the Bible and discuss it.)
10. Weekly Bible study for all pastors, deacons and Bible teachers.
11. New members class on basic Bible doctrines.
12. A class on health and diet.
13. Class for members to determine what their spiritual gifts are.
14. Bible study correspondence course.
15. A Bible college for members and others. (It does not need to be accredited. The pastors and qualified Bible teachers teach classes on specific books of the Bible, O.T. and N.T. survey, Bible doctrine, hermeneutics, homiletics, Church history, etc.)
16. Evangelism class. (Training members how to share the Gospel.)
17. Evangelism programs.
18. Community outreach programs.
19. Send out missionaries and support those in the field.

20. Compassion ministry for members and all (Appen. E).
21. Food bank. (For church members and the poor.)
22. Thrift shop.
23. Child-care ministry for members.
24. Training parents how to home school their children and providing help for parents who work. Volunteers can home school children whose parents cannot do it full time.
25. Regular dinner parties. (Pastors, deacons and Bible teachers invite members of the church to their home for dinner/fellowship. The host should take time to share his testimony and listen to the testimonies of his guests. He should get to know them, and ask them if they need help in their spiritual growth or in their daily lives.)
26. Night of preaching. (Men called to be pastors preach for 20 minutes. Three or more men preach. It can be a powerful evangelistic tool.)

Compassion Ministry

There are dozens of things a church can do to help the members of the church and the unsaved in the community. Here are just a few ideas for the Compassion Ministry:

1. Free gardening services. The church should have a professional gardener head this ministry up.
2. Recycling ministry.
3. Hauling stuff to the dump that the trash disposal company does not handle.
4. Free handyman services.
5. Free auto repair services if the church has a professional mechanic. It would be limited to basic repairs and maintenance.
6. Free grocery shopping services.
7. Free ride services.

8. Free delivery service. Church will make deliveries to and for people. (No pick up deliveries of alcohol and tobacco.)
9. Prepared meals for members who cannot cook due to age, injury or sickness.
10. Day-care ministry.
11. House sitting services.
12. Alzheimer sitting services.
13. Food bank and co-op.
14. Thrift shop.
15. Community garden and orchard.
16. Disaster preparedness.

To facilitate the compassion ministry a qualified man should be made director. His duties will include having church members sign up to do volunteer work and to be ministered to. He will determine who can pay for all or part of the services and who should be paid for performing the services (unemployed, those who need extra income). He will also be responsible for collecting donations for the ministry.

The director also needs to have a pamphlet printed and made available to the members of the church listing all of the ministries and services the church offers with the name, phone numbers and emails of the ministry director and any assistants he may have.

The ministries and services should also be made available to the community. Making them available to non-church members is an excellent way for the church to evangelize the community.

Spiritual Success

Most pastors want to be successful. They want to have a big church with several ministries to help the members of their congregation. Some even want to have a radio or television ministry. There is nothing wrong with this, yet that is not success. Spiritual success does **not** consist of numbers, money, buildings, ministries and fame. Most pastors who have those things are spiritual failures.

Spiritual success consists of:

1. Making certain that every member of the congregation is truly born from above. If you cannot spend time with every member of the Lord's flock to listen to their testimony and be assured they are saved you need to train men to help you (Hebrews 13.17).
2. Feeding every member of the flock with the Word and helping them grow to spiritual maturity (Acts 6.4; Ephesians 4.11-16; 1 Peter 5.2).
3. Setting up a Spiritual Fitness Program for every member and helping them stay on it (Appendix B).
4. Putting every member of the flock to spiritual work exercising their spiritual gifts (Romans 12.7-8; 1 Corinthians 12.7-10). Getting every member involved in ministry is mandatory. Determine what gifts each member has and find a way for them to use them. The more members there are involved in ministry the greater impact the church will have on the community (Romans 12.7-8; 1 Corinthians 12.7-10).
5. Watching over the flock. When a member or regular attendee does not attend a Sunday morning service call and tell him that you missed him. Gently determine why he skipped and make him understand he is an important member. Explain to him that the whole body suffers when just one member is missing. Train men to help you if you have a large church. When the member is a woman have your wife or a female member of your congregation make the call (Hebrews 13.17).
6. Discipling all husbands so they can disciple their wives and children (Deuteronomy 6.6-7).

7. Discipling faithful men called to be pastors (2 Timothy 2.2).
8. Having your wife or spiritually mature women in the congregation disciple mothers so they can disciple their children (Proverbs 1.8; 6.20; 31.26).
9. Showing hospitality to every member of the congregation by inviting them to dinner on a regular basis (once a week or once a month). The deacons, Bible teachers and other men in the church can help you (Romans 12.13; 1 Timothy 3.2; Titus 1.8) as well as all members (1 Timothy 5.10; Hebrews 13.2; 1 Peter 4.9).
10. Meeting the physical needs of every member of the Lord's flock (Acts 6.1-3; Romans 12.7; 1 John 3.16-18).
11. Taking the Gospel to every home and person in your city, and discipling those who believe in Jesus Christ (Matthew 28.19-20).
12. Sending out missionaries to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28.19-20), and assisting them in their work (3 John 5-8).

Sometimes a pastor may be hesitant to let a member exercise his gift. When a pastor does not let members use their gifts he is grieving the Holy Spirit. If a man has the gift of teaching give him a trial opportunity explaining that he will only become a permanent teacher when you determine if he has the gift of teaching, and that it is the will of the Lord for him to teach. Watch what he says to make sure his doctrine is correct and determine if he has the gift. If you and the members of the church conclude he does not have the gift tell him. Then find out what his gifts are. Let everyone use their gifts so you and the congregation can see what gifts they have (1 Peter 4.10).

Making up rules that a member cannot teach or exercise other gifts until he has sat on the bench for 90 days, six months or a year is not scriptural and it hinders the work of the Lord. Put every member to work serving the Lord as quickly as possible after they have been thoroughly vetted.

Snares of the devil to avoid

And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. (1 Timothy 3.7)

There are numerous snares of the devil that pastors must avoid. The major ones will be touched on briefly.

Love of money

One of the biggest snares that too many pastors are caught in is the love of money. When a pastor of a small church sees growth in numbers and money it is extremely hard to remain humble and live at the same standard of living. Most pastors who see growth take a bigger salary, buy a bigger house, buy extra vehicles, buy expensive clothing and jewelry for themselves and their wives, buy toys, pad their bank account, buy stock, make risky investments and spend, spend, spend.

Instead of acting as if they had won the lottery a pastor who sees growth should use the extra money to support as many missionaries as possible. Next he should make sure the poor members have their needs met (Acts 4.34). Then he should see to it that every poor person in his community has their needs met. The church can help sister churches in the community and nearby communities meet the needs of their poor members. If he still has an excess of money he can put solid Bible teachers on staff to teach the congregation the Bible, book-by-book. They would also take members through a discipleship program. The pastor would train these Bible

teachers to be pastors. If the Lord kept blessing the church the pastors would then start other churches and continue doing this until the Rapture. There is never an excuse for a pastor who sees an increase in church revenue to spend it on himself.

As a church grows none of the pastors should be increasing their salaries and their standard of living. That is not why a true man of God becomes a pastor. If he is making the average income of his community why should he increase his salary? If he is responsible for the growth he could argue he deserves more money, but God says He is the one who adds to a church as He sees fit (Acts 2.47). Pastors who start asking for more money when the church grows are hirelings, they are not true men of God (1 Peter 5.2).

Sadly, the vast majority of pastors in America have an overpowering love of money which is the root of all kinds of evil:

For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. (1 Timothy 6.10)

Instead of pastors trying to raise their standard of living they should see how they can lower it. Instead of eating out more they should eat in. Instead of going on expensive vacations they should go on cheap vacations. Instead of buying new suits and clothing they should buy what they need from thrift shops. Instead of buying expensive watches and jewelry they should buy an inexpensive watch and forget about jewelry. Instead of buying a new car they should buy a used car from a rich church member at a discounted price.

Any pastor who does not live a humble and spendthrift life is not a true pastor. He is a mock pastor, a fake pastor, a phony pastor. He is a hireling that Jesus Christ warned us about:

ōBeware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. (Matthew 7.15-16a)

The fruits that we judge pastors by are their lifestyle. We look at how much money they spend, what their hobbies and interests are and where they go. If they spend as much money as they can and have numerous worldly hobbies and interests and take numerous vacations to exotic locations they are wolves in sheep's clothing.

The other fruits we judge are their teaching and service to the church. If a pastor does the following he is a hireling:

1. Give feel-good sermons and rarely teach Scripture book-by-book.
2. Rarely or never take members out to share the Gospel with the lost.
3. Rarely or never hold prayer meetings or Bible studies in their home.
4. Rarely or never minister to the needs of the congregation.
5. Rarely or never invite members to their home for dinner and fellowship.
6. Rarely or never take infirm members shopping for groceries.
7. Rarely or never do yard work for the infirm.
8. Rarely or never invite members to go with them on vacation.
9. Rarely or never drive people around who do not have a vehicle or cannot drive.

These are just a few things to judge a pastor by to know if he is a true pastor or just a hireling. You may think that no pastor does these things in the 21st century because things have changed. Maybe it is time to change them back to the way God wants them to be. The first Christians met in homes each day of the week for prayer, Bible study and fellowship (Acts 2.42, 46; 5.42). The pastors were part of this practice and all pastors today should imitate the first pastors.

Virtually all pastors teach that if a Christian gives to the Lord through a church the Lord will bless him. They say, "You can't out give God." Is this true of a church? If God

bleses a church with more money than it needs to pay all of its obligations should not the church give that excess money to the poor and missionaries? If they do will God bless them with even more money that they can use to help more poor people and support more missionaries?

If pastors and elder boards did what all pastors preach ó give and the Lord will give you back more ó there would be NO poor believers in the world and there would be so many missionaries throughout the world that the whole world would soon be won for the Lord!

If every pastor, evangelist, televangelist, ministry CEO, religious author and everyone working in the religious field were given a salary of NOT more than the median income of the country or state they live in there would be a revival overnight that would be greater than the Protestant Reformation and the First and Second Great Awakenings combined! Those who make more than the median income through writing books, selling DVDs, CDs or anything else should give ten percent to his church or ministry and the remainder to other ministries, churches and the poor. If all full-time workers in the religious field did this they would spend more time in prayer, Bible study, Bible teaching, preaching and evangelism and less time playing around in the world and living like the wicked.

It is time for all Spirit-led believers to demand that their pastors seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness ó NOT their worldly desires!

Fame and power

Another snare of the devil that many pastors fall into is fame and power. When a church grows the pastor usually gets attention. This celebrity status can grow if he gets on the radio and television or writes a book that becomes a best seller. With fame comes power and influence.

Most pastors and most people do not know how to handle fame. They let it go to their head and become proud. They

believe the lie of the devil that they are better than others and should be treated as a celebrity. They forget that in the spiritual world the greater one becomes the humbler he will be. Instead of seeking to be treated like a celebrity a true spiritual man of God treats those around him as if they are special and more important than himself (Philippians 2.3-4).

Those who are great in the spiritual realm are servants of those beneath them (Mark 10.42-43). When a pastor or anyone gains fame the best way to handle it is to be a servant. Instead of seeking to be served he should serve others. Deny yourself and go out of your way to help those around you beginning with your family. Pastors who seek to be served and not serve others think they are greater than Jesus Christ:

õFor even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.ö
(Mark 10.45)

Many celebrity pastors seek to influence those around them more than they did before they became famous. They try to get people to serve them. Some try to flex their celebrity muscles in the political and secular worlds. A few start a political movement and try to save the nation. Others become active in charity works around the world and become international celebrities. This usually ends in a ruined marriage with one's children hating their neglectful father.

God does not need celebrities and movers and shakers in the spiritual world. He is the one and only celebrity and He is the only mover and shaker. He does not need you or anyone. He can raise up anyone He chooses to get a job done (Matthew 3.9). Everyone is expendable.

Sex

Sex scandals have destroyed or severely hindered the ministry of many pastors. There is no woman on Earth who is worth more than serving God faithfully. Any pastor who thinks there is such a woman must step down from the pulpit.

History is littered with men who destroyed their reputation and or ministry by committing adultery or engaging in homosexual acts. Some of the more infamous examples are: Jim Bakker, Paul Barnes, Joe Barron, Todd Bentley, G. Michael Cocoris, Paul Crouch, Douglas Goodman, Ted Haggard, Benny Hinn, Jack Hyles, Marcus Lamb, Eddie Long, Albert Odulele, Earl Paulk, John Paulk, Michael Reid, George Alan Rekers and Jimmy Swaggart.

Flee all situations that can lead to adultery. No married pastor should ever be alone with a woman other than his wife, mother or sister. Pastors who counsel women are opening the door to infidelity and those who have women on staff should make sure they are never alone with them. Even if you believe you would never be tempted to commit adultery you can be unjustly accused of such as Joseph was.

Teaching and preaching

The way a pastor prepares to teach a Bible lesson or preach a sermon is not by writing a sermon outline or getting one from the Internet. Only young pastors should write a teaching/sermon outline. Most pastors have been writing sermon outlines for the last century, but that is not how God wants his ministers to prepare for a sermon.

Jesus never wrote a sermon outline. Neither did Peter, Paul, John or any of the Apostles. They taught and preached sermons based on their intimate knowledge of Scripture. They knew Scriptures so well they could teach on any book or subject without preparation. Jesus, the Apostles and pastors of the first century did not have a New Testament. Some had a few of the books of the New Testament, but none of them had all of the books. They taught mainly from the Old Testament and from the few books of the New Testament that they had. They also taught from oral tradition of what Jesus and the Apostles taught.

Consider this question: Who would you rather have as your personal teacher ó fallible men who make many mistakes in

doctrine and their understanding of Scripture or the infallible God who wrote the Bible and who knows it inside and out and never makes a mistake?

Do not rely on commentaries. Instead of being taught by fallible men let God teach you as He promised He would (1 John 2.27).

The two greatest pastors of the Reformation were Martin Luther and John Calvin. They relied solely on Scripture and the teaching of the Holy Spirit (1 John 2.27) when they prepared for a sermon. The only commentaries they had were written by Roman Catholic priests who were not born from above and the writings of the early Church fathers. It is doubtful they relied on commentaries written by priests. They did not have any sermon outlines they could borrow. They were the greatest of the Reformers because of this. If you want to be a great pastor follow their example. If you must have commentaries study the writings of the early Church fathers.

Every pastor should prepare for a lesson or sermon by reading, studying, memorizing and meditating on Scripture as much as possible. Choose a book of the Bible and teach through it. Then teach through another book until you finish teaching through the entire Bible. Once you have taught through the Bible start over again. You can teach through the Bible in any order you desire, but teach through every book. Do not teach through the Song of Solomon if children are in the congregation. Only teach that book to adults.

The way to know a book inside and out is to read, read and read. If the book is not too large (15 chapters or less) read through it once a day for 30 days to get acquainted with it. If it is more than 15 chapters split it in half and take two or more months to read and study through it. As you read take notes of things the Holy Spirit gives you and meditate on Scripture as much as possible. Let the Holy Spirit teach you (1 John 2.27).

During the month that you are reading through a book choose key verses to memorize. Study the meaning of key words checking the Hebrew or Greek. Find as many cross references for each verse and write them in your Bible. Pick a Bible suitable for writing notes in. When you teach ó these

verses and notes will be your teaching outline. A loose leaf Bible is excellent for teaching from because you can insert pages with extra notes and references in it. Meditate on each chapter of the book. Let the Holy Spirit teach you (1 John 2.27). Lastly write your own commentary on the book.

Once you have followed the recommendations noted above you will be ready to teach on that book. Do not write out teaching or sermon outlines. You can begin with an historical background and then start teaching through the book. Read a certain number of verses that make up a thought. In the book of James, Chapter One, you would teach on verses 1-4, then 5-8, then 9-11, then 12-18, and then 19-27. After reading a specific passage explain what it means. Next note what doctrine and truths are in the passage, and how one can apply the truths to his life. Use as many cross references as you can.

Do as much teaching from the pulpit as possible. Keep your preaching to a minimum. Remember, a sermon is just a pep talk. You do not want to give pep talks every Sunday and Wednesday. You should teach from the pulpit and only give one sermon (pep talk) once a month at the most. Teach Sunday and Wednesday nights.

Teach your flock the Bible. Give them homework and engage them in dialog. Do not stand behind the pulpit all the time. Get in the aisles and ask people questions. Do not give a lecture like most professors do in universities and seminaries. After you finish teaching on a passage ask questions. Ask the congregation if they understood what you taught. Sometimes you will want to ask a specific person a question and other times ask a question for anyone to answer. Try to get as many people involved in answering questions as possible.

Pastors who have large congregations can still walk the aisles and ask questions. You will not be able to get everyone involved, but you can get many of them involved.

It is the Word of God that convicts people *concerning sin, and righteousness and judgment* (John 16.8). The Word cuts to the heart and the Holy Spirit teaches people as they hear, read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture. Let the

Word of God and the Holy Spirit do Their job. Do as little teaching as possible and read as much Scripture as possible:

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. (Hebrews 4.12)

As for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him. (1 John 2.27)

Sample Sermon

Hunger & Thirst for the Word

This is an idea that all pastors should consider doing at least once. Tell your flock that every believer should have a daily hunger and thirst for God. Quote/read: Job 23.12; Deuteronomy 8.3; Psalm 42.1-2; 63.1; 143.6; 2 Peter 2.2.

Explain that hungering and thirsting for God means one desires to know Him and have fellowship with Him. The way we do that is by spiritually feeding on and drinking in His Word ó the Bible. The first way of drinking in His Word is by hearing Scripture. Simply read the passages concerning hearing Scripture and then move on to verses on reading Scripture, Bible study, memorization and meditation. Next read the passages dealing with holiness and obedience, and finally the passages concerning knowing our God and Savior. After you finish reading the last verse, close in prayer.

Do not explain the Scriptures. Let the Holy Spirit do that. You may want to print out the eight topics and the passages, and put it in the bulletin as an insert for members to study during the week.

Prayer is something that we must do while we hear, read, study, memorize and meditate on the Word. We should pray for wisdom and understanding as well as our daily needs and the needs of others (Matthew 7.7-11; Luke 18.1-8; John 16.24; Ephesians 6.18; James 1.5; 1 Thessalonians 5.17).

Listening to Scripture (Deuteronomy 4.9-10; Proverbs 8.34; Luke 8.15, 21; 11.28; James 1.22; Revelation 1.3).

Reading Scripture (Deuteronomy 17.19; Psalm 42.1-2; 63.1; 143.6; Revelation 1.3).

Studying Scripture (Deut. 8.3; Matthew 4.4; Proverbs 2.1-5; 8.34; 22.17; John 5.39; Acts 17.11; Romans 15.4; 2 Timothy 2.15; 3.15).

