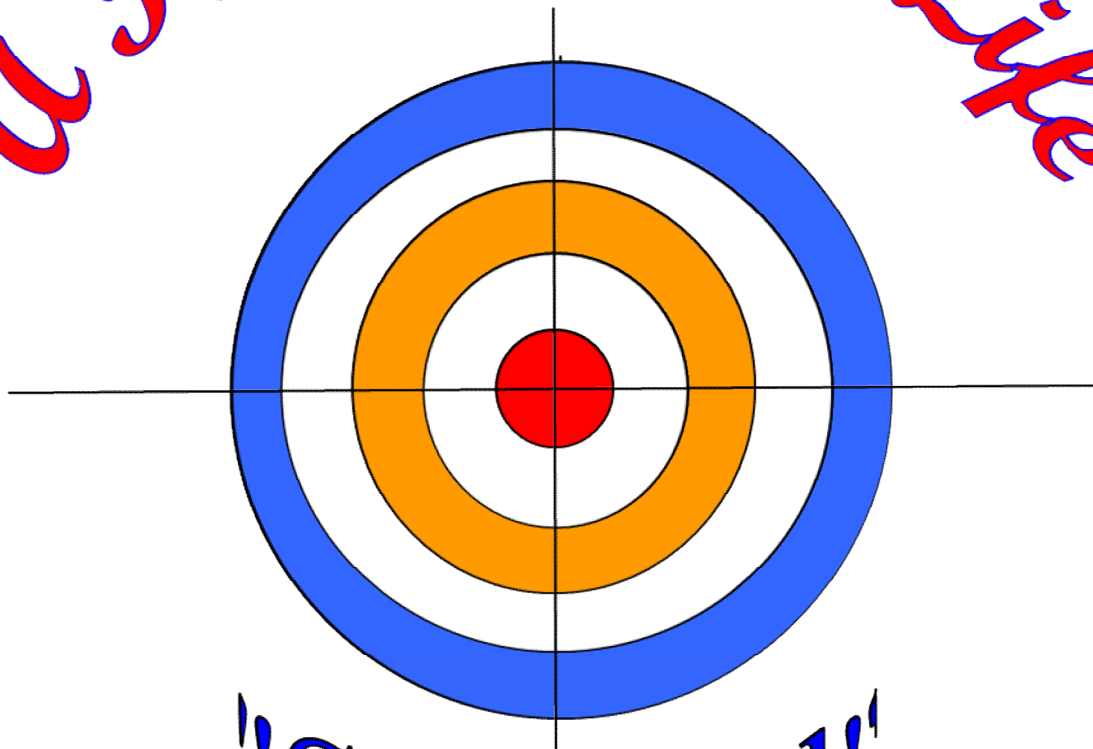


A Purpose for Life



"Spiritual"
"Multiplication"

Matt 28:19-20 + 2 Tim 2:2

A Study Guide and Workbook for Christians
A Study Guide and Workbook for Christians

Wayne Ruschel

A Purpose For Life

Thrid Draft
Rev 092813

Wayne J. Ruschel

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Acknowledgments

Special thanks go to the Navigators for helping develop a heart in me for the spiritual growth of others and a vision for spiritual multiplication. Most of all, thanks to the Lord Jesus Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit for giving me a heart for these things.

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PREFACE

There are many Godly purposes for Life. This Workbook explores one of them that some call Spiritual Multiplication. Like anything that is copied, the copy is to resemble the original. The original for Christian Spiritual Multiplication is Jesus Christ. We copy Christ by following his example. As we follow Him, we can expect to become fishers of men and an example for others to follow. We cannot follow Him unless we are willing to die to self. Those who lose their life for His sake will find life and find a purpose for life that spans eternity.

'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, **"and I will make you fishers of men."**
Mark 1:17 NIV

Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.
1 Cor 11:1 NIV

Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Phil 3:13-14 NIV

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Introduction to a Vision – Wanting the Results

*What is “Spiritual Multiplication”?