Memorizing Scripture (Deuteronomy 6.6; 11.18; 30.14; Psalm 37.31; 40.8; 119.11; Proverbs 2.1; 3.1, 3; 4.1, 21; 6.21; 22.18; Isaiah 51.7; 59.21; Ezekiel 3.10; Romans 10.8; Colossians 3.16).

Meditating on Scripture (Joshua 1.8; Job 22.22; 23.12; Psalm 1.2; 4.4; 19.14; 63.6; 77.12; 104.34; 119.15, 23, 27, 48, 78, 97, 99, 148; 143.5; 1 Timothy 4.15).

Holiness and obedience are two reasons we study the Bible (John 15.3; 17.17; Romans 12.1-2; Ephesians 5.26; 6.14, 17; 2 Timothy 3.16-17; Titus 3.5 & Joshua 1.8; 1 John 2.3-4).

Knowing our God and Savior is another reason to study the Bible (Jeremiah 9.24; Hosea 6.3; John 17.3; Philippians 3.10; Colossians 1.10; 2 Timothy 1.12; 1 John 2.3).

Following service (one week later)

Open in prayer and then ask:

1. Who listened to Scripture, sermons or teaching lessons last week?
2. Who read the Bible every day during the last week?
3. Who studied the Bible during the last week?
4. Who memorized Scripture during the last week?
5. Who meditated on Scripture last week?
6. Who spent time in prayer each day apart from blessing your food?

Say to the congregation, "Those who answered no to any of these questions ask yourselves why you are neglecting Scripture. Those who answered no to most or all of them are probably backslidden or you may not be saved. Come forward and get saved or rededicate your life to God."

Give the invitation. You may want to preach a sermon after you give the invitation. It would be good to give a sermon on the importance of the daily intake of the Word. You can use the following analogies in your follow-up sermon.

Explain that most people eat three meals a day plus snacks. Then ask the congregation, "Do you feed on Scripture three times a day? Why not? Should we feed our souls as much or more than we feed our bodies? Which is more important to you — your eternal soul or your mortal body?"

Also bring up the topic of feeding our minds. Ask, "Do you spend more time watching secular movies and television than you do studying the Bible?"

Another excellent analogy is that of a husband and wife. Explain that when a husband and wife are separated for a prolonged period of time they communicate by letters, email and phone calls. In the old days when soldiers went off to war they were eager to get letters from home and their families were eager to get letters from them. They would read them over and over and keep them with them at all times.

Then ask, "Should you be as eager to read the letters that our Savior wrote to us, the Bible, that you are to read your emails and text messages or talk on the phone?"

Also explain that they should read the entire Bible not just the New Testament. Explain the events recorded in the Old Testament were written for our benefit (1 Corinthians 10.6).

Invitation to action

This is an invitation that every pastor should make to the congregation. Ask for a show of hands for the following questions:

1. Who wants to get on a Bible reading and memory program?
2. Who would be willing to dedicate themselves to reading four chapters in the Bible every day?
3. Who would be willing to memorize one verse a week?
4. Who would be willing to stay on this program for one year?

Ask those who responded to fill out a card and drop it in the offering plate. Explain to them that a pastor, deacon or someone else will contact them and help them get started and stay with them throughout the program. Assign men to men, women to women and couples to couples. Encourage people to continue in the program every year.

Helping every member of the congregation set up a spiritual fitness program is the primary duty of a pastor. You do not feed the flock by preaching or teaching one or two sermons each week.

The Worship Service

Every pastor has his own idea of what a worship service should consist of. Some ideas are good and others are bad. Consider the following activities for a worship service:

Praying ó It is always good to open in prayer and to have two or more men pray during the service. The pastors should try to have as many men in the congregation pray as possible

by asking different men to pray each service. He should instruct them on how to pray in public ó make it short and to the point, do not preach a mini-sermon in the prayer and do not remind God or teach Him Bible or secular history.

Singing ó Every worship service should include singing songs of praise to God and Jesus Christ (Judges 5.3; 2 Samuel 22.50; Psalm 7.17; 9.2; 147.1, 7; 149.1, 3; Isaiah 12.5; Romans 15.9; Ephesians 5.19). Musical instruments can be used (Psalm 150.4; Isaiah 38.20; Habakkuk 3.19), if the musicians are not the center of attention.

Reading Scripture ó One or more men should read Scripture chosen by the pastors (1 Corinthians 14.26). It is best that the pastors do not read Scripture, but let different men in the congregation read each service. The more men the pastors can get involved in the service the better it will be.

Sharing testimonies of praise ó The pastors can either choose members to give testimonies of praise or allow anyone to share. Do not allow a member to ramble on endlessly. Tell them to keep it short and concise. If someone wants to share every service and appears as if they are trying to get attention you will need to speak with them privately.

Sharing testimonies of what one has learned from Scripture ó The pastors can either choose members to share what they learned from the Bible during the last week or allow anyone to share (Psalm 40.9-10; 1 Corinthians 14.26). Do not let the same person share every service. Encourage everyone to share. Get everyone involved.

Sharing personal testimonies ó In most churches only a few people know something about most members. A way of helping members get to know each other is through sharing their personal testimony. Each service the pastors should invite a few members to share their testimony and a little bit about themselves. Two couples could give their testimony or a family or a few single men and women. Over the course of a

year or more, depending on the size of the congregation, everyone can learn a little bit about the other members. It is a great way to break the ice among members. It is also good to have members get experience sharing their personal testimony of coming to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Pastors, make sure the members you invite to share their testimony before the congregation, share it with you first. You must make certain they have a solid testimony. If they do not they just may not be saved and you can lead them to the Lord.

Teaching the Word of God ó Pastors should teach Scripture book-by-book. After teaching a portion ask specific questions to see if the congregation understands it. Give them homework to do during the week on the passage of Scripture you intend to teach next week. Below is a sample homework assignment (answers included). Do not give the congregation the answers until after you teach on it.

Get all the pastors involved in teaching on Sunday morning/evening and Wednesday evening. Rotate teaching assignments. No one pastor should teach every service.

James One

(Study and discussion questions)

1. What is a bond-servant? (v. 1)
A servant who decides to remain a servant for life.
2. Who did James write his letter to? (v. 1)
The 12 Hebrew tribes.
3. What are we to do when we encounter trials? (v. 2)
Consider it all joy.
4. What should the testing of our faith produce? (v. 3)
Endurance.

5. What should testing of our faith do for us? (v. 4)
 - A. Perfect us. B. Complete us. C. Lack nothing.

6. What should we not lack? (v. 5-7) Wisdom.
 - A. If we lack this what should we do? Ask God for wisdom.
 - B. What else can we do to get this? (Proverbs 1.1-7; 2.1-10; 4.7; 5.1-2; 7.1-4; 8.13)
 1. Increase in learning
 2. Acquire wise counsel
 3. Respect God
 4. Treasure Scripture
 5. Search for it
 6. Acquire wisdom
 7. Keep the commandments
 8. Hate evil.
 - C. Does God give this to all men and in what manner? Yes, and He gives it generously and without reproach
 - D. When we ask for this what must we not do and why? Not doubt for if we do we will not get it.
 - E. What kind of a person will we be if we do not ask in faith? A double-minded person who is unstable in all our ways.

7. What should the brother of humble circumstances do? (v. 9) Glory in his high position.

8. What should the rich brother do and why? (v. 10-11) Glory in his humiliation because most are spiritual paupers.

9. Which brother is given the greater blessing by God, and which brother will have more rewards in Heaven? (v. 9-10) The poor brother.

10. What should we do when we encounter trials? (v. 12) Persevere.

- A. What will we receive if we are approved? Crown of life.
 - B. Is there something else we must do to receive the reward? Love Jesus.
 - C. If we are not approved will we still receive the reward? Probably not.
11. Does God tempt people or does He test people? (v. 13-15) (2 Samuel 24.1; 1 Chronicle 21.1) God never tempts people, but He frequently tests them.
- A. What is the difference between temptation and testing?
 - 1. Temptation is ó Enticing someone to sin.
 - 2. Testing is ó Showing observers how strong a person's faith, love, loyalty and obedience is.
 - B. Can God be tempted by evil? No! It is impossible for God to be tempted by evil!
 - C. Could Jesus have been tempted by evil during His incarnation? (Luke 4.1-13) No! The temptation by the devil was permitted to prove to the devil, the fallen angels, the holy angels and all mankind that Jesus is fully divine and fully God in Adamic flesh.
 - D. What causes a person to be tempted? (v. 14) Lust.
 - E. What are the results of giving in to temptation? (v. 15) Sin and death.
 - F. Can the natural results of succumbing to temptation be stopped, and if so how? Yes, if one stops sinning, receives medical attention, takes care of his body or the Lord heals him.
12. What must we guard against? (v. 16) Deception.
- A. Who is the father of the thing we must guard against? (Genesis 3.1-7; John 8.44; Revelation 12.9; 20.3, 8, 10) The devil.
 - B. How do we guard against this? (Ephesians 6.10-18) By putting on the full armor of God which is:
 - 1. Truth
 - 2. Righteousness

3. Faith
4. Gospel
5. Assurance of Salvation
6. Word of God
7. Prayer

13. Where does every good thing and perfect gift come from? (v. 17) From above (Heaven), from the Father of lights.
 - A. Who receives these good things and gifts? People.
 - B. What is no variation and no shifting shadow?
 1. No variation ó The blessings are the same for everyone.
 2. No shifting shadow ó The blessings do not go from good to bad.

14. Who brought whom forth? (v. 18) The Father brought forth the saints (believers).
 - A. By what was this done? The Word of Truth (Scripture).
 - B. What is a first fruit? (Exodus 23.16) The first crop of a harvest.
 1. Who is the First Fruit? (1 Corinthians 15.20, 23) Jesus.
 2. Who was among the first fruits? (Matthew 27.51-53) An unspecified number of Old Testament believers.

15. What must every believer be? (v. 19)
 - A. Quick to hear.
 - B. Slow to speak.
 - C. Slow to anger.

16. What can the anger of man never achieve? (v. 20) The righteousness of God.
 - A. What must never go down on our anger? (Ephesians 4.26) The sun.

- B. Can we exhibit righteous anger? (Ephesians 4.26)
Yes, but we must be careful not to sin.
17. What must all believers do? (v. 21)
A. Put away all filthiness and wickedness (sin)
B. Receive the Word (Scripture).
18. What can save our souls? (v. 21) Scripture.
A. How is a person saved? (Ephesians 2.8) By the grace of God through faith alone in Jesus.
B. By what does faith come? (Romans 10.17) By hearing the Word (Scripture).
19. What must all believers do? (v. 22) Be doers of the Word and not just hearers.
A. Give a few examples of what we should do?
1. Love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength (Deuteronomy 6.5; Mark 12.30).
 2. Love your neighbor as yourself (Leviticus 19.18; Mark 12.31).
 3. Draw near to God (James 4.8).
 4. Keep the commandments in Scripture (1 John 5.2-3).
 5. Cleanse your hands and purify your hearts (James 4.8).
 6. Pray for all kinds of people (1 Timothy 2.1).
 7. Share material goods with those in need (1 John 3.17-18).
 8. Be hospitable (Romans 12.13; Hebrews 13.1-2; 1 Peter 4.9).
 9. Serve each other (Galatians 5.13; 1 Peter 4.10).
 10. Visit orphans & widows (James 1.27).
 11. Humble yourselves (1 Peter 5.6).
 12. Resist the devil (James 4.7; 1 Peter 5.9).
 13. Love your enemies (Matthew 5.44).
 14. Give to the Lord in secret (Matthew 6.1-4).
 15. Do not love the world or the things in the world (1 John 2.15).

16. Do not oppress employees, widows, orphans and aliens (Malachi 3.5).
 17. Seek good and not evil, hate evil and love good, and establish justice (Amos 5.14-15; Prov. 8.13).
 18. Do not charge high rent to the poor (Amos 5.11).
 19. Do not reject knowledge (Hosea 4.6).
 20. Do not have idols in your life (1 John 5.21).
- B. How do some believers delude themselves?
1. By going to church and doing little else.
 2. By saying a quick prayer before dinner, and a quick prayer before sleeping and little else.
 3. By giving some money or even tithing and little else.
 4. By watching their favorite religious TV shows and little else.
 5. By helping a brother or sister in the Lord once in a great while and little else.
- C. Should we periodically examine our faith? (2 Cor. 13.5) Yes, all Christians should examine their faith.
1. How do we examine our faith? By studying the Bible to see what it says we should do. If we are not doing those things we failed the test.
20. What one word best describes a hearer of the Word who does not obey it? (vs. 23-24) Hypocrite.
21. What is the Perfect Law ó the Law of Liberty? (v. 25) (James 2.12; John 8.32; Galatians 2.4; 6.2; 1 Peter 2.16) Love God with all your heart, soul, mind and body and love your neighbor as yourself. (Mark 12.30-31).
22. What must all believers do with the Law of Liberty and what must we not do with it? (v. 25)
- A. Look at it (Study it).
 - B. Obey it.
 - C. Not be forgetful hearers.

23. What will be the result if we do what we should do and not do something? (v. 25) (Psalm 1.1-3) We will be blessed in what we do.
24. What must we all do if we claim to be religious? (v. 26)
Control your speech.
- A. If we do not do this what will be the result?
1. We will deceive ourselves.
 2. Our religion (faith) will be worthless.
25. What is pure and undefiled religion? (v. 27)
- A. Visiting and caring for orphans and widows.
- B. Keeping oneself pure from the world.

TEACHING OUTLINE

I. Introduction

- A. Every true believer in Jesus Christ is a disciple of His (Isaiah 8.16; Acts 9.1, 10, 19, 25-26, 36, 38; 11.26, 29; 13.52; 14.20, 22, 28; 15.10; 16.1; 18.23, 27; 19.1, 9, 30; 20.1, 7, 30; 21.4, 16).
- B. All believers should become teachers of the Bible (Hebrews 5.12).
- C. All believers are commanded to make disciples (Matthew 28.19-20).
- D. All fathers are commanded to disciple their children (Deuteronomy 4.9-10; 6.6-7; 11.18-19; 32.46-47).
- E. Before one can make a disciple he must be disciplined (2 Timothy 2.2).

II. Sin and Judgment

- A. The need for salvation.
 - 1. Everyone is a sinner.
 - a. Everyone is conceived and born in sin (Psalm 51.5).
 - b. Everyone goes astray from birth (Psalm 58.3).
 - c. No one is righteous and no one seeks God (Psalm 14.1-3; 53.1-3; 143.2; Ecclesiastes 3.18; Isaiah 53.6; 64.6; Romans 3.10-12, 23).

2. Everyone will die because of sin.
 - a. The result of sin is physical death (Proverbs 12.15; 14.12; 16.25; Romans 6.23).
 - b. The result of sin is spiritual death (Ephesians 2.1, 5; Colossians 2.13).
3. Everyone will be judged for every sin (Psalm 62.12; Proverbs 24.12; Jeremiah 17.10; 32.19; Matthew 12.36; 16.27; Luke 8.17; Romans 2.6, 16; 1 Peter 1.17; Revelation 2.23; 20.12).

B. Punishment of sin.

1. Everyone who dies in their sins goes to Hell (Luke 16.19-31).
2. Everyone who dies in their sins will be judged at the Great White Throne Judgment for each sin, be found guilty and given a corresponding degree of punishment (Matthew 11.22; Mark 6.11; Luke 12.46-48; 20.47).
3. Everyone who dies in their sins will be cast into the Lake of Fire (Revelation 20.11-15).
4. Punishment will be eternal ó it will never end (Matthew 25.41, 46; Revelation 14.11; 20.10).
5. The descriptions of Hell and the Lake of Fire are literal (Psalm 11.6; 140.10; Proverbs 25.22; Luke 16.19-31; Romans 12.20; Rev 14.9-11; 20.10; 21.8).
6. The location of Hell (Psalm 63.9; Isaiah 44.23; Ezekiel 26.20; Matthew 12.40).
7. The location of the Lake of Fire (Matthew 8.12; 22.13; 25.30; 2 Peter 2.17; Jude 13; Rev. 14.10).

III. Salvation

A. The act of conversion.

1. How to be saved (Luke 18.13; 23.42; Acts 16.30-31; Romans 10.9-11, 13).

2. What it means to believe, trust, have faith in and receive Jesus Christ (John. 3.16; 5.24; 20.31; Romans 4.5; John 1.12).
 3. The Gospel (1 Corinthians 15.3-5).
 - a. Jesus died for our sins according to the Scriptures (Isaiah 53.4-6, 8, 10-12).
 - b. He was buried according to the Scriptures (Isaiah 53.9).
 - c. He rose from the dead according to the Scriptures (Isaiah 53.10, 12; Matthew 17.22-23; 20.18-19; Mark 8.31; Luke 9.22; 18.32-33; 22.37; John 2.19 and Isaiah 63.1-6; 66.15-16; Habakkuk 3.3-15).
- B. There is only one way to be saved.
1. Salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and in Him alone (Ephesians 2.8).
 2. There is salvation in no one else .
 - a. There is no salvation in other religions (John 14.6; 15.23; Acts 4.12).
 - b. Some who die young are saved (2 Samuel 12.23).
 - c. Some who never hear the Gospel are saved (Isaiah 52.10; Romans 1.18-23).
 3. We cannot add to the work of Jesus (Romans 4.1-8; Ephesians 2.9; Titus 3.5).
 4. No one gets a second chance after death to be saved (Hebrews 9.27).
- C. The results of conversion.
1. There will be noticeable changes in your life (Romans 6.4; 2 Corinthians 5.17; Colossians 3.10).
 - a. There will be a desire to know Jesus (Jeremiah 9.24; Ephesians 3.14-19; Colossians 1.10).
 - b. There will be a desire to fellowship with the Brethren (Micah 3.16; Acts 2.46-47; Hebrews 10.24-25).

- c. There will be a desire to share Jesus with the lost (Psalm 26.7; 119.72; Jeremiah 20.9; Daniel 4.2; Matthew 9.31; Acts 2.4; 4.13-20; 26.22-24; 5.27-32; 2 Corinthians 4.13; 1 Peter 3.15).
 - d. There will be obedience to Jesus (1 Samuel 15.22; Matthew 7.24; 12.50; John 15.10; Acts 5.29; Ephesians 4.24; James.1.25).
 - e. There will be an abandonment of the life of sin (Psalm 34.13-14; Isaiah 1.16; John 8.11; Romans 6.11-12; 1 Corinthians 15.34; 2 Corinthians 5.15; Galatians 5.24; Ephesians 4.22; 2 Timothy 2.19, 22; Titus 2.12; Hebrews 12.1; James 4.4; 1 Peter 1.14; 2.11; 3.11; 4.1-4)
2. No noticeable change means there was no conversion.
 - a. Reciting a salvation prayer does not save you
 - b. Many can think they are saved when they are not (Matthew 7.21-23; Luke 13.24; 2 Corinthians 13.5).

D. Eternal life.

1. Everyone who believes in Jesus is promised eternal life (John 3.16; 5.24; 10.28-29; Romans 6.23; 1 John 5.11-13).
2. A true believer cannot lose, forfeit, give up or walk away from his salvation (John 3.16; 5.24; 6.37-40; 10.28-29; 1 John 5.10-13).
3. If a believer stops abiding in Christ he is in danger of being punished and even being taken home (Proverbs 3.11-12; Hebrews 12.5-6; John 15.1-6; 1 Corinthians 5.5).
4. A believer cannot have his salvation stolen from him by another person or by the forces of darkness (Romans 8.37-39).
5. Eternal life is eternal. It is not a temporal thing that a person can have for a few years and then no longer have it (Matthew 25.46; John 3.16; 5.24; 6.40; 10.28-29; Romans 6.23; 1 John 5.11-13).

IV. Sanctification

- A. Definition of sanctify (*hagiazo*) is to make holy, purify or consecrate.
- B. It is commanded (Matthew 5:48; 1 Peter 1:15-16; Leviticus 11:44-45; 19:2; 20:7).
- C. We should want to be holy.
 - 1. To please God (Hebrews 11:6).
 - 2. To receive rewards (1 Corinthians 3:12-15; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Hebrews 11:6) (God knows every thought and motive ó 1 Chron. 28:9; Jeremiah 17:10; Romans 2:16; Hebrews 4:12).
- D. Methods of sanctification (Proverbs 15:9).
 - 1. Scripture (Psalm 25:4-5, 9; Proverbs 8:32-35; 22:17-21; Hosea 4:6, 14; 6:3; John 15:3; 17:17; Micah Romans 12:2; 1 Corinthians 3:2; Ephesians 5:26; Hebrews 5:12-14; 1 Peter 2:2).
 - a. Hear (Deuteronomy 4:9-10; Proverbs 8:34; Luke 18:15, 21; 11:28; James 1:22; Rev. 1:3).
 - 1. Radio, TV, recordings.
 - 2. Sermons/teaching at church (Nehemiah 8:1-8; 1 Timothy 4:13; 2 Timothy 4:2; Titus 1:9; 2:15).
 - b. Read (Deuteronomy 17:19; Revelation 1:5).
 - c. Study (Psalm 1:2).
 - 1. Personal (Proverbs 8:34; John 5:39; Acts 17:11; Romans 15:4; 2 Timothy 2:15).
 - 2. Family (Deuteronomy 4:9-10; 6:6-9; 11:19; 32:46-47; Proverbs 1:8; 2:1; 3:1; 4:1; 5:1; 6:20-23; 2 Timothy 3:15).
 - 3. Church (Nehemiah 8:7-8; 1 Timothy 4:11, 13; 2 Timothy 4:2; Titus 1:9; 2:15).
 - d. Memorize (Deuteronomy 6:6; 11:18; 30:14; Psalm 37:31; 40:8; 119:11; Proverbs 2:1; 3:1, 3;

- 4.1, 21; 6.21; 22.18; Isaiah 51.7; Ezekiel 3.10; Rom. 10.8).
- e. Meditate (Joshua 1.8; Psalm 1.2; 4.4; 19.14; 63.6; 77.12; 104.34; 119.15, 23, 27, 48, 78, 97, 99, 148; 143.5; 1 Timothy 4.15).
 1. Father teaches us (Psalm 119.64).
 2. Son teaches us (1 Corinthians 2.16).
 3. Holy Spirit teaches us (John 14.26; 1 Cor. 2.13; 1 John 2.20, 27).
2. Prayer (Proverbs 15.29; 28.9; Revelation 5.8; 8.3).
 - a. Who we should pray to?
 1. Father (Matt. 6.8-13; John 14.13; 15.16).
 2. Son (John 14.14).
 - b. Who we should pray with?
 1. Spouse (I Corinthians 7.5; 1 Peter 3.7).
 2. Children (1 Thess. 5.17; Deut. 6.6-7).
 3. Brethren (Isaiah 56.7; Acts 1.14; 2.42; 4.31; 1 Timothy 2.1).
 - c. How often we should pray? (1 Chronicles 16.11; Luke 11.5-10; 18.1-8; Ephesians 6.18; 1 Thess. 5.17; 1 Timothy 5.5).
 - d. What prayer should consist of:
 1. Praise (Psalm 35.28; 51.15; Hebrews 13.15; 1 Peter 2.9).
 2. Thanksgiving.
 - a. To God for His blessings (Ephesians 5.20; Col. 3.17; Phil. 4.6; 1 Thes. 5.18)
 - b. To God for people (1 Timothy 2.1).
 3. Petitions for the brethren (Daniel 9.20; Eph. 6.18; Phil. 1.3-4; Col. 1.9-12; 1 Tim. 2.8)
 4. Petitions for the lost (1 Timothy 2.1-2).
 5. Petitions for yourself (1 Samuel 1.27; Psalm 25.4-5; Jeremiah 33.3; Matthew 7.7-11; 26.41; Mark 11.24; John 16.24; Ephesians 3.20; James 5.13).
 - e. How often we should pray for a specific thing? (Luke 11.5-10; 18.1-8)
 1. Things we can pray for ourselves.

- a. Wisdom, knowledge, understanding (Proverbs 2.6; James 1.5).
 - b. Boldness to share the Gospel (Eph. 6.19).
 - c. People to share the Gospel with (Acts 1.8).
 - d. Others to go with you to share the Gospel (Matthew 9.37-38).
 - e. An accountability partner (2 Timothy 3.16-17).
 - f. A church that has dedicated pastors and that has a dynamic discipleship program (Matthew 28.19-20; 2 Timothy 2.15).
 - g. Brethren to make disciples of (Matthew 28.19-20; 2 Timothy 2.15).
- f. We should agonize in our prayers (Deuteronomy 9.25-26; 1 Samuel 15.11; Luke 22.44; Acts 10.30; 1 Corinthians 7.5; Hebrews 5.7; James 5.16).
 - g. How to get our prayers answered yes (Proverbs 28.9; Jeremiah 29.13; Mark 11.24; John 15.7; 1 John 3.22; 5.14-15).
 - h. Some prayers are answered no (2 Corinthians 12.7-10).
 - i. Keep public prayer brief (Ecclesiastes 5.2; Matthew 6.7).
 - j. Examples of prayer:
 1. Jesus (Luke 22.41-46; 23.34, 46; John 17.1-26).
 2. Moses (Deuteronomy 9.25-29)
 3. Hannah (I Samuel 1.27).
 4. Solomon (I Kings 3.7-9).
 5. Elijah (I Kings 18.37-38).
 6. Ezra (Ezekiel 8.23).
 7. Daniel (Daniel 2.19-23; 9.3-19).
 8. Paul (Ephesians 3.14-21).
 9. Publican (Luke 18.13).
 10. Thief on the cross (Luke 23.42).

11. Stephen (Acts 7.60).
3. Worship (1 Chronicles 16.29; Psalm 27.4; 84.10; 95.6; 96.9; Matthew 4.10; Revelation 14.7).
 - a. Who we should worship with?
 1. By yourself (Psalm 35.28; 51.15; 119.164; Matthew 4.10; John 4.24).
 2. Family (Deuteronomy 6.13).
 3. Brethren (1 Chronicles 16.29; Psalm 95.6; 149.1; Luke 19.37; 24.53; Acts 2.47; 16.25; Ephesians 5.19; Col.16).
 - b. What the worship service consists of:
 1. Praise (Psalm 9.11; 33.2; 67.3; Luke 2.13-14; 24.53; John 7.14; Acts 2.46; 3.1; Hebrews 13.15; 1 Peter 2.9).
 2. Adoration (Matthew 2.11).
 3. Thanksgiving (Deuteronomy 8.10; Ps. 100.4; 107.22; Colossians 1.12; Hebrews 13.15).
 4. Giving (Matthew 2.11)
4. Delighting yourself and honoring the Lord one day each week (Isaiah 58.13-14).
5. Fellowship.
 - a. Family (Deut. 4.9-10; 6.6-9, 11.18-19; 32.46-47).
 - b. Brethren (Zechariah 7.9-10; Hebrews 3.13; 10.24-25; 1 Peter 4.7).
 1. Worship (Psalm 122.1).
 2. Prayer (Acts 4.31).
 3. Teaching (1 Tim. 4.13; 2 Tim. 4.2; Titus 1.9; 2.15).
 - c. Avoid fellowship with backsliders (Matthew 18.17; Romans 16.17; 1 Corinthians 5.11; 2 Thessalonians 3.6, 10, 14).
 5. Sharing the gospel (Matthew 28.19-20; 1 Peter 3.15).
 - a. With your family and relatives.
 - b. With your neighbors.
 - c. With your friends.

- d. With those at work
 - e. With strangers.
6. Walk and run
 - a. By the Spirit (Galatians 5.16, 18, 25)
 - b. By faith (2 Corinthians 5.7).
 - c. As Christ walked (1 John 2.6).
 - d. In love (Ephesians 5.2)
 - e. In the light (1 John 1.7)
 - f. In truth (Psalm 26.3; 86.11; 2 John 4; 3 John 3).
 - g. In newness of life (Romans 8.1).
 - h. Worthy of our vocation (Ephesians 4.1)
 - i. Circumspectly/wisely (Colossians 2.6).
 - j. Not in the council of the wicked (Psalm 1.1).
 - k. Run with endurance (Hebrews 12.1).
 - l. Run to win (1 Corinthians 9.24).
 7. Keep your behavior perfect (Matt. 5.48; Phil. 1.27; 1 Peter 2.12)
 8. Lead a disciplined life (1 Cor. 9.24-27; Hebrews 12.1-2; 1 Peter 1.13).
 9. Hate evil and avoid the way of the world (Job 28.28; Psalm 34.13-14; Prov. 4.27; 8.13; 14.16; Galatians 6.14; 1 Thess. 4.3; 2 Timothy 2.19-22; 1 Peter 3.11; 4.1-4; 1 John 2.15-17).
 10. Have no fellowship with the world (Exodus 23.2; 34.12; Psalm 1.1; Proverbs 4.14; 21.1; 2 Cor. 6.14-18; Ephesians 5.11; James 4.4-5).
 11. Resist the Devil (Ephesians 4.26-27; 6.10-18; James 4.7; 1 Peter 5.8-9).
 12. Kill your carnal desires (Romans 6.1-6, 11-12, 18, 21-22; Galatians 2.20; 5.24).
 13. Look for the return of the Lord (1 Cor. 1.7; 1 Thess. 4.16-18; 2 Timothy 4.8; Titus 2.13; James 5.7-8; 1 John 2.28; 3.2-3).
- E. Backsliders (Prov. 14.14; Luke 9.62; Hebrews 10.38)
1. Forms of backsliding:
 - a. Not abiding in Christ (John 15.1-6).

- b. Indulging in immoral behavior (1 Cor. 5.11-13)
2 Thessalonians 3.6).
 - c. Avoid fellowship (Hebrews 10.24-25).
 - d. Become indifferent and without love (Luke 8.13-14; Revelation 2.4).
 - e. Love the world (1 Timothy 6.10; 2 Timothy 4.10)
 - f. Set up idols in one's heart (Ezekiel 14.3-4, 7).
 - g. Associate with cultists (1 Kings 11.4; 2 Chron. 25.14).
2. The Consequences of backsliding:
 - a. Discipline by the Lord (Psalm 39.11; Proverbs 3.11-12; Hebrews 12.5-6; Revelation 3.19).
 - b. Physical and spiritual ruin (Luke 15.11-32; 1 Timothy 1.19-20).
 - c. Physical death (John 15.2, 6).
 3. Reconciliation (Luke 15.11-32).

V. Service

- A. Commands to serve God (Exodus 23.25; Deuteronomy 6.13; 10.12; 1 Samuel 7.3; 2 Chronicles 15.15; Psalm 2.11; 40.8; 100.2; Matthew 6.24; Luke 16.13; John 12.26; Acts 20.19; Romans 12.1-2; 1 Corinthians 7.20-24; 15.58; Colossians 3.24; Hebrews 12.28).
- B. Commands to serve man (Matthew 5.16; 10.42; Mark 10.43-44; Luke 10.30-37; John 12.3; 13.34; Romans 12.4-21; Galatians 6.2, 10; Ephesians 6.7; Colossians 3.23-24; 1 Timothy 6.18; Titus 2.7; 3.14, 18; James 2.15-16; 1 Peter 4.10; 1 John 3.16-18).
- C. Equip yourself with the armor of God (Eph. 6.10-18; Daniel 10.1-21).
 1. Gird your loins with truth (Know how to use Scripture defensively ó Prov. 4.5-6, 10-13; 20-22)
 2. Shod your feet with the Gospel (Know how to share it ó 1 Peter 3.15).

3. Put on the breastplate of righteousness (Live a holy life ó 1 Peter 1.15-16).
4. Take up the shield of faith (We strengthen our faith by studying Scripture (Romans 10.17); by prayer (Acts 2.42); and by fellowship (Acts 2.42; 5.42; Hebrews 3.13; 10.24-25).
5. Put on the helmet of Salvation (Have an assurance of your salvation ó John 10.27-30; 1 John 5.11-13)
6. Take up the sword (Know how to use Scripture in an offensive manner ó Hebrews 4.12).

D. Gird your minds for action (1 Peter 1.13).

E. Love (1 Corinthians 13).

1. Love of the brethren (John 13.35; 15.12; Romans 12.9; Galatians 5.14; Ephesians 3.17-19; 5.2; Colossians 3.1; 1 Thess. 3.12; 4.9; Hebrews 13.1; 1 Peter 1.22; 1 John 3.23).
2. Love of all men (Proverbs 25.21; Matthew 5.44-48; Romans 12.20; Galatians 5.6; 1 Thessalonians 3.12; Hebrews 13.2).

F. Humility (Proverbs 3.34; Isaiah 66.2; Micah 6.8; Luke 22.26; Romans 12.3, 16; Philippians 2.1-9; James 1.9-11; 4.6, 10; 1 Peter 3.8; 5.5-6).

G. Serve God by serving man (Romans 12.1-2; Gal 5.13).

1. Be a servant to all (Mark 9.35; 10.42-44).
2. Bear each others burdens (Romans 15.1; Gal. 6.2).
3. Do good to all men, especially the brethren (Galatians 6.10; Titus 2.7, 14; 3.8; 1 Peter 2.12).
4. Share with all (1 Tim. 6.18 James 2.15-18; 1 John 3.17-18).
5. Use your spiritual gifts (1 Peter 4.10).
 - a. Prophecy (Romans 12.6).
 - b. Service (Romans 12.7).
 - c. Teaching (Romans 12.7).
 - d. Exhortation (Romans 12.8).

- e. Giving (Romans 12.8).
 - f. Leading (Romans 12.8).
 - g. Show mercy (Romans 12.8).
 - h. Word of wisdom (I Corinthians 12.8).
 - i. Word of knowledge (I Corinthians 12.8).
 - j. Faith (1 Corinthians 12.9).
 - k. Distinguishing of spirits (1 Corinthians 12.10).
- H. Serve for rewards (Exodus 23.25; Psalm 19.11; 58.11; Isaiah 40.10; 62.11; 1 Cor. 9.17; Hebrews 10.35; 11.6; 2 John 8; Revelation 22.12) .

VI. Evangelism

- A. Commands to evangelize the world (1 Chronicles 16.8; Psalm 67.2; 96.2; 105.1-3; Matt. 28.19-20; Acts 1.8).
- B. Learn how to share the Gospel (1 Peter 3.15).
- C. Pray for more soul winners (Matthew 9.37-38).
- D. Pray for the salvation of all kinds of people (1 Timothy 2.1-4).
- E. Follow Jesus (Matthew 4.19; John 12.26).
- F. Start sharing the Gospel (1 Chronicles 16.8; Psalm 9.1; 26.7; 35.28; 71.15; 96.2; 105.1-3; 145.6, 11-12; Proverbs 11.30; Daniel 12.3; Mark 16.15; 1 Corinthians 9.19-20; Jude 23).
- G. Some sow and some reap (John 4.35-36).
- H. Disciple those you lead to the Lord (Matthew 28.19-20).
- I. Disciple your children (Deut. 4.9-10; 6.5-7; 32.46;

VII. Maturity

- A. Grow in the Word and in grace in the knowledge of the Lord (Ephesians 4.11-15; 1 Peter 2.2; 2 Peter 3.18).
- B. Seek wisdom, knowledge, understanding and discernment (Proverbs 1.1-7, 2.1-11; 3.1-4, 13, 21; 4.1, 5-7; 5.1-2; 7.1-4; 8.11; 9.6, 10-11; 10.14; 12.1; 13.16; 14.33; 15.14; 16.16; 18.15; 19.2, 8, 27; 22.17-19; 23.12, 23; 24.5, 13-14; 28.6; 30.3).
1. Hearing Scripture daily (Deut. 4.9-10; Prov. 8.34; Luke 8.15, 21; 11.28; James 1.22; Revelation 1.3).
 2. Reading Scripture daily (Deuteronomy 17.19; Psalm 42.1-2; 63.1; 143.6; Revelation 1.3).
 3. Studying the Bible (Deut. 8.3; Proverbs 2.1-5; 8.34; 22.17; John 5.39; Matt. 4.4; Acts 17.11; Romans 15.4; 2 Timothy 2.15; 3.15).
 4. Memorizing Scripture (Deuteronomy 6.6; 11.18; 30.14; Psalm 37.31; 40.8; 119.11; Proverbs 2.1; 3.1, 3; 4.1, 21; 6.21; 22.18; Isaiah 51.7; Ezekiel 3.10; Romans 10.8).
 5. Meditating on Scripture (Joshua 1.8; Job 22.22; 23.12; Psalm 1.2; 4.4; 19.14; 63.6; 77.12; 104.34; 119.15, 23, 27, 48, 78, 97, 99, 148; 143.5).
 6. Fellowship with the brethren (Psalm 22.22; 119.63; Proverbs 13.20; Acts 2.42, 46-47; 5.42; Hebrews 3.13; 10.24-25; 1 John 1.7).
 7. Worship with the brethren and privately (Deuteronomy 6.13; 26.10; 1 Chronicles 16.29; Psalm 2.11; 29.2; 96.9; 99.5, 9; 132.7; Jeremiah 7.2; Matthew 4.10; John 4.23-24; Romans 12.1; Philippians 3.3; Revelation 4.10; 14.17; 19.10; 22.9)
 8. Do good works (Matthew 5.16; Galatians 6.9-10; Ephesians 2.10; 1 Timothy 6.18; Titos 3.14; Hebrews 10.24)
 9. Love others (Exodus 23.4; Leviticus 19.18; Matthew 5.48; Mark 12.31; John 13.34-35; 15.12-

- 13; Romans 12.9-14, 21; 1 Thessalonians 3.12; Hebrews 10.24; 1 Peter 1.22; 4.8; 1 John 3.16-18)
10. Live a holy life (Leviticus 11.44-45; 19.2; 20.7; Romans 6.5-7, 11-14; 2 Corinthians 7.1; 1 Peter 1.15-16; 2 Peter 3.11; 1 John 3.6-10).
 11. Share the Gospel (Psalm 9.1; 26.7; 35.28; 96.2; Proverbs 11.30; Mark 16.15; Acts 2.47; 1 Peter 3.15).
- C. Be a disciple (Proverbs 1.8; 4.1; 6.20; Acts 11.26; Ephesians 4.11-13).
1. Deny self (Matthew 16.24; John 12.24-26).
 2. Love the Lord more than all else (Luke 14.26).
 3. Follow the Lord (Luke 14.27; John 12.26).
 4. Seek first the kingdom of God (Matthew 6.33).
 5. Be willing to give up all you have (Luke 14.33; Acts 5.4).
 6. Know Scripture (Psalm 25.4-5; Proverbs 1.5; 2.1-7; 3.1-4; 7.1-4; 8.10-11; 19.2; 22.17-21; Hosea 4.6, 14; 6.32; Acts 17.11; 2 Timothy 2.15; Hebrews 5.11-6.3).
 7. Endure (John 8.31; Galatians 6.6, 9; 1 Corinthians 15.58; Philippians 1.27; 3.14; 4.1; James 5.11; Heb. 12.1-4; 1 Peter 5.9; 2 Peter 3.17; Rev. 3.11).
 8. Be fruitful (John 15.5, 8, 16; Colossians 1.10).
 9. Make disciples (Deuteronomy 4.9-10; 6.5-7; 11.18-19; 32.46; Psalm 78.3-7; Proverbs 1.8; 4.1; 6.20; 22.6; Joel 1.3; Matthew 28.19-20; Ephesians 4.11-13; 2 Timothy 2.2).
- D. Be a bonds slave (1 Peter 2.16; Revelation 1.1).
1. What a bonds slave is?
 - a. A slave who can go free but decides to remain a slave for life due to his love for his master
 - b. All Christians should live as a bonds slave of Messiah.
 2. Examples:
 - a. Paul (Romans 1.1; Philippians 1.1; Titus 1.1).