*What does it have to do with Matt 28:19-20 and 2Tim 2:2?

In Matt 28:19-20, Jesus gives his disciples what would be later called the “Great Commission”

Matt 28:19-20

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."(NAS)

The phrase “Great Commission” is not found here. It was probably chosen because it was great in size (the world’s population was to be reached) and because it was like a commission (the disciples were charged with this task). Although this term is enlightening, it does not literally communicate the task. The task was to “Make Disciples. From here we can understand “disciples were to make disciples” and the concept of “reproduction” comes in to play.

2 Tim 2:2 gives us a description of what the reproductive process of “disciple-making” involves.

2 Tim 2:2

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

Here we see it involves innumerable generations of “disciple-makers”.

1. The first generation disciple-maker was Paul. Paul taught Timothy. Based on Matt 28, we know that Paul had to teach Timothy how to be a disciple and how to make disciples.
2. The second generation disciple-maker is Timothy. He is to pass on what he learned from Paul to “faithful men”.
3. The “third generation” disciple-makers are the “faithful men”. These men are to pass on what they learn to “others also”. Based on the context, we must conclude these men are faithful also.
4. The fourth generation disciple-makers are “other” faithful men. These men are to pass on what they learn to “others also”.
5. The fifth generation disciple-makers are “other” faithful men. These men are to pass on what they learn to “others also”.

From here it is easy to see that that this reproductive process is to go on until Christ returns.

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*The concept of “spiritual multiplication” can be seen from the following illustration:

Suppose we have a gifted evangelist who does an unbelievable job leading people to Christ to the extent that he is used by God to convert 10,000 people a year to Christianity. That would be 30,000 every three years. The numbers of believers associated with the evangelist is shown on the left side of the table below. In contrast to this, suppose we have a disciple-maker who also does an unbelievable job making “disciple-makers”. Jesus made eleven disciple-makers in three years. So let’s say the gifted disciple maker is able to make one disciple-maker every three years. The numbers associated with the disciple-maker is shown on the right in the table below. The approach on the left is addition. The approach on the right is multiplication. The approach on the left is very fulfilling but the approach on the right will reach and exceed the total population of the world today (**6,815,884,095**) in 102 years! What did Jesus have in mind as he dedicated his time to twelve for three years?

RESULTS		
Number of Years	Addition	Multiplication
3	30,000	1.0
6	60,000	2.0
9	90,000	4.0
12	120,000	8.0
15	150,000	16.0
18	180,000	32.0
21	210,000	64.0
24	240,000	128.0
27	270,000	256.0
30	300,000	512.0
33	330,000	1,024.0
36	360,000	2,048.0
39	390,000	4,096.0
42	420,000	8,192.0
45	450,000	16,384.0
48	480,000	32,768.0
51	510,000	65,536.0
54	540,000	131,072.0
57	570,000	262,144.0
60	600,000	524,288.0
63	630,000	1,048,576.0
66	660,000	2,097,152.0
69	690,000	4,194,304.0
72	720,000	8,388,608.0
75	750,000	16,777,216.0
78	780,000	33,554,432.0
81	810,000	67,108,864.0
84	840,000	134,217,728.0
87	870,000	268,435,456.0
90	900,000	536,870,912.0
93	930,000	1,073,741,824.0
96	960,000	2,147,483,648.0
99	990,000	4,294,967,296.0
102	1,020,000	8,589,934,592.0

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Introduction to a Vision – Defining the Terms

*What is a Disciple?