- b. Timothy (Philippians 1.1).
 - c. James (1.1).
 - d. Peter (2 Peter 1.1).
 - e. Jude (v. 1).
 - f. John (Revelation 1.1).
- E. Suffer and endure persecution (Matthew 5.11; John 15.20; 16.33; Acts 5.40-42; 14.22; Romans 5.3-5; 8.17; 2 Corinthians 1.5; 12.10; Ephesians 2.21; 4.1, 13; Philippians 1.29; 3.10; 1 Thessalonians 3.3; 2 Thessalonians 1.5; 2 Timothy 1.8; 2.3-6, 9, 12; 3.12; James 1.2-4; 1 Peter 2.20-21; 3.9, 14-17; 4.1-2, 12-14, 19; 5.10).
1. Suffering and persecution result in:
 - a. Perseverance/endurance (Rom.5.3; James 1.3).
 - b. Proven character (Romans 5.4).
 - c. Hope (Romans 5.4).
 - d. Perfection/completion (James 1.4).
 2. By our experience we can help others (Heb. 4.15).
 3. We should be willing to die for the Lord and fellow believers (Daniel 3.17-18; John 15.13; Heb. 12.4; 1 John 3.16).
 - a. Examples of saints who were persecuted or martyred:
 1. Abel (Genesis 4.4-8) (martyr).
 2. Joseph (Genesis 37.18-28; 39.7-20).
 3. Moses (Exodus 16.2-3).
 4. David was persecuted by Saul for years.
 5. Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah (Daniel 3.19-27).
 6. Daniel (Daniel 6.3-24).
 7. Most of the prophets (Hebrews 11.32-40).
 8. John the Baptizer (Matthew 14.1-12) (martyr).
 9. John and Peter (Acts 4.13-22; 5.17-29).
 10. Peter (John 21.18-19) (martyr).
 11. Paul (Acts 9.16; 2 Corinthians 11.23-33).
 12. All of the apostles (John 16.2).

13. Stephen (Acts 7.54-60) (martyr).
14. James (Acts 12.1-2) (martyr).
15. Barnabas (martyr).
16. James, the son of Mary (martyr).
17. Dr. Luke (martyr).
18. Mark (martyr).
19. Antipas (martyr).
20. Polycarp (martyr).
21. Justin Martyr (martyr).
22. John Huss (martyr).
23. William Tyndale (martyr).
24. Hugh Latimer (martyr).
25. Nicholas Ridley (martyr).
26. Thomas Cranmer (martyr).

F. Increase faith (Luke 17.5).

1. To please God (Hebrews 11.6).
2. To endure and not lose our reward (James 1.12; Revelation 3.11).
3. We increase it by the Word (Romans 10.17), prayer (Acts 2.42), fellowship (Acts 2.42; 5.42; Hebrews 3.13; 10.24-25) and worship (John 4.23-24).

G. Guard yourself from idols (1 John 5.21).

1. Do not set up idols in your heart (Ezekiel 14.3-4, 7)
2. Repent and turn away from the idols in your heart and turn away from all of your abomination (Ezekiel 14.6).

AFTERWORD

Discipleship is the key to living a successful Christian life and to having a successful church. Every Christian should be discipled and in turn make disciples. All Christian parents need to be discipled so they can disciple their children who can then disciple their children. No pastor or layman has a legitimate excuse to neglect discipleship.

Believers, go through the first five steps (*Discipleship 101*) at your own pace and then go through the next five steps (*Discipleship 201*). When you get to Step 10 thank the Lord and share your knowledge, understanding and wisdom with at least one other person. Try to disciple as many Christians as the Lord gives you. Volunteer to take others in your church through those steps. Try to complete steps 11 through 15 (*Discipleship 301*) and then steps 16 through 19 (*Discipleship 401*). If you complete Step 19 seek to help others go through the discipleship course. If you have been called to be a pastor, missionary, evangelist or Bible teacher complete steps 20 through 23 (*Discipleship 501*). If you cannot complete Step 21 (seminary course) complete as much of it as you can. Once you become a pastor, missionary, evangelist or Bible teacher try to complete the seminary course.

Parents, go through this discipleship course so you will be able to disciple your children.

Grandparents, take this course so you will be able to help your children disciple your grandchildren.

Pastors, train faithful men to help you teach this discipleship course to the members of the flock God has given you charge of and then begin to disciple your flock as Jesus wants you to.

Believers, not every Christian will teach a Bible class, but all Christians feed others the Truth by their words (Proverbs 10.21) and their actions (1 Peter 1.14-16). Remember the two commandments:

öYou shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.ö (Deuteronomy 6.5-7)

öBut you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD.ö (Leviticus 19.18b)

Jesus repeated the two great commandments (Mark 12.29-31), and said there is no other commandment greater than these.

Christians love God daily by obeying Him. One of His primary commands is to seek after knowledge, understanding and wisdom:

Acquire wisdom! Acquire understanding! Do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will guard you; Love her, and she will watch over you. The beginning of wisdom is: Acquire wisdom; And with all your acquiring, get understanding. Prize her, and she will exalt you; She will honor you if you embrace her. She will place on your head a garland of grace; She will present you with a crown of beauty. (Proverbs 4.5-9)

Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding. (Proverbs 23.23)

All Christians should seek after knowledge, understanding and wisdom as though they are more valuable than gold, silver and precious jewels because they are:

*My son, if you will receive my words And treasure my commandments within you, Make your ear attentive to wisdom, Incline your heart to understanding; For if you cry for discernment, Lift your voice for understanding; If **you seek her as silver And search for her as for hidden treasures**; Then you will discern the fear of the LORD And discover the knowledge of God. For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding. He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity. (Proverbs 2.1-7)*

*How blessed is the man who finds wisdom and the man who gains understanding. **For her profit is better than the profit of silver and her gain better than fine gold. She is more precious than jewels; and nothing you desire compares with her.** (Proverbs 3.13-15)*

***Take my instruction and not silver, and knowledge rather than choicest gold. For wisdom is better than jewels; and all desirable things cannot compare with her.** (Proverbs 8.10-11)*

***How much better it is to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen above silver!** (Proverbs 16.16)*

You have to love yourself before you can love God and your neighbor. A proof that you truly love Him and yourself is if you daily seek after wisdom. *He who gets wisdom loves his own soul; He who keeps understanding will find good* (Proverbs 19.8).

Where is wisdom found? It is found in the Bible. Read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture every day. Devote your life to the Word of God and to prayer. When He gives you knowledge, understanding and wisdom share it with others. Disciple as many people as you can, and never stop making disciples.

Make copies of Appendixes A through C for your personal use and give them to others. Go to the book's website to print them out ó www.makedisciplesofallthenations.com.

Pastors, make copies of Appendixes E and F, and give them to your assistant pastors, Bible teachers and deacons.

Every Christian should consider what God said to His people during the days of Isaiah:

öIf because of the sabbath, you turn your foot from doing your own pleasure on My holy day, and call the sabbath a delight, the holy day of the LORD honorable, and honor it, desisting from your own ways, from seeking your own pleasure and speaking your own word, then you will take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth; and I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.ö (Isaiah 58.13-14)

Brothers and sisters, consider giving one day to the Lord. It does not matter which day you choose. Sunday is best for most people because a few hours are devoted to the worship of the Lord and fellowship with the brethren. To spend the rest of the day and evening in prayer, the study of Scripture, memorizing, reviewing and meditation makes sense.

Why should the children of God devote one day each week delighting themselves in the Lord? We do not have to in order to be saved or to maintain our salvation. Yet everyone who comes to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ has just one purpose in living ó bringing glory to God in everything they do (1 Corinthians 10.31). The two most important ways believers bring glory to God is by leading people to the Lord and then discipling them. Remember these two important truths:

Everything we do for ourselves and not for God will be forgotten forever and we will have no reward.

Everything we do for God will be remembered forever and we will have eternal rewards.

Do you want to spend your life doing things that will be forgotten forever and bring you no eternal rewards? Or do you want to do things that will bring glory and honor to God that will be remembered forever and bring you eternal rewards? The choice is yours. Choose wisely every day.

A final thought to meditate on is ó Be thankful you are living in the Church Age and not in the Age of the Patriarchs:

*They sacrificed to the LORD that day 700 oxen and 7,000 sheep from the spoil they had brought. **They entered into the covenant to seek the LORD God of their fathers with all their heart and soul;** and whoever would not seek the LORD God of Israel should be put to death, whether small or great, man or woman. Moreover, they made an oath to the LORD with a loud voice, with shouting, with trumpets and with horns. Judah rejoiced concerning the oath, for they had sworn with their whole heart and had sought Him earnestly, and He let them find Him. So the LORD gave them rest on every side. (2 Chronicles 15.11-15)*

We are not told if anyone refused to give ðall their heart and soulö to the Lord. Yet we know that some backsliders paid the ultimate price when they worshipped the golden calf:

He said to them, ðThus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ðEvery man of you put his sword upon his thigh, and go back and forth from gate to gate in the camp, and kill every man his brother, and every man his friend, and every man his neighbor.ö So the sons of Levi did as Moses instructed, and about three thousand men of the people fell that day. (Exodus 32.27-28)

As we have seen there were times in the Old Testament dispensation when backsliders paid with their lives, but all backsliders of all ages get a fill of their own ways:

The backslider in heart will have his fill of his own ways, but a good man will be satisfied with his.
(Proverbs 14.14)

Along with backsliders the Law required that false teachers and false prophets who led the people astray be put to death (Deuteronomy 13.1-11; 17.2-7; 18.20). And those who rebelled against God (Korah's rebellion) and those who merely grumbled against God were executed by Him (Numbers 16.30-35, 41-50).

God has been more lenient in the Church Age, but not every backslider can live in sin indefinitely. There comes a time when God will take a child of His home if they backslide too long (1 Corinthians 5.5). We do not know when that may be. It is absolute foolishness to test Him. If one thinks he can live in sin indefinitely and be saved he may be deceiving himself. It is time for him to examine his faith:

Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you-unless indeed you fail the test? (2 Corinthians 13.5)

If you want to live in sin like the wicked what makes you think you are truly born from above? It is highly likely your confession of faith was not sincere. ALL true believers want to live for their Savior and not for their petty lusts and desires.

Discipleship is the key to serving God fully. Unless a believer is disciplined he/she can never serve God to the maximum. If you want to bring the ultimate amount of glory to God be *disciplined* and then *disciple* as many people as God gives you.

Study, memorize and meditate on the passages below. If they do not motivate you to be a *disciple* pray that God give you the desire to be a *disciple*. If you do not develop the desire to be a *disciple* and to *disciple* others we can only ask you to examine your faith (2 Corinthians 13.5).

*Like newborn babies, **long for the pure milk of the word**, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation. (1 Peter 2.2)*

*As the deer pants for the water brooks, **so my soul pants for Thee, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God; When shall I come and appear before God?*** (Psalm 42.1-2)

*O God, Thou are my God; **I shall seek Thee earnestly; my soul thirsts for Thee, my flesh yearns for Thee, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.*** (Psalm 63.1)

*I stretch out my hands to Thee; **my soul longs for Thee, as a parched land.*** (Psalm 143.6)

*í that he might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but **man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD.*** (Deuteronomy 8.3)

*But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘**MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.**’”* (Matthew 4.4)

Do you live by every *õword that proceeds out of the mouth of Godõ*?



TREASURE HUNT

Everyone dreams of finding hidden treasure and millions have search for it throughout the last 6,000 years with thousands finding it. Yet every true believer in Jesus Christ has the incredible privilege of spending their entire life searching for hidden treasure that is much more valuable than all the hidden treasure on the Earth! In fact the unimaginable hidden treasure that we are commanded to search for is far more valuable than all the minerals, oil, gas, water, gold, silver, precious gems, art, stocks, bonds, corporations, buildings and land on Earth! It is more valuable than the entire planet and even the entire universe!

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APPENDIX A

THE GOSPEL

The most important thing any person can ever do is know where he/she will spend eternity. The Creator of the universe said there are only two places where a person can go when he dies ó Heaven or Hell:

Everyone is a sinner in need of salvation:

For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God.
(Romans 3.23)

Those who die in their sins will be judged and suffer punishment in the Lake of Fire for all eternity:

And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment. (Hebrews 9.27)

And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal. (Matthew 25.46)

He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abides on him. (John 3.36)

And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life he was thrown into the lake of fire. (Revelation 20.15)

All the riches and pleasures of the world are not worth eternal punishment:

For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mark 8.36-37)

Yet even though all have sinned, one can escape eternal punishment in the Lake of Fire, and have eternal life through Jesus Christ:

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6.23)

Salvation is available to all because:

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5.8)

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace. (Eph.1.7)

Belief in Jesus Christ is the only way to be saved:

Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. (John 14.6)

And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved. (Acts 4.12)

Salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone:

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast. (Ephesians 2.8-9)

What must one do to be saved?

*That if you confess with your mouth **Jesus** as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved: for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. (Romans 10.9-10)*

If you believe God the Father raised Jesus from the dead, call upon Jesus Christ to save you right now:

For “WHOEVER WILL CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.” (Romans 10.13)

Today is your day of salvation:

Behold, now is ÷THE ACCEPTABLE TIME,ö behold, now is ÷THE DAY OF SALVATION.ö (2 Corinthians 6.2b)

Receive Jesus today for you do not know what tomorrow may bring:

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. (John 1.12)



FAITH TEST

Faith Test is a book that every believer needs to read. Paul exhorted the believers in Corinth to examine themselves to see if they were in the faith:

Try yourselves if you are in the faith; prove yourselves! Or do you not recognize yourselves that YAHSHUA Messiah is in you, unless you are rejected. (2 Corinthians 13.5)

To order your copy of *Faith Test* email ó dovbooks@yahoo.com

APPENDIX B

FAITH CHECK

Take a few minutes and examine your daily walk.

Spiritual Activities	Average time spent weekly
-----------------------------	----------------------------------

Prayer	_____
--------	-------

Reading and studying the Bible	_____
--------------------------------	-------

Memorization and Meditation	_____
-----------------------------	-------

Worship/devotions with family	_____
-------------------------------	-------

Fellowship/worship with believers	_____
-----------------------------------	-------

Helping others	_____
----------------	-------

Being disciplined/discipling others	_____
-------------------------------------	-------

Sharing the Gospel	_____
--------------------	-------

Total time serving Jesus	_____
---------------------------------	-------

Worldly activities	Average time spent weekly
---------------------------	----------------------------------

Watching TV and movies	_____
------------------------	-------

Internet	_____
----------	-------

Reading (secular books/magazines)	_____
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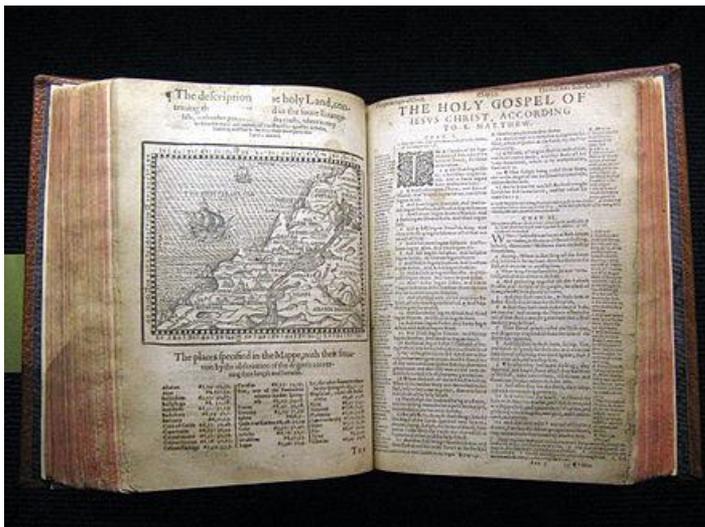
Hobbies and Recreation	_____
------------------------	-------

Attending sporting events	_____
---------------------------	-------

Socializing (in person or by phone)	_____
-------------------------------------	-------

Other non-spiritual activities	_____
--------------------------------	-------

Total time serving yourself	_____
------------------------------------	-------



SPIRITUAL FITNESS PROGRAM

God commands all of His children to be spiritually fit (Ephesians 4.11-15) and He expects all of them to become teachers (Deuteronomy 6.6-7; Proverbs 6.20; Hebrews 5.12). The only way to get spiritually fit and eventually become a teacher of the Bible is to set up a Spiritual Fitness Program.

All combat soldiers go through basic training which includes a physical fitness program. Without it they could never hope to fight and win. The same is true for believers of Jesus Christ. We are all soldiers in the Army of Christ and we need to be trained how to fight the spiritual war we are in which includes a Spiritual Fitness Program.

To order your copy of *Spiritual Fitness Program* email odovbooks@yahoo.com

APPENDIX C

SPIRITUAL FITNESS PROGRAM

God the Father commands every child of His to be spiritually fit. This includes denying oneself of the pleasures of the world, living a holy and disciplined life, daily study of Scripture, living by every Word that proceeds from His mouth and then teaching others:

*Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, like newborn babies, **long for the pure milk of the word**, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation. (1 Peter 2.1-2)*

*Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, **accurately handling the word of truth**. (2 Timothy 2.15)*

*Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, **examining the Scriptures daily** to see whether these things were so. (Acts 17.11)*

But He answered and said, "It is written, **MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.**" (Matthew 4.4)

*"These words, which I am commanding you today, **shall be on your heart**. You shall teach them diligently to*

your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. (Deuteronomy 6.6-7)

There are a few basic things that a believer in Jesus Christ must do to become a faithful *disciple*:

1. **Pray** (Deuteronomy 9.25-26; 1 Samuel 15.11; 1 Chronicles 16.11; Psalm 88.9; Proverbs 15.29; Isaiah 56.7; Matthew 5.44; 6.5-6; 7.7-11; 26.41; Luke 11.5-10; 18.1-8; John 14.13-14; 15.16; 16.24; Acts 1.14; 2.42; 4.31; 6.4; 1 Corinthians 7.5; Ephesians 6.18; Philippians 4.6; Colossians 4.2; 1 Thessalonians 5.17; 1 Timothy 2.1-2; 5.5; 2 Timothy 2.8; James 1.5; 1 Peter 3.7).
2. **Listen** to Scripture (Deuteronomy 4.10; Proverbs 8.34; 22.17; 23.12; Luke 8.15, 21; 11.28; James 1.22; Revelation 1.3).
3. **Read** Scripture (Deuteronomy 17.19; Isaiah 34.16; Revelation 1.3).
4. **Study** Scripture (Proverbs 2.1-5; 8.34; John 5.39; Acts 17.11; Romans 15.4; 2 Timothy 2.15).
5. **Memorize** Scripture (Deuteronomy 6.6; 11.18; 30.14; Psalm 37.31; 40.8; 119.11; Proverbs 2.1; 3.1, 3; 4.1, 21; 6.21; 22.18; Isaiah 51.7; 59.21; Ezekiel 3.10; Romans 10.8; Colossians 3.16).
6. **Meditate** on Scripture (Joshua 1.8; Job 22.22; 23.12; Psalm 1.2; 4.4; 19.14; 63.6; 77.12; 104.34; 119.15, 23, 27, 48, 78, 97, 99, 148; 143.5; Colossians 3.16).

7. **Fellowship** with the brethren (Psalm 22.22; 119.63; Proverbs 13.20; Acts 2.42, 46-47; 5.42; Hebrews 3.13; 10.24-25; 1 John 1.7).
8. **Worship** with the brethren and privately (Deuteronomy 6.13; 26.10; 1 Chronicles 16.29; Psalm 2.11; 29.2; 96.9; 99.5, 9; 132.7; Jeremiah 7.2; Matthew 4.10; John 4.23-24; Romans 12.1; Philippians 3.3; Revelation 4.10; 14.17; 19.10; 22.9)
9. **Do good works** (Matthew 5.16; Galatians 6.9-10; Ephesians 2.10; 1 Timothy 6.18; Titos 3.14; Hebrews 10.24)
10. **Love others** (Exodus 23.4; Leviticus 19.18; Matthew 5.48; Mark 12.31; John 13.34-35; 15.12-13; Romans 12.9-14, 21; 1 Thessalonians 3.12; Hebrews 10.24; 1 Peter 1.22; 4.8; 1 John 3.16-18)
11. **Live a holy life** (Leviticus 11.44-45; 19.2; 20.7; Romans 6.5-7, 11-14; 2 Corinthians 7.1; 1 Peter 1.15-16; 2 Peter 3.11; 1 John 3.6-10).
12. **Share the Gospel** (Psalm 9.1; 26.7; 35.28; 96.2; Proverbs 11.30; Mark 16.15; Acts 2.47; 1 Peter 3.15).
13. **Be discipled** (Proverbs 1.8; 4.1; 6.20; Eph. 4.11-13).
14. **Make disciples** (Deuteronomy 4.9-10; 6.5-7; 11.18-19; 32.46; Psalm 78.3-7; Proverbs 1.8; 4.1; 6.20; 22.6; Joel 1.3; Matthew 28.19-20; Ephesians 4.11-13; 2 Timothy 2.2).

1. **PRAY:** Pray often for your family, friends, fellow employees, employer, church members, pastors, and city, state

and federal politicians. Pray with your family daily and with church members on a regular basis. Begin and end each day in prayer, and pray throughout the day. Pray that God teach you each day as you study His word.

2. **LISTEN TO SCRIPTURE:** Play recordings of the Bible and listen to sermons and Bible studies.

3. **READ SCRIPTURE:** Make a reading program and stay with it. If you read three chapters a day in the Old Testament and one in the New Testament you will read the Bible through in one year. It is also important to read one chapter of Proverbs each day. It does not take more than a half-hour a day to read five chapters. If you watch TV have your Bible handy and read a chapter during commercial breaks. Anyone could read ten chapters a day by just taking a Bible break during commercials.

4. **STUDY SCRIPTURE:** Choose a book of the Bible or a topic to study, and stay with it until you finish it.

5. **MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE:** Memorize key verses from both the Old and New Testaments.

6. **MEDITATE ON SCRIPTURE:** Once you have a few verses memorized you can meditate on them any time of the day, and wherever you are. Until then keep a pocket Bible or pocket New Testament handy. Keep a Bible and a few New Testaments in your car at all times for yourself and others. Get into the habit of giving out Bibles and pocket New Testaments.

7. **FELLOWSHIP WITH THE BRETHREN:** Become an active member of a church. Support the church with your time, talents, treasure and spiritual gifts. If you cannot find a real church meet with believers in a home.

8. **WORSHIP:** It is so important that there are more commands to worship God than to pray, study the Bible, memorize Scripture or meditate on the Word. Every believer should spend time each day worshipping God. We worship God by being silent and meditating on the blessings He has given you; by thanking and praising Him by rejoicing and singing.

9. **DO GOOD WORKS:** Believers are commanded and encouraged to do good works to fellow believers, but everyone they come in contact with. Those good works can be giving them a cup of cold water to giving them enough money to solve a problem they face.

10. **LOVE OTHERS:** All believers in Jesus Christ are commanded to love fellow believers, but also the lost. We do that by helping others when they need help. Giving them money, doing work for them, taking them places, listening to them, encouraging them, praying and studying the Bible with them, worshipping God together and forgiving them are just a few things we can do to love others.

11. **LIVE A HOLY LIFE:** We are commanded in the Old and New Testaments to live a holy life. Everything we do is done to bring glory to God (1 Corinthians 10.31) rather than to ourselves. We practice righteousness and keep the commandments of God (1 John 3.7). We also do not practice sin (1 John 3.8-9) ó that is commit one or more sins willingly on a regular basis rather than unintentionally. We all sin every day, but those who live a holy life take steps to limit their sins of commission.

12. **SHARE THE GOSPEL:** Once you learn how to share the Gospel be ready to do so 24/7. Be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit to share the Gospel. Carry tracts with you and hand them out as you are prompted by the Holy Spirit. If the person(s) wants to talk ó speak with them, but if they do not want to talk ask them to read the tract, and pray as you walk away. Keep a diary of your witnessing. When you lead

someone to the Lord invite them to church and make sure they become an active member. If you are not mature enough to disciple them ask your pastor(s) to find someone to disciple them.

13. **BE DISCIPLED:** Find someone to disciple you.

14. **MAKE DISCIPLES:** Once you have been discipled, start to disciple others. If you are a husband disciple your wife. If you are a father disciple your children. If you are a mother disciple your children with your husband. If you are single lead a person to the Lord and disciple him/her. Never disciple a person of the opposite sex unless you are engaged.

If a believer develops a discipline in these basics of holy living he will become a *disciple* of Jesus Christ. It does not happen overnight. It takes many years to become a mature *disciple*, but it starts with the daily discipline of being in prayer, in the Word and in regular fellowship with other believers.

Pray in the morning, throughout the day and before you go to sleep. Set up a daily Bible reading program. If you read 4 chapters a day you will read through the Bible in a year. Read 3 chapters in the Old Testament each day and 1 chapter in the New Testament. Buy an audio copy of the Bible, and listen to it at home and in the car. Buy DVDs of movies about the Bible and watch them often (*The Gospel of John, Peter and Paul, The Greatest Story Ever Told, King of Kings*, etc.). Memorize Scripture. If you memorize one verse a week you will have 52 verses memorized in one year. Meditate on Scripture and let the Holy Spirit teach you. Learn how to share the gospel. Ask your pastor to train you, and then share your personal testimony and the gospel as the Lord leads.

As you grow in the Lord you will pray more, and listen to, read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture more and more. You will share your gospel more often, and spend more time in fellowship with other believers.

APPENDIX D

BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

And be not drunk with wine in which is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit. (Ephesians 5.18)

Believers in Jesus Christ are not to be intoxicated (drunk) with wine and in like manner to not get *õhighö* with drugs (legal or illegal). Instead we are to *õbe filled with the Spirit.ö* What does it mean to *õbe filled with the Spiritö*? Does it mean we must have a *õsecond blessingö* in which the Holy Spirit empowers us to do the work of the Lord?

Scripture does not say that before we can be *õfilledö* or empowered with and by the Holy Spirit we must have a special *õsecond blessing.ö* Instead it is a daily activity. It is something we must do when we first awake and then throughout the day.

The first thing we should do when we wake up is ask the Holy Spirit to fill us and lead us that day. Prayer at the beginning of a day makes it go by much more smoothly. Prayer gets us in the proper attitude so we can let our light shine throughout the entire day. The second thing one should consider is spending time in the Word. A quiet time in the Word when one first gets up fills us with the Word. Being filled with the Word and the Holy Spirit is the same thing because the words that Jesus spoke are *õspiritö* and *õlifeö* (John 6.63). Not only are the words that He spoke *õspiritö* and *õlifeö* but all Scripture is:

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3.16)

Prayer throughout the day (1 Thessalonians 5.17) is a spiritual habit that keeps our mind set on the things above and not the things of this sin-filled world (Colossians 3.2). Being filled with the Word several times throughout the day is another spiritual habit that will conform us to the image of Jesus (Romans 8.29). Taking Bible breaks is vital to be continually *filled* with the Holy Spirit. Take a Bible or New Testament with you when you leave home and read a few chapters during the day. If you cannot take a Bible with you to work or when you are out meditate on Scripture that you have memorized. When you hide the Word of God in your heart you always have it with you to meditate on.

By praying several times throughout the day and taking Bible breaks one can continually be *filled* with the Holy Spirit. The more often one feeds on Scripture and prays the more he will grow. Babies would die within a few days if they were not given food. The same is true of newborn believers. If they are not given spiritual food they quickly die spiritually. The more spiritual food they receive the faster and stronger they grow. One or two twenty minute sermons each week may keep a believer alive spiritually, but that is life-support nourishment. To grow into a strong, mature and vital disciple one must feed on Scripture several times each day. All believers need to listen to, read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture daily and wash the Word down with prayer. If you do that faithfully every day God will bless you with myriad spiritual blessings, not physical blessings.

If you want to be a disciplined and dedicated disciple of Jesus you must be a spiritual glutton, feeding on the holy Word of God throughout each day and praying always. Instead of being a glutton of physical food and pleasures of the world be a glutton of spiritual food.

APPENDIX E

HUMILITY

Humility is a spiritual trait that few believers in Jesus Christ have because it is impossible to obtain it through the flesh. Humility only comes when a believer surrenders his life to the Lord every day. Surrender is daily obedience to God and dying to oneself, the flesh and the world.

One obeys God by praying throughout the day from morning to night (1 Thessalonians 5.17); by daily reading, studying, memorizing and meditating on Scripture; by regular fellowship with the brethren (Acts 2.42, 46-47; Hebrews 3.13; 10.24-25); by continual sharing of the Gospel (Psalm 96.2; Acts 2.47; 1 Peter 3.15) and by making disciples (Matthew 28.19-20; 1 Timothy 2.15).

One dies daily to self by not doing things that feed the ego. Instead of spending time seeking to have your ego built up by the approval, attention, love, respect and honor from others, and seeking fame, glory and riches we need to seek how we can build others up by giving approval to their good deeds, and by giving them attention, love, respect and honor (Philippians 2.1-9). The road to humility is travelled by building others up in the faith, not demanding others build us up in the faith or build up our egos.

A believer also dies to the flesh daily by not engaging in things that the sinful flesh desires and which are sins. Two of the most prevalent sins of the flesh are gluttony and intoxication (by alcohol or drugs). Excessive indulgence in some other activities of the flesh that are not a sin, which most believers should consider reducing, are: sex (with spouse), partying, sports, hobbies, vacationing and chit-chatting.

The way to die to yourself is to spend more time in spiritual activities than of the flesh which are not necessary for survival. Everyone must eat to live, but gluttony is a sin. Everyone needs bodily exercise, but excessive exercise is a misuse of the Lord's time. The same is true of partying, sports, hobbies, vacationing and chit-chatting. These things are not sins, but excessive indulgence in them is.

A believer dies to the world by reducing his involvement in worldly activities or by cutting them out altogether. Some other worldly activities that most believers spend far too much time in are: television, movies, music, Internet, politics, non-spiritual books and magazines, and seeking after wealth and possessions. Every believer who desires to die to himself and live a holy life for the glory of God will spend more time each day in prayer, Scripture, fellowship and soul-winning than in activities of the world.

We know we are growing in the Lord and dying to ourselves, the flesh and the world when our self love, our love of the flesh and our love of the world diminishes as it should:

Love not the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away, and also its lusts, but the one who does the will of God abides forever. (1 John 2.15-17)

The more these sinful desires diminish the more humble one will be. Pride is the opposite of humility. Pride is the root of every sin. There is no sin a person can commit that does not spring from pride. That is why the key to holy living is humility which replaces pride, and when pride is vanquished so is sin. No one can ever eliminate all traces of pride and sin, but it should be the goal of every true believer.

Humility is a spiritual trait that every believer should not only desire, but actively seek after. God does not use His children to bring Him glory until they are humble. A believer

who humbles himself before God will be looked upon by God with grace (Isaiah 66.2; Proverbs 3.34; James 4.6) and He will have regard for him (Psalm 138.6). When we humble ourselves before God and those around us He will exalt us (James 4.10). We must never forget that all believers are commanded to *ōhumbleö* themselves before God (1 Peter 5.6), *ōwalk humbly withö* God (Micah 6.8), be *ōhumble in spiritö* (1 Peter 3.8), clothe themselves *ōwith humilityö* (1 Peter 5.5) and to not be proud (Romans 12.16).

Humility is always better than pride (Proverbs 16.19) and it is the only way to obtain true riches, honor and life (Proverbs 22.4). Pride will bring a person down while humility will bring him honor (Proverbs 11.2; 16.18; 29.23). We must also remember that there are numerous warnings against pride (Psalm 10.2; 40.4; 73.6; 119.78; Proverbs 3.7; 26.12; 28.25; Isaiah 5.21; 13.11; John 9.41; Revelation 3.17). Pride is a sin (Proverbs 21.4), one of the seven things that God hates and that is an abomination to Him (Proverbs 6.17; 8.13).

Humility is one of the most difficult traits for anyone to obtain. No one can be humble in his own power. We must rely on the power of the Holy Spirit to impart humility to us. Yet there are specific things we must do on a daily and regular basis before He will give us humility. The daily things we should do as noted previously are pray, read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture. The things one should do on a regular basis are fellowship with the brethren and share the Gospel with the lost as the Holy Spirit leads. These are the basics, but there are many other things a dedicated believer should do on a daily basis:

Seek first the kingdom of God (Matthew 6.33)

Put on the armor of God (Ephesians 6.10-18)

Fight the good fight of faith (1 Timothy 6.12)

Transform your mind (Romans 12.2)

Take up your cross (Matthew 10.38-39; 16.24-26)

Deny yourself (Romans 12.1)

Be content in your circumstances (Phil. 4.3; 1 Tim. 6.6-8;

Hebrews 13.5)

Give thanks in all circumstances (1 Thessalonians 5.18)
Continually offer praise to God (Hebrews 13.15)
Forsake the world and all that is in it (Romans 12.2;
Galatians 6.14; 1 Peter 1.14; 1 John 2.15-17)
Flee from seeking after riches (1 Timothy 6.9-11)
Submit to others (Ephesians 5.21)
Obey your spiritual leaders (Hebrews 13.17)
Love the brethren (John 13.34-35; James 2.15-16; 1 John
3.16-18)
Love the lost and your enemies (Prov. 25.21; Matthew
5.43-48)
Be rich in good works (1 Timothy 6.18; Galatians 6.10;
Ephesians 2.10; 2 Timothy 3.17; Hebrews 13.16)
Do not grow weary in doing good works (2 Thess. 3.13)
Give to those in need (Leviticus 25.35; Deuteronomy 15.7;
Proverbs 11.24-25; 19.17; 21.13; 22.9; 28.27; Ecclesiastes
11.1; Isaiah 58.7; Matthew 5.42; Luke 6.38; 12.33; Acts
11.29; Romans 12.13; Hebrews 13.1-2; James 1.27; 1 Peter
4.9)
Lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity
(1 Timothy 2.1).

As we do these things day-by-day we will grow more humble and be used by God for His glory (1 Corinthians 10.31) more each day. Others will see the Lord working through us and may be encouraged to follow our example. Pastors must set an example for the flock (1 Peter 5.3) by engaging in the spiritual activities above and they should also encourage others to do the same. They and all believers should be the servant of all (Matthew 20.26-27; Mark 9.35; Luke 22.26).

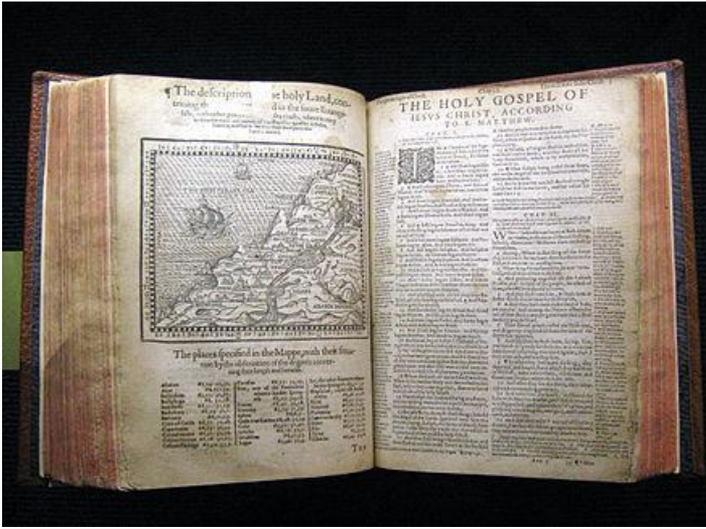
Negativity Factor

Very few believers understand the Negativity Factor. Understanding of this is the key to gaining humility and ridding oneself of pride.