Disciple (Wikipedia) =The term "disciple" is derived from the [Koine Greek](#) word *mathetes*,^[1] which means a pupil (of a teacher) or an [apprentice](#) (to a master craftsman), coming to [English](#) by way of the [Latin](#) *discipulus* meaning a learner while the more common English word is student. A disciple is different from an [apostle](#), which instead means a messenger.^{[2][3]} While a disciple is one who learns from a teacher, an apostle is one sent to deliver those teachings or a message

Disciple (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)=

A. Nouns.

1. *mathetes* ^3101^, lit., "a learner" (from *manthano*, "to learn," from a root *math-*, indicating thought accompanied by endeavor), in contrast to *didaskalos*, "a teacher"; hence it denotes "one who follows one's teaching," as the "disciples" of John, <Matt. 9:14>; of the Pharisees, <Matt. 22:16>; of Moses, <John 9:28>; it is used of the "disciples" of Jesus (a) in a wide sense, of Jews who became His adherents, <John 6:66; Luke 6:17>, some being secretly so, <John 19:38>; (b) especially of the twelve apostles, <Matt. 10:1; Luke 22:11>, e. g.; (c) of all who manifest that they are His "disciples" by abiding in His Word, <John 8:31>, cf. <13:35; 15:8>; (d) in the Acts, of those who believed upon Him and confessed Him, <6:1-2,7; 14:20,22,28; 15:10; 19:1>, etc. A "disciple" was not only a pupil, but an adherent; hence they are spoken of as imitators of their teacher; cf. <John 8:31; 15:8>.

2. *mathetria* ^3102^, "a female disciple," is said of Tabitha, <Acts 9:36>.#

3. *summathetes* ^4827^ means "a fellow disciple" (sun, with, and No. 1), <John 11:16>.#

Note: In <Acts 1:15>, the RV translates the mss. which have *adelphon*, "brethren"; in <20:7>, RV, "we," for KJV, "disciples."

B. Verb.

1. *matheteuo* ^3100^ is used in the active voice, intransitively, in some mss., in <Matt. 27:57>, in the sense of being the "disciple" of a person; here, however, the best mss. have the passive voice, lit., "had been made a disciple," as in <Matt. 13:52>, RV, "who hath been made a disciple." It is used in this transitive sense in the active voice in <28:19> and <Acts 14:21>.#

[All places where *matheteuo* ^3100^ is used](#)

Matt 13:52 And He said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a head of a household, who brings forth out of his treasure things new and old." (NAS)

Matt 27:57 And when it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. (NAS)

Matt 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, (NAS)

Acts 14:21 And after they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, (NAS)

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***What is discipleship?**

Ship (Webster) = showing, exhibiting (something that can be seen/recognized)

***What then is a Disciple Maker?**

One who makes disciples who show/exhibit things

Some Key verse that describes relationship between (student/teacher, disciple/disciple maker):

Matt 10:24-25 "A student is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the student **to be like his teacher**, and the servant like his master. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebub,(NIV)

Matt 10:24-25 "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master. "It is enough for the disciple **that he become as his teacher**, and the slave as his master. If they have called the head of the house Beelzebub, how much more the members of his household!(NAS)

Matt 10:24-25 The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciple **that he be as his master**, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?(KJV)

***Observations from above:**

“be like”, “become as” and “be as” all point to doing things (actions). So, a disciple should be doing things like his disciple maker does them. In simplistic terms, a disciple then is a “copy cat”. He copies what his teacher (disciple maker) does. Therefore, to be a disciple maker, one must have some things to copy. Jesus went from place to place showing his disciples what his habits looked like in various situations. His example was something to copy. Paul said “follow me as I follow Christ”. A disciple maker then must display good habits to his disciple and not bad habits. This makes the disciple maker responsible for having many good habits and as few as possible bad habits. For example, a daily quiet time, a weekly bible study and a scripture memory plan are all good habits that a disciple maker may want to impart to his disciple. By necessity then, the disciple maker must have them. Based on definitions above, the disciple maker’s habits must be seen by his disciple. This means the disciple must be present when the disciple maker displays his habits. This leads us to a picture of what “Christian Discipleship” looks like. One-on-one time together to do Bible study, to review scripture memory verses and time together to meet needs could be components of a good “plan for discipleship”. As Jesus said, no student is above his master. This means a disciple