Everyone is conceived and born in sin and goes astray from birth (Psalm 51.5; 58.3). We struggle with sin our entire lives even after we are born from above (Galatians 5.17). It is our sin nature and our submission to it that hinders the work that God seeks to do through us. This is the Negativity Factor. We do not add to the work of God in any way, we only hinder it. God performs great works through us in spite of us. We hinder His work we do not help it. The only thing we can do is lessen our Negativity Factor by obeying God every second of every day of our lives.

Christians who think they help God perform good deeds or great works are delusional. We can never help God. All we can do is empty ourselves of all of our desires and make ourselves available to Him every day. We must daily do what John the Baptist said about Jesus the Messiah, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3.30). The more we rid ourselves of us the more God can work through us for His glory.

The way to diminish ourselves is to spend every spare moment we have in prayer, worshipping God, Bible reading, study, memorization and meditation, fellowship with the brethren, sharing the Gospel and making disciples. Every minute we spend enjoying the pleasures of the world ó watching TV, movies and sports, shopping, partying, reading meaningless fiction books, eating pleasure foods, hobbies, worrying over investments ó is a minute wasted forever. Everyone needs down time, recreation and relaxation, but there are good ways of getting R&R and bad ways. Make sure your methods of R&R are honoring to the Lord and do not over do it. Three of the best forms of relaxation are praying, reading the Bible and listening to hymns. When you need to chill out pray, read the Bible and or listen to hymns. If these activities do not relax and energize you something is wrong.



BELIEVER'S SOAP

Believer's Soap shows all true believers in Jesus Christ how to get spiritually clean and stay clean. Most believers are walking around spiritually filthy and wearing dirty spiritual rags. They know little about the Bible, seldom read the Word of God, have never memorized a single verse, never share the Gospel, have no idea what it means to meditate on Scripture, have no idea what discipleship is all about and do not care. They live like the lost and do not know they are spiritual beggars living in the spiritual gutter eating food out of spiritual dumpsters. They are not beggars because they want to be ó they simply do not know better.

If you understand that you are a spiritual beggar walking around in filthy rags and reek from spiritual odor this book is for you. You will learn how to take a spiritual shower, put on clean spiritual clothes and walk about as a true son of the Creator of the Universe.

To learn how to get spiritually clean and stay clean order your copy of *Believer's Soap*. Email the DOV Book Shoppe ó dovbooks@yahoo.com

APPENDIX F

SPIRITUAL SUCCESS

Most pastors want to be successful. They want to have a big church with several ministries to help the members of their congregation. Some even want to have a radio or television ministry. There is nothing wrong in this, yet that is not success. Spiritual success does **not** consist of numbers, money, buildings, ministries, fame and notoriety. Most churches that have those things are spiritual failures.

Spiritual success consists of:

1. Making certain that every member of your congregation is truly born from above. If you cannot spend time with every member of your flock to listen to their testimony and be assured they are saved you need to train men to help you (Hebrews 13.17).
2. Feeding every member of your flock with the Word and helping them grow to spiritual maturity (Acts 6.4; Ephesians 4.11-16; 1 Peter 5.2).
3. Setting up a Scripture reading, studying, memorization and meditation program for every member and helping them stay on it (Appendix C).
4. Meeting the physical needs of every member of your congregation (Acts 6.1-3; Romans 12.7; 1 John 3.16-18).
5. Getting every member involved in ministry. Determine what gifts each member has and find a way for them to use them. The more members there are involved in

ministry the greater impact the church will have on the community (Romans 12.7-8; 1 Corinthians 12.7-10).

6. Watching over the flock. When a member or regular attendee does not attend a Sunday morning service call and tell him that you missed him. Gently determine why he skipped and make him understand he is an important member. Explain to him that the whole body suffers when just one member is missing. Train men to help you if you have a large church. When the member is a woman have your wife or a female member of your congregation make the call (Hebrews 13.17).
7. *Discipling* all husbands so they can *disciple* their wives and children (Deuteronomy 6.6-7).
8. *Discipling* faithful men called to be pastors (2 Timothy 2.2).
9. Having your wife or spiritually mature women in your congregation *disciple* mothers so they can *disciple* their children (Proverbs 1.8; 6.20; 31.26).
10. Showing hospitality to every member of your flock by inviting them to dinner on a regular basis (weekly, bi-weekly or once a month). The deacons, Bible teachers and other men in your flock can help you (Romans 12.13; 1 Timothy 3.2; Titus 1.8) as well as all members of your flock (1 Timothy 5.10; Hebrews 13.2; 1 Peter 4.9).
11. Taking the Gospel to every home and person in your city, and *discipling* those who believe in Jesus Christ (Matthew 28.19-20).
12. Sending out missionaries to make *disciples* of all nations (Matthew 28.19-20) and assisting missionaries in their work (3 John 5-8).

APPENDIX G

RELIGION: THE NAVIGATOR

Dawson Trotman clambered back into a motorboat one day last week after two hours of waterskiing on Schroon Lake, N.Y. He was dog-tired, but before he settled down he asked one of the two girls in the boat, Allene Beck, if she could swim; when she shook her head, he traded places with her so she would be in a safer spot. Minutes later the speeding boat bounced on a wave, and both of them, the 50-year-old man and the girl, shot into the water. He swam to her and held her head above water until the boat could circle back and she was hauled aboard. But as hands reached down to seize Trotman's hand, he sank out of sight.

So died Dawson Trotman, the Navigator, the light and power of a movement that echoes the words of the Scriptures around the world. Billy Graham interrupted his evangelist crusade in Oklahoma City to preach his funeral at Colorado Springs, Colo., and devoted his week's Hour of Decision broadcast to him. Radio Preacher Charles E. Fuller did the same with his Old Fashioned Revival Hour.

The Sailor & the Cop. At 18, Los Angeles-born Dawson Trotman, as he later recounted, gambled and was very deep in the world. He was courting a girl named Lila, as religious as she was pretty, and she took him with her to some church meetings. At the second meeting Dawson was the only one there who had memorized six Bible verses that had been assigned at the first meeting. The same thing happened at the third meeting. The following week he was taken of the Lord, converted to evangelistic Christianity, and welcomed to membership in the interdenominational Church of the Open Door in Los Angeles.

Memorizing the Bible was the key to conversion, as Trotman saw it, so he handed out scores of Scriptures to youth groups he organized. One day in 1934 a mother asked him to look up her son, a sailor on a ship off Long Beach. Sitting in his old car by the waterfront, Trotman quoted the Bible to the boy until a policeman grew suspicious. A few minutes later, Trotman had talked the cop into joining him and the sailor in a session of prayer. The sailor said: "I'd give my right arm if I could do what you just did." Dawson challenged him to try.

It was the beginning of a movement that Trotman called the Navigators, for its nautical origins. For that sailor converted a friend with the technique he had learned from Dawson Trotman, and that convert in turn convinced another. Soon Navigators were spread across the seven seas. At one point during the war there were Navigators in more than 1,000 U.S. Navy ships and stations.

B Rations. Evangelist Graham urged Daws Trotman to join his Fort Worth crusade in 1951, and asked him how to keep people to their religious conviction once they had made their decisions and signed their pledge cards. Navigator Trotman organized the system of Biblical instruction courses of B Rations (for Bible) of verses to be memorized. Graham and his team have used them ever since as the core of their system for following up Graham converts (Time, Oct. 25, 1954).

In 1953 Trotman bought a large, luxurious ranch at Colorado Springs and turned it into a national headquarters and free vacation spot for Navigators. But Daws Trotman did not rest; he got up early to pray and read and stayed up late to talk to would-be converts, until a heart ailment several years ago forced him to slow down and take more than his customary five hours sleep.

Last week Billy Graham summed up what many Christians in many places of the world were saying about Daws Trotman. "I think Daws had personally touched more lives than anybody that I have ever known," said he. "He lived to save others." Said a Navigator, "His death was just the way he would have planned it." (Time, 7.02.1956) www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,891299,00.html

Dawson Trotman biography

Dawson Trotman (March 25, 1906–June 18, 1956) was an evangelist, crusader and founder of The Navigators.

Trotman founded The Navigators in 1933 and through this worldwide Christian organization supported various Christian ideals: maintaining the basic disciplines of the Christ-centered Spirit-filled life, abiding in the Word of God, the importance of personal follow-up, one-on-one discipleship training, and principles for multiplying Christian disciples, laborers, and equippers around the world. In rescuing another person from drowning in Schroon Lake, New York, he lost his own life on June 18, 1956.

Dr. Billy Graham said: “I think Daws has personally touched more lives than anybody I have ever known.” His work and writings were instrumental in the creation of the Campus Outreach ministry, which focuses on discipleship as a method of building up the community of Christians on college campuses.

Trotman worked with many other evangelicals of his day, including Henrietta Mears, Jim Rayburn, Charles E. Fuller, and Dick Hillis. Lorne Sanny succeeded him as the head of The Navigators.

Trotman married Lila Mae Clayton on July 3, 1932. Lila Trotman died on October 27, 2005, at the age of 90. They had four children.



Navigator.org

APPENDIX H

BORN TO REPRODUCE

by Dawson E. Trotman
(navbooklets-no. 6)

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).

Foreword

In the summer of 1955 it was my privilege to meet Dawson Trotman, director of The Navigators, for the first time. My heart was thrilled not only with his vision of soulwinning but also with the manner in which God had used this man to promote a method of first winning an individual, then teaching him how to win and teach others, multiplying the ministry in this manner, supplementing the mass approach.

Through the years I have met Navigators who were trained by either Dawson Trotman or one of his men and I have usually found them to be people with a passion for souls, a good knowledge of the Word and something that made them stand out as individual Christians.

From the day when I met Dawson Trotman, our friendship and fellowship grew by leaps and bounds. We spent many hours together on various occasions, and almost overnight a David-Jonathan love grew.

As I came to know this man better, I soon discovered the secret of his power. Early in his Christian life, he and another young man covenanted together to meet for prayer every

morning for six weeks in order to find God's will in a certain matter. This spirit and practice of devotion was a rule of his life. He rose early to pray and read God's Word. Without this devotion to God he could not have been so successful in his service.

The unselfishness of Mr. Trotman could be seen on every hand. There was no trying on his part to hoard information or knowledge that he had gained in 22 years of experience, but rather there was a willingness to share and to cooperate with us in producing a much more thorough follow-up system for the Back to the Bible Broadcast.

The Back to the Bible Broadcast Home Study Course, a follow-up method for young Christians, was the result. Different ones in the organization gave many hours of their time in helping to produce this course, and Mr. Trotman himself supervised every phase of it.

Possibly one of the last major accomplishments of this man was his untiring work in making this Bible course a reality. It was a pooling of both experience and knowledge which we believe will bear much fruit.

Mr. Trotman went to be with the Lord June 18, 1956. In rescuing another person from drowning in Schroon Lake, New York, he lost his own life. How characteristic this was of his lifelong ministry! One man summed it up in these words: "I think Daws has personally touched more lives than anybody I have ever known."

The work of The Navigators continues under able leadership. It was solidly built on the principle of one person training another instead of one person being the preacher of all.

My own life is dedicated to a greater effort than ever before to follow persistently this great principle of Bible memory work and person-to-person evangelism.

These messages were given by Mr. Trotman at a Back to the Bible Broadcast conference in Lincoln, Nebraska, and have been condensed for use in this booklet.

Theodore H. Epp

Converted through prayer and Scripture memorization

Twenty years of my life were lived on the wrong side of the cross, and twenty-nine and a half were lived on this side with Christ. I can honestly say that the joy and pleasure I experienced in any week or month of these 29 years outweighs all the joy and pleasure that I could squeeze out of those first twenty.

As a little boy I began trying to get some of the world's pleasure. I remember the first time I wanted something that I shouldn't have had. My father had left home, and Mother was working at Woolworth's for our living. She used to put her dimes in a little bank on her dresser. Many a time I looked at that bank but could think of no way to get those dimes out. As I watched her drop dimes in from time to time, I decided that she could not tell if one was gone. So one day I put tins in the slot, and all of a sudden the dimes dropped out. I put them all back but one.

I went down to a store and bought ten pieces of round, chocolate-covered marshmallow candy, each of which had a little lead prize inside. I ate all ten pieces, though I did not know what to do with the ten prizes, because Mother would see them and ask me where I got them. I became sick from eating so much candy, but I also felt sick at heart to think that I had taken a dime from Mother.

How I wish I had been caught then! I was not caught until ten years later, when I was twenty years of age. During my teens I robbed my employer of hundreds of dollars. I had been the president of the student body of the high school and valedictorian of the graduating class. My subject was "Morality versus Legality," yet I was stealing from the school funds. Such is the deceit of the human heart. Down in the heart of each person there is a twofold desire — a desire for happiness and a desire to be somebody and do something. Sometimes we give serious thought to these matters.

I tried to find a way out of my difficulties. I joined the Boy Scouts and took the oath to be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, etc. I put on a Scout uniform, and I felt like a new man. But it was all on the outside. Nothing happened to change me for the better. At 14 I joined the church, but I had not met Christ. At the age of 17 I began going with a Christian girl. She asked me to go to a young people's meeting. I went with her and kept on going until I became president of the young people's society. Then on high school graduation night I ditched that Christian girl and went out with a beautiful unsaved girl.

The path of sin

After that I thought, "I just can't do what is right. It's not in me to be good. I guess I'm one of those guys who just can't win." It seemed that the longer I lived, the weaker I became and the more I traveled downhill. Finally I gave up trying. I had not touched a drop of liquor until that time, but just a week after I graduated from high school I went out and got drunk at the suggestion of some of my acquaintances. They told me I would have fun. What a lie!

I woke up the next day at two o'clock in the afternoon. My suit was ruined, my vest was gone, my mind was blank and I did not know where I had been.

You would think that would have been enough, but it was only the beginning. In my twentieth year I was picked up four times and hauled away in an ambulance. Four times the police were after me. Two months after I had reached my twentieth birthday I was arrested and was on my way to jail. Mother was at home sick in bed with cancer. She must have had a premonition of this, for she had said to me that very week, "Son, you're breaking my heart. I'm praying for you, but you know, I'm afraid if I ever hear that you are in jail, I'll die. It will kill me."

On the way to jail, though I was under the influence of liquor, I did what any man does when he gets into trouble. I

cried out to God. I said, "O God, if You will get me out of this mess tonight, if You will keep me out of jail, I'll do whatever you want me to."

It frightened me as I said that, because just one month before, I was nearly drowned in a lake. The girl with whom I was swimming across the lake could not make it. I had a bad heart, and I was hardly able to make it myself. She yelled, and I grabbed her, and we both went down under the water. I just said, "God, save me! I'll do what You want!" We bobbed up, and a couple coming along in a boat (they had not seen us until that moment) pulled us out.

I had forgotten that promise I made to God, but this time I thought, "God, if You will save me this time, I will do what You want."

That big policeman had me by the arm, and he was angry because I had done something he rightfully hated. But the moment I cried, he looked down at me and said, "Do you like this kind of a life?"

I said, "Sir, I hate it!"

He took me to a park and made me stay there three hours, until I sobered up. Then he let me go with a promise to do better.

The beginning of better things

That took place on Friday night, and Sunday evening I went to church. This was in a little town of 5,000 people, where there were four churches, with young people's groups in all of them. And though there were some young fellows my age among them, still there was not one whom God could put His hand on and say, "I've got a job for you." There was not one fellow whom God could guide to Dawson Trotman to tell him the Gospel story.

God picked out a couple of schoolteachers, Miss Mills and Miss Thomas, to have a large part in my coming to Christ. Miss Mills was a general science teacher, and I was one of her

problem pupils. She wrote my name on her prayer list and prayed for me every day for six solid years.

On the Friday night I was arrested, she was home with Miss Thomas, looking up verses in the Bible, trying to find ten on the subject of salvation which they could give to the young people to memorize. Little did she know that the boy for whom she had been praying for six years was going to memorize those verses. When Sunday came along, I decided to go to young people's meeting. The pool hall where I played billiards and gambled was about half a block from the church. That evening I looked around to make sure none of the pool-hall boys were looking, and I sneaked down to the church and joined in the young people's service.

A young couple who knew me from high school days was standing in the entrance to the church. They recognized me and gave me a warm, kindly greeting. "We're starting a contest tonight," they told me.

"Be on my side," said Johnny, and Alice said, "You be on my side." I went on Alice's side. She gave me a piece of paper and said, "Now, you hang onto this."

Then we went inside, and the young people had the usual preliminaries and service. I do not remember what was said, except that they discussed a party and a contest in which the points were to be given for various things, among them the memorization of Scripture.

"What do I do with this piece of paper?" I asked.

Alice said, "Do you see those numbers? They indicate the chapter and verse in the Bible. When you learn a verse, you get five points ó 10 verses, 50 points."

I went home and dug out my little Testament, and in the course of a week I learned all ten verses. Here I was, an unsaved fellow, learning, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23); "For the wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23); "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27); "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto

lifeö (John 5:24). John 1:12 was also in that group: öBut as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God...ö

My side was ahead on the following Sunday because of my 50 points, and Alice came around and gave me ten more verses. Miss Mills and Miss Thomas had thought that if anybody memorized the first ten verses, there should be ten more; and this second ten should be for new Christians, to help them live the Christian life. How they prayed that first week for me!

In the new group of ten verses were these: ö*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become newö* (2 Corinthians 5:17); ö*But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evilö* (2 Thessalonians 3:3) ö*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousnessö* (1 John 1:9).

I went back the following Sunday and got another 50 points for the Reds, The Reds were ahead of the Blues, and I helped put them there. We won the contest.

God's work in a soul

One unforgettable event resulted from that. During the third week of my renewed interest in young people's meetings I was on my way to work with these 20 verses of Scripture stored away in my memory. I walked along, minding my own business, with my lunch pail in my hand. I was back in my sin. My promise to God, made that night when the policeman was taking me to jail, did not change my life. Going to young people's meeting on Sunday did not change me either. I was the same guy. I was spending Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at the taverns and beer joints, and going to church on Sunday and feeling, öWellö I'm a little better. I guess a little of this good won't hurt me after all.ö

But Miss Mills was praying, and the Word of God was working; and all of a sudden that morning, as I walked along, the Holy Spirit brought one of those verses to my mind: *“Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life...”* (John 5:24).

Those words *“hath everlasting life”* stuck in my mind. I said, *“O God, that’s wonderful \acute{o} everlasting life! \ddot{o} I pulled my little Testament out of my pocket and looked it up, and sure enough, there it was \acute{o} “...hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.”*

There for the first time I remember praying, after I had grown to be a man, when I was not in trouble with the police or something like that. I said, *“O God, whatever this means, I want to have it.”* And just like that the Holy Spirit brought John 1:12 to my mind: *“But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God...”* \ddot{o} I then looked up that verse, and there it was, just as I remembered it. *“O God,”* I said, *“whatever it means to receive Jesus, I do it right now.”* That was my new birth.

Do you know how I know? I did not know the next verse, which tells of the new birth \acute{o} *“But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God”* (John 1:12-13) \acute{o} but a distinct change had taken place. I could no longer enjoy the dirty stories or taking of the Lord’s Name in vain. I used to think it was fun to use bad language when I lost my temper, but that grew distasteful to me. When I cried to God for help, the Holy Spirit brought one of the 20 verses to my mind. *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins...”* \ddot{o} So I said, *“Okay, God, forgive me.”*

My Bible teaches that if any man can bridle his tongue, he can bridle his whole body. That was one of the first lessons I learned at the beginning of the Christian life. That is one of the reasons why I love to see a brand-new Christian begin to get the Word of God down into his heart. If it had not been for

those 20 verses, I would have been back in the dance hall and the beer joints.

Immediately after my conversion I began learning verses, and I learned one a day for the first three years. In those years I learned my first thousand verses.

My preacher said to me when I went to him for help in leading others to Christ, "I'll tell you something, lad. There is an answer in the Bible for every excuse that any man can give for not coming to Christ. I believed him. Then I went alone to prayer and said, "God, if there is an answer to any man's excuse, I promise You I will never be caught on the same excuse twice."

That is a little promise to make, but it changed the course of my life. After all, there are only so many excuses. This was the seed from which the Navigator work started and grew.

Asking God for big things

One day I said to my second daughter, when she was about seven, "Now, honey, if you get all that work done by Friday night, I'll see that you get a pony ride."

Then I happened to hear Bruce, who was nine, whisper to her, "You may not get it. He promised me one once that I didn't get."

I had made Bruce that promise but had forgotten about it, and he had not come around to claim it. When I overheard him say to his sister, "It may not work, because it didn't work with me," he got his pony ride within 24 hours. I would not feel very good toward the man who promised his child something and then refused to give it to him.

God says in His Book, "...what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask Him?" (Matthew 7:9-11).

In line with this read what God promises in Jeremiah 33:3: *“Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.”* In substance this particular verse says that if you will ask God for something big, He will answer; and He will show you things that you have not even imagined.

For those who might say, *“Well, that might have been good back there, but how about in this day and age?”* there is this corresponding verse in the New Testament: *“Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us”* (Ephesians 3:20).

Every person who knows Jesus Christ has a hookup with heaven.

When you say, *“Father in heaven,”* you have addressed God the Father, the Maker of the universe, the One who holds the worlds in His hands. What did you ask for? Did you ask for peanuts, or toys? Or did you ask for continents? It is a tragedy when we think of the little things we ask of an Almighty God. When He says, *“You call unto Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things which you know not,”* we should believe Him to mean what He says.

A six week prayer meeting

I asked a friend of mine, whom I will call Dick, if he would join me in praying on the basis of that great promise. He agreed to. We figured that we were not going to take any chances on anything. We examined some verses of Scripture which dealt with importunity in prayer. We read that the Lord got up in the early morning and went out into a solitary place (Mark 1:35), so we decided to meet every morning up in the hills, where we would be away from noises and distractions. We agreed to meet with God from five until seven o'clock each morning of the week, including Sundays.

Dick was a plumber and I was a truck driver, and we had to be in another city ready to go to work by eight o'clock. We

agreed to meet two weeks, five weeks, ten weeks ó the whole year, if necessary; but we were not going to quit until somehow down in our hearts we could say to God, ðWe believe Youøve heard us; we believe Youøre going to give us what weøve asked for.ö

We decided to ask first for the things that we were doing and for the people around us and to keep our hearts open, so that God could widen our interests to the fullest extent.

We were challenged by Acts 1:8: “...ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.ö We were going to let God lead us by His Holy Spirit to ask for the biggest things possible.

The beginning of God’s working

God had already worked in our home town. I had taken a Sunday school class of six boys, though I had been a Christian for only a short time. The superintendent of the Sunday school said to me before I had my first session, ðWeøre going to give you this Sunday school class, and weøre going to pray for you, because this class has killed off two teachers already.ö

ðWhat do you mean?ö I asked.

ðWell,ö he said, ðthe two teachers have already given up; they could not get these boys to listen.ö I had prayed about that, and the Lord had given me the hearts of three of these kids.

On the first Sunday they did not listen, and I prayed to the Lord about it. I said, ðLord, I had my lesson prepared, and those boys didnøt listen. How am I going to get them? You made little boys. Give me some idea.ö

He gave me an idea. I went down to see George, who was the ringleader. I saw him alone, and I learned something right there. A boy is different when you get him alone. George was not blowing any beans when I looked him in the eye. I said, ðGeorgeö (I had read him Mark 4, where it says that the sower tried to sow the seed, and the devil snatched it away), ðyou

know, the devil didn't have to be in Sunday school last Sunday. He just used you. While I was trying to give those other boys the Word, you were drawing their attention away. Those five other boys failed to hear what God wanted them to hear because of you.

"Oh," he said, "what do I do?" Now this is not good theology, but I told him, "You come back next Sunday and be a good boy and act like an angel, and maybe the Lord will forgive you. The better angel you are, the more He's likely to forgive you."

Although I was not very well versed in theology in those days, it worked! The class listened, and George was saved, and so were Jimmie and his other buddies. We did not get through our lessons. We found that we had to meet in the middle of the week, and that little class of six boys grew to where it was 225 boys who had accepted the Lord. The Sunday school grew from 100 to 400.

Dick and I had already seen this victory, and he was helping me with the boys. We began praying up there in the hills for each of these boys by name.

Since we had calls from other towns to San Pedro, Long Beach, Glendale and Pasadena to come over and help them because of our work with the boys, we began to pray for those cities also. We prayed for Pasadena and for Redondo Beach; as the weeks rolled on, we found ourselves praying for Los Angeles, San Francisco, Sacramento and San Diego. When we began these morning prayer meetings, it seemed a big thing to pray for those towns, but soon it did not seem any bigger to pray that God would use us in those places.

Enlarged praying

About the fourth week I said, "Dick, would you be willing to pray that God would use us in every state in the United States?"

"Well, He's big enough," Dick said.

So we made a list of 48 states, and we prayed. Morning after morning in these little prayer meetings we would look at our list and ask God to use us and other young fellows in Washington, in Oregon, in California, and in all the other states of the Union. Five weeks went by, and we did not miss a morning. We met at four o'clock on Sunday morning and spent three hours in prayer. During the sixth week the Lord put it on our hearts to get a map of the world, and we took it up to our little cave in the hill. We began to put our fingers on Germany, France and Italy. We put them on Turkey and Greece. I remember looking at one little island near China and you had to look close to see what it was and we prayed that God would use us in the lives of men on Formosa.

We could not have prayed like that the first week. I don't think that time has much to do with whether God hears you or not; but I do believe that time has something to do with whether or not your faith is built up as you pray and ask. I don't believe that God will ever give much to those who have their little conscience-easer prayers in the morning and evening. If you cannot take 1/48th of your day to be alone with your mighty God and King, I rather doubt that He is going to do very much through you.

Soulwinning in the home

My wife and I took Isaiah 60:11, "*...thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night...*" as the motto for our home. We were married on Sunday, and we opened our home on Wednesday. It was not long until the first sailor accepted the Lord. Men from every one of the 48 states have since then found the Lord in our home. There was a period of six months when we seldom ate breakfast or our evening meal alone, because sailors were there. I believe with all my heart that one of the greatest soul-saving stations in the world is the home.

Work in Formosa

Five years ago I went over to Formosa as a representative of The Navigators and got together all the ministers in the city of Taipei. There were nine churches in that city then. I met for a week with the pastors of those churches and other pastors who came in from some of the towns around, explaining how our Navigator plans worked in the Navy and Army. We inaugurated this plan in Formosa, began to work with Dick Hillis, and took charge of the follow-up.

Today there are 90 churches in Taipei. Over a sixth of a million converts, spiritually five years old or less, have finished at least one Navigator Bible study and parts of the Topical Memory System, and they have led another hundred thousand to Christ. We have 27 full-time Chinese secretaries to handle the work we are doing with both young and old in Formosa. Similar work is carried on in Okinawa, Hong Kong, Saigon, the Philippines and Korea.

Such soulwinning starts in this way: First, you have to believe the Book, then you must ask, and keep on asking. Before you can touch people in 48 states, you have to touch them in one state. And before you can touch them in one state, you must touch them in one city. And before you can touch them in one city, you must be able to touch them on one street. Any person who knows how to be saved and is saved has enough knowledge, if imparted to another, to reach that one for Christ.

Fear in soulwinning

Sometimes I am almost afraid to ask the Lord to give me a soul, because I know that if I ask Him, I am going to have to get busy. I have been a Christian for 29 years, and it still frightens me to talk to a man about his need of salvation.

Having that fear after so many years of doing personal work used to bother me. Suddenly I realized that such fear was

only a little red light going on and off to remind me that it was ö...not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord...ö You never get to the place where you can do it on your own. You need Him.

I made such a request one day; then I began to look for a man. I was driving an old Model T at that time; and as I rode along, I saw a man hitchhiking on a six-lane highway. I kept my eyes straight ahead and watched the red signal light at which I had to stop. Looking at the fellow out of the corner of my eye, I saw that he looked big and tough, so I decided that he was the wrong one. As I waited for that red light to change, I don't know what happened to it, but it was on for a long time, it seemed. I thought the man had gone back to the curb, but when I looked at him, he was looking right at me. Inviting him in, I lost no time in getting a Gospel tract into his hand. He read it through and then handed it back to me.

öWhat did you think of it?ö I asked.

He replied, öI think it's wonderful.ö

I was startled at his answer and said, öOh, you're a Christian!ö

öNo,ö he answered, öI'm not a Christian. I've been going to some tent meetings down this way every night for two weeks, and I can't get through. I have gone down to the front every night, but I can't get through.ö

öThrough what?ö I asked.

He answered, öIsn't there something to get through?ö

I pulled over, stopped, and said, öBuddy, I've got news for you. Somebody already got through.ö All he needed was the simple Gospel instead of being told to do something, and he accepted Christ.

Do you know what I had been doing? I saw this rough character, and I thought, öHe won't repent. He won't believe.ö That was not my business. I have no right to decide for any other man whether or not he will accept the Lord. My business is to tell him the story and let him decide.

We need to reach neighbors and relatives

“So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God” (Romans 14:12). We must all appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ to give an account of the deeds done in the body, whether they be good or bad (2 Corinthians 5:10). And I want to tell you that to him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, it is sin (James 4:17). I do not know of any greater sin than to let a man or woman next door to you go to Hell. You have the pardon written right out in the Book; but they have never seen it, and you have not told them.

I read over in Proverbs, *“If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not He that pondereth the heart consider it? and He that keepeth thy soul, doth not He know it? and shall not He render to every man according to his works?”* (Proverbs 24:11-12).

When I first came to know the Lord, I talked to my brother about the Savior. He laughed at me and said, “I’m not interested. Don’t talk to me any more.” I do not talk to a man when he tells me not to, but I talk to the Lord.

Three years later I said, “Roland, could I talk to you for a moment about Christ?”

He said yes, and smiled a bit. The Lord had just brought him to Himself. He had seen some things that had touched his heart. Three weeks later headlines in the Los Angeles Examiner read, “Hero Gives Life To Save Girl.” How do you think I felt when I found out that my own brother was gone? What if I had not spoken to him about Christ?

The very first trip I ever took on United Airlines was on a 12-passenger Boeing plane. It was about a three-hour trip, and I wanted to witness for Christ, but it was not until the last half hour that I got up the nerve to talk to the stewardess. She said, “Do you know what? I’ve never heard this story before.”

She was a church member, but she did not know that Christ died for her. She thanked me for speaking to her about her need of salvation. Evelyn Sandino accepted the Lord just as we came into Burbank.

Three weeks later while riding on a train, I picked up a newspaper and read: "United Airliner Crashes in Utah Mountains 40 Miles From Town." Evelyn's picture was there. She was the stewardess on that ill-fated plane. We do not know how soon a person may die.

I do not know what it is going to take to wake up God's people to the fact that we must get this message out now. As I look back over the past 29 years and see how God has taken a few little things and made big things out of them, I covet the same for all of God's people.

Why men lose out with God

I told you that Dick prayed with me in those early days. Do you know what he said to me about three years ago? "I've got my seventh church, and I don't have one person in my church who is down to business for Jesus Christ; and I don't know anybody I've had in the past six months who has been down to business in the manner you describe."

Then he added, "Maybe it's because I never got down to business." No "maybe" about that!

I remembered the one event that turned the course of his life. It happened while we lived in Long Beach. The Long Beach Municipal Band used to play for all of the people who came to the seashore on Sunday afternoons. The Fishermen's Club, of which Dick and I were members, had the right to come in at the close of the band program and announce that we were going to preach the Gospel. About ten percent of the audience would stay, and then we boys would get up and give our testimonies. It was in June, just the time when the swimming was best. We had to decide whether or not we would give our Sunday afternoons to that or to the Lord's

work. Both Dick and I made the decision that we would go to the band shell.

A couple of weeks after we stopped praying together, Dick did not show up at the band shell. The following Sunday it was the same story; and as I rode home that day after giving my testimony, I passed a car in which were Dick and his girl friend in their bathing suits. It is possible for some Christians to do that and get away with it; but I do not think it was possible for Dick, because he had made a covenant with God.

I did not say anything to him, and he did not know that I had seen them; so when I met him the next Tuesday evening at Fishermen's Club, I gave him a little piece of paper with Isaiah 58:13-14 written on it. "Don't look this up now," I said to Dick, "but you go and get Nancy. Then read these verses together and pray about them. Now, promise me you won't read this by yourself." He gave me his word.

I left the church and went on out to catch the bus, but as I waited for one to come along, I became very thirsty and decided to go back into the basement of the church for a drink of water. There I found Dick reading by the light of a match the paper which I had given him. He had broken his promise.

Here are the verses which I wanted Dick and Nancy to read: *“If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on My holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour Him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words; then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it”* (Isaiah 58:13-14).

I gave it to him to make him face the fact that maybe it was not the best thing for him to be going swimming instead of witnessing for Christ on the Lord's Day, but he did not come back to the band shell.

God has a work for you

Suppose Dick had taken that word of exhortation and asked the Lord's forgiveness. Is it possible that God would have let him zoom right ahead on His plan? It is not only possible; it is probable.

õIf we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). I believe that verse will hold right down to the last minute that you take a breath. If you have drifted from the Lord and from His will for you, return now. If you will do it, I believe He will permit you to go ahead in His plan for you.

Born to reproduce

A few years ago, while visiting Edinburgh, Scotland, I stood on High Street just down from the castle. As I stood there, I saw a father and a mother coming toward me pushing a baby carriage. They looked very happy, were well dressed and apparently were well-to-do. I tried to catch a glimpse of the baby as they passed and, seeing my interest, they stopped to let me look at the little, pink-cheeked member of their family.

I watched them for a little while as they walked on and thought how beautiful it is that God permits a man to choose one woman who seems the most beautiful and lovely to him, and she chooses him out of all the men whom she has ever known. Then they separate themselves to one another, and God in His plan gives them the means of reproduction! It is a wonderful thing that a little child should be born into their family, having some of the father's characteristics and some of the mother's, some of his looks and some of hers. Each sees in that baby a reflection of the one whom he or she loves.

Seeing that little one made me feel homesick for my own children whom I dearly love and whose faces I had not seen for some time. As I continued to stand there I saw another

baby carriage, or perambulator as they call it over there, coming in my direction. It was a secondhand affair and very wobbly. Obviously the father and mother were poor. Both were dressed poorly and plainly, but when I indicated my interest in seeing their baby, they stopped and with the same pride as the other parents let me view their little, pink-cheeked, beautiful-eyed child.

I thought as these went on their way, "God gave this little baby whose parents are poor everything that He gave the other. It has five little fingers on each hand, a little mouth and two eyes. Properly cared for, those little hands may someday be the hands of an artist or a musician."

Then this other thought came to me, "Isn't it wonderful that God did not select the wealthy and the educated and say, "You can have children," and to the poor and uneducated say, "You cannot." Everyone on earth has that privilege."

The first order ever given to man was that he "be fruitful and multiply." In other words, he was to reproduce after his own kind. God did not tell Adam and Eve, our first parents, to be spiritual. They were already in His image. Sin had not yet come in. He just said, "Multiply. I want more just like you, more in My own image."

Of course, the image was marred. But Adam and Eve had children. They began to multiply. There came a time, however, when God had to destroy most of the flesh that had been born. He started over with eight people. The more than two billion people who are on the earth today came from the eight who were in the ark, because they were fruitful and multiplied.

Hindrances

Only a few things will ever keep human beings from multiplying themselves in the physical realm. One is that they never marry. If they are not united, they will not reproduce. This is a truth which Christians need to grasp with reference to

spiritual reproduction. When a person becomes a child of God, he should realize that he is to live in union with Jesus Christ if he is going to win others to the Savior.

Another factor that can hinder reproduction is disease or impairment to some part of the body that is needed for reproductive purposes. In the spiritual realm sin is the disease that can keep one from winning the lost.

One other thing that can keep people from having children is immaturity. God in His wisdom saw to it that little children cannot have babies. A little boy must first grow to sufficient maturity to be able to earn a living, and a little girl must be old enough to care for a baby.

Everyone should be born again. That is God's desire. God never intended that man should merely live and die to be a walking corpse to be laid in the ground. The vast majority of people know that there is something beyond the grave, and so each one who is born into God's family should seek others to be born again.

A person is born again when he receives Jesus Christ. *“But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God...Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God”* (John 1:12-13) is the new birth. It is God's plan that these new babes in Christ grow. All provision is made for their growth into maturity, and then they are to multiply to not only the rich or the educated, but all alike. Every person who is born into God's family is to multiply.

In the physical realm when your children have children, you become a grandparent. Your parents are then great-grandparents, and theirs are great-great-grandparents. And so it should be in the spiritual.

Spiritual babies

Wherever you find a Christian who is not leading men and women to Christ, something is wrong. He may still be a babe.

I do not mean that he does not know a lot of doctrine and is not well informed through hearing good preaching. I know many people who can argue the pre-, the post- and the amillennial position and who know much about dispensations, but who are still immature. Paul said of some such in Corinth, *“And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual (or mature), but as unto carnal, even as unto babes...”* (1 Corinthians 3:1).

Because they were babes, they were immature, incapable of spiritual reproduction. In other words, they could not help other people to be born again. Paul continued, *“I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it ... ye are yet carnal (or babes): for ... there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions...”* (1 Corinthians 3:2-3). I know a lot of church members, Sunday school teachers and members of the women’s missionary society who will say to each other, *“Have you heard about so and so?”* and pass along some gossip. Such have done an abominable thing in the sight of God. How horrible it is when a Christian hears something and spreads the story! The Book says, *“These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto Him... a lying tongue...”* (Proverbs 6:16-17). Oh, the Christians I know, both men and women, who let lying come in!

“...he that soweth discord among brethren” (Proverbs 16:19) is another. This is walking as a babe, and I believe that it is one of the basic reasons why some Christians do not have people born again into God's family through them. They are sick spiritually. There is something wrong. There is a spiritual disease in their lives. They are immature. There is not that union with Christ.

But when all things are right between you and the Lord, regardless of how much or how little you may know intellectually from the standpoint of the world, you can be a spiritual parent. And that, incidentally, may even be when you are very young in the Lord.

A young lady works at the telephone desk in our office in Colorado Springs. A year and a half ago she was closely associated with the young Communist league in Great Britain.

She heard Billy Graham and accepted the Lord Jesus Christ. Soon she and a couple other girls in her art and drama school were used of the Lord to win some girls to Christ. We taught Pat and some of the others, and they in turn taught the girls whom they led to Christ. Some of these have led still other girls to Christ, and they too are training their friends. Patricia is a great-grandmother already, though she is only about a year and four months old in the Lord.

We see this all the time. I know a sailor who, when he was only four months old in the Lord, was a great-grandfather. He had led some sailors to the Lord who in turn led other sailors to the Lord, and these last led still other sailors to the Lord ó yet he was only four months old.

How was this done? God used the pure channel of these young Christians' lives in their exuberance and first love for Christ, and out of their hearts the incorruptible seed of the Word of God was sown in the hearts of other people. It took hold. Faith came by the hearing of the Word. They were born again by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. They observed those Christians who led them to Christ and shared in the joy, the peace and the thrill of it all. And in their joy, they wanted someone else to know.

In all our Christian audiences, I am sure there are men and women who have been Christians for five, ten or twenty years but who do not know of one person who is living for Jesus Christ today because of them. I am not talking now about merely working for Christ, but about producing for Christ. Someone may say, "I gave out a hundred thousand tracts." That is good, but how many sheep did you bring in?

Some time ago I talked to 29 missionary candidates. They were graduates of universities or Bible schools or seminaries. As a member of the board I interviewed each one over a period of five days, giving each candidate from half an hour to an hour. Among the questions I asked were two which are very important. The first one had to do with their devotional life. "How is your devotional life?" I asked them. "How is the time you spend with the Lord? Do you feel that your devotional life is what the Lord would have it to be?"

Out of this particular group of 29 only one person said, "I believe my devotional life is what it ought to be." To the others my question then was, "Why is your devotional life not what it should be?"

"Well, you see, I am here at this summer school," was a common reply. "We have a concentrated course. We do a year's work in only ten weeks. We are so busy."

I said, "All right. Let's back up to when you were in college. Did you have victory in your devotional life then?"

"Well, not exactly."

We traced back and found that never since they came to know the Savior had they had a period set aside for daily devotions. That was one of the reasons for their sterility or lack of communion with Christ.

The other question I asked them was, "You are going out to the foreign field. You hope to be used by the Lord in winning men and women to Christ. Is that right?"

"Yes."

"You want them to go on and live the victorious life, don't you? You don't want them just to make a decision and then go back into the world, do you?"

"No."

"Then may I ask you something more? How many persons do you know by name today who were won to Christ by you and are living for Him?"

"The majority had to admit that they were ready to cross an ocean and learn a foreign language, but they had not won their first soul who was going on with Jesus Christ. A number of them said that they got many people to go to church; others said they had persuaded some to go forward when the invitation was given.

I asked, "Are they living for Christ now?" Their eyes dropped. I then continued, "How do you expect that by crossing an ocean and speaking in a foreign language with people who are suspicious of you, whose way of life is unfamiliar, you will be able to do there what you have not yet done here?"

This is not for missionaries and prospective missionaries only. It is for all of God's people. Every one of His children ought to be a reproducer.

Are you producing? If not, why not? Is it because of a lack of communion with Christ, your Lord, that closeness of fellowship which is part of the great plan? Or is it some sin in your life, an unconfessed something, that has stopped the flow? Or is it that you are still a babe? *For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again...* (Hebrews 5:12).

How to produce reproducers

The reason that we are not getting this Gospel to the ends of the earth is not because it is not potent enough.

Twenty-three years ago we took a born-again sailor and spent some time with him, showing him how to reproduce spiritually after his kind. It took time, lots of time. It was not a hurried, 30-minute challenge in a church service and a hasty good-bye with an invitation to come back next week. We spent time together. We took care of his problems and taught him not only to hear God's Word and to read it, but also how to study it. We taught him how to fill the quiver of his heart with the arrows of God's Word, so that the Spirit of God could lift an arrow from his heart and place it to the bow of his lips and pierce a heart for Christ.

He found a number of boys on his ship, but none of them would go all out for the Lord. They would go to church, but when it came right down to doing something, they were *also rans*. He came to me after a month of this and said, *I can't get any of these guys on the ship to get down to business*.

I said to him, *Listen, you ask God to give you one. You can't have two until you have one. Ask God to give you a man after your own heart*.

He began to pray. One day he came to me and said, *I think I've found him*. Later he brought the young fellow over.

Three months from the time I started to work with him, he had found a man for Christ, a man of like heart. This first sailor was not the kind of man you had to push and give prizes to before he would do something. He loved the Lord and was willing to pay a price to produce. He worked with this new babe in Christ, and those two fellows began to grow and spiritually reproduce. On that ship 125 men found the Savior before it was sunk at Pearl Harbor.

Men off that first battleship are in four continents of the world as missionaries today. The work spread from ship to ship to ship, so that when the Japanese struck at Pears Harbor, there was a testimony being given on 50 ships of the U.S. fleet. When the war closed, there was work by one or more producers (I am not talking about mere Christians), on more than a thousand of the U.S. Fleet ships and at many army camps and air bases. It had to have a start, however. The devil's great trick is to stop anything like this if he can before it gets started. He will stop you, too, if you let him.

There are Christians whose lives run in circles who, nevertheless, have the desire to be spiritual parents. Take a typical example. You meet him in the morning as he goes to work and say to him, "Why are you going to work?"

"Well, I have to earn money."

"What are you earning money for?" you ask.

"Well," he replies, "I have to buy food."

"What do you want food for?"

"I have to eat so as to have strength to go to work and earn some more money."

"What do you want more money for?"

"I have to buy clothes so that I can be dressed to go to work and earn some more money."

"What do you want more money for?"

"I have to buy a house or pay the rent so I will have a place to rest up, so I will be fit to work and earn some more money." And so it goes. There are many Christians like that who are going in big circles. But you continue your questioning and ask, "What else do you do?"

õOh, I find time to serve the Lord. I am preaching here and there.ö But down behind all of this he has the one desire to be a spiritual father. He is praying that God will give him a man to teach. Perhaps it takes him six months. It need not take that long, but maybe it takes him six months to reach the other for Christ and get him started taking in the Word and giving it out and getting ready to teach a man himself.

So this first man at the end of six months has another man. Each man starts teaching another in the following six months. At the end of the year, there are just four of them. Perhaps each one teaches a Bible class or helps in a street meeting, but at the same time his main interest is seeing how the new fellow he won to the Lord is doing. So at the end of the year the four of them get together and have a prayer meeting and determine, õNow, letø not allow anything to sidetrack us. Letø give the Gospel out to a lot of people, but letø check up on at least one and see him through.ö

So the four of them in the next six months each get a man. That makes eight at the end of a year and a half. They all go out after another and at the end of two years there are 16 men. At the end of three years there are 64 men; the 16 have doubled twice. At the end of five years there are 1,024. At the end of fifteen and a half years there are approximately 2,147,500,000. That is the present population of the world of persons over three years of age.

But wait a minute! Suppose that after the first man, A, helps B and B is ready to get his man while A starts helping another, B is sidetracked, washes out and does not produce his first man. Fifteen and one-half years later you can cut your 2,147,500,000 down to 1,073,7500 because the devil caused B to be sterile.

God promised Abraham õ... in Isaac shall thy seed be calledö (Genesis 21:12), so Abraham waited a long, long time for that son. Godø promise to make Abraham the father of many nations was all wrapped up in that one son, Isaac. If Hitler had been present and had caused Isaacø death when Abraham had his knife poised over him on Mount Moriah, Hitler could have killed every Jew in that one stroke.

I believe that is why Satan puts all his efforts into getting the Christian busy, busy, busy, but not producing.

Men, where is your man? Women, where is your woman? Where is the one whom you led to Christ and who is now going on with Him?

There is a story in 1 Kings, chapter 20 about a man who gave a prisoner to a servant and instructed the servant to guard the prisoner well. But as the servant was busy here and there the prisoner made his escape.

The curse of today is that we are too busy. I am not talking about being busy earning money to buy food. I am talking about being busy doing Christian things. We have spiritual activity with little productivity. And productivity comes as a result of what we call "follow-up."

Majoring in reproducing

Five years ago, Billy Graham came to me and said, "Daws, we would like you to help with our follow-up. I've been studying the great evangelists and the great revivals and I fail to see that there was much of a follow-up program. We need it. We are having an average of 6,000 people come forward to decide for Christ in a month's campaign. I feel that with the work you have done you could come in and help us."

I said, "Billy, I can't follow up 6,000 people. My work has always been with individuals and small groups."

"Look, Daws," he answered, "everywhere I go I meet Navigators. I met them in school in Wheaton. They are in my school right now. (He was president of Northwestern Schools at that time.) There must be something to this."

"I just don't have time," I said.

He tackled me again. The third time he pled with me and said, "Daws, I am not able to sleep nights for thinking of what happens to the converts after a crusade is over."

At that time I was on my way to Formosa and I said, "While I am there I will pray about it, Billy." On the sands of a Formosan beach I paced up and down two or three hours a

day praying, "Lord, how can I do this? I am not even getting the work done You have given me to do. How can I take six months of the year to give to Billy?" But God laid the burden upon my heart.

Why should Billy have asked me to do it? I had said to him that day before I left for Formosa, "Billy, you will have to get somebody else."

He took me by the shoulders and said, "Who else? Who is majoring in this?" I had been majoring in it.

What will it take to jar us out of our complacency and send us home to pray, "God, give me a girl or man whom I can win to Christ, or let me take one who is already won, an infant in Christ, and try to train that one so that he or she will reproduce!"

How thrilled we are to see the masses fill up the seats! But where is your man? I would rather have one "Isaac" alive than a hundred dead, or sterile, or immature.

Beginning of follow-up

One day years ago, I was driving along in my little Model T Ford and saw a young man walking down the street. I stopped and picked him up. As he got into the car, he swore and said, "It's sure tough to get a ride." I never hear a man take my Savior's name in vain but what my heart aches. I reached into my pocket for a tract and said, "Lad, read this."

He looked up at me and said, "Haven't I seen you somewhere before?"

I looked at him closely. He looked like someone I should know. We figured out that we had met the year before on the same road. He was on his way to a golf course to caddy when I picked him up. He had gotten into my car and had started out the same way with the name "Jesus Christ." I had taken exception to his use of that name and had opened up the New Testament and shown him the way of salvation. He had accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior. In parting I had given him

Philippians 1:6, *“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.”* “God bless you, son. Read this,” I said, and sped on my merry way.

A year later, there was no more evidence of the new birth and the new creature in this boy than if he had never heard of Jesus Christ.

I had a great passion to win souls and that was my great passion. But after I met this boy the second time on the way to the golf course, I began to go back and find some of my “converts.” I want to tell you, I was sick at heart. It seemed that Philippians 1:6 was not working.

An Armenian boy came into my office one day and told me about all the souls he had won. He said that they were all Armenians and had the list to prove it.

I said, “Well, what is this one doing?”

He said, “That one isn’t doing so good. He is backslidden.”

“What about this one?” We went all down the list and there was not one living a victorious life.

I said, “Give me your Bible.” I turned to Philippians and put a cardboard right under the 6th verse, took a razor blade out of my pocket and started to come down on the page. He grabbed my hand and asked, “What are you going to do?”

“I am going to cut this verse out,” I said, “It isn’t working.”

Do you know what was wrong? I had been taking the 6th verse away from its context, verses 3 through 7. Paul was not just saying, “All right, the Lord has started something, He will finish it.” But you know, that is what some people tell me when they win a soul. They say, “Well, I just committed him to God.”

Suppose I meet someone who has a large family and say to him, “Who is taking care of your children?”

“My family? Oh, I left them with the Lord.”

Right away I would say to that one, “I have a verse for you: *“But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he...is worse than an infidel”* (1 Timothy 5:8).”

Paul said to the elders of the church at Ephesus, *“Take heed...to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath*

made you overseers...ö (Acts 20:28). You cannot make God the overseer. He makes you the overseer.

We began work on follow-up. This emphasis on finding and helping some of the converts went on for a couple or three years before the Navigator work started. By that time our work included fewer converts but more time spent with the converts. Soon I could say as Paul said to the Philippians, *öI thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, For your fellowship in the Gospel from the first day until nowö* (Philippians 1:3-5). He followed up his converts with daily prayer and fellowship. Then he could say, *öBeing confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christö* (Philippians 1:6). In keeping with this the 7th verse reads: *öEven as it is meet (or proper) for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart...ö*

Until this time I had forgotten to follow up the people God had reached through me. But from then on I began to spend time helping them. That is why sometime later when that first sailor came to me, I saw the value of spending three months with him. I saw an Isaac in him. Isaac had Jacob, and Jacob had the twelve, and all the rest of the nation came through them.

It takes time to do God's work

You can lead a soul to Christ in from 20 minutes to a couple of hours. But it takes from 20 weeks to a couple of years to get him on the road to maturity, victorious over the sins and the recurring problems that come along. He must learn how to make right decisions. He must be warned of the various *öismsö* that are likely to reach out with their octopus arms and pull him in and sidetrack him.

But when you get yourself a man, you have doubled your ministry ó in fact, you have more than doubled your ministry.

Do you know why? When you teach your man, he sees how it is done and he imitates you.

If I were the minister of a church and had deacons or elders to pass the plate and choir members to sing, I would say, "Thank God for your help. We need you. Praise the Lord for these extra things that you do," but I would keep pressing home the big job "Be fruitful and multiply." All these other things are incidental to the supreme task of winning a man or woman to Jesus Christ and then helping him or her to go on.

Where is your man? Where is your woman? Do you have one? You can ask God for one. Search your hearts. Ask the Lord, "Am I spiritually sterile? If I am, why am I?"

Don't let your lack of knowledge stand in the way of winning the lost. It used to be the plan of The Navigators in the early days that whenever the sailors were with us for supper each fellow was asked at the end of the meal to quote a verse.

I would say it this way, "Quote a verse you have learned in the last 48 hours if you have one. Otherwise, just give us a verse." One evening as we quoted verses around the table, my little three-year-old daughter's turn came. There was a new sailor next to her who did not think about her quoting Scripture, so without giving her an opportunity, he began. She looked up at him as much as to say, "I am a human being," then she quoted John 3:16 in her own way. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that WHOSOEVER believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." She put the emphasis on the "whosoever" because when she was first taught the verse she could not pronounce that word. Days later that sailor came over and said to me, "You know, I was going to quote that verse of Scripture. It was the only one I knew. But I didn't really know it, not until little Ruthie quoted it. When she said 'whosoever,' I thought, 'that means me.' Back on ship I accepted the Lord." Today that young man is a missionary in South America.

Until several years after we were married, my wife's father did not know the Lord. Here again God used children to reach a hungry heart. When Ruthie was three and Bruce was five,

they went to visit Grandpa and Grandma. Grandpa tried to get them to repeat nursery rhymes. He said, "Mary had a little lamb" and "Little Boy Blue," but the children just looked at him and asked, "Who is Little Boy Blue?" He thought they did not know very much.

Their mother said, "They know some things. Quote Romans 3:23, Bruce." This Bruce did. Then he asked, "Shall I quote another one, Grandpa?"

"Sure," said Grandpa.

Bruce began to quote verses of Scripture, some 15 in all, and Ruth quoted some in between. This delighted Grandpa. He took them over to the neighbors and to the aunts and uncles, showing them how well these children knew the Scriptures. In the meantime the Word of God was doing its work. It was not long before the Holy Spirit, through the voices of babes, planted the seed in his heart. "Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast Thou ordained strength..." (Psalm 8:2).

Soulwinners are not soulwinners because of what they know, but because of the Person they know, how well they know Him and how much they long for others to know Him.

"Oh, but I am afraid," someone says. Remember, "The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe" (Proverbs 29:25). Nothing under heaven except sin, immaturity and lack of communion will put you in a position where you cannot reproduce. Furthermore, there is not anything under heaven that can keep a newly born again one from going on with the Lord if he has a spiritual parent to take care of him and give him the spiritual food God has provided for his normal growth.

Effects obey their causes by irresistible laws. When you sow the seed of God's Word you will get results. Not every heart will receive the Word, but some will, and the new birth will take place. When a soul is born, give it the care that Paul gave new believers. Paul believed in follow-up work. He was a busy evangelist, but he took time for follow-up. The New Testament is largely made up of the letters of Paul which were follow-up letters to the converts.

James believed in it. “But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only,” he said in James 1:22. Peter believed in it, for he said, “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby” (1 Peter 2:2). John believed in it, “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth” (3 John 4). All the writings of Peter, Paul, James and most of the writings of John are food for the new Christian.

The Gospel spread to the known world during the first century without radio, television or the printing press, because these produced ones were reproducing. But today we have a lot of pew-sitters ó people who think that if they are faithful in church attendance, put good-sized gifts into the offering plate and get people to come, they have done their part.

Where is your man? Where is your woman? Where is your boy? Where is your girl? Every one of us, no matter what age we are, should get busy memorizing Scripture. In one Sunday school class a woman 72 years of age and another who was 78 finished The Navigators Topical Memory System. They then had something to give.

Load your heart with this precious Seed. You will find that God will direct you to those whom you can lead to Christ. There are many hearts ready for the Gospel now.

For more information about the **Navigators** ministry you can reach them at www.navigators.org. We encourage you to order numerous copies of this booklet “**Born to Reproduce**” by **Dawson Trotman** from **NavPress** and give them to your brothers and sisters in the Lord. www.navpress.com/store/search.aspx?q=born+to+reproduce (800. 366.7788).

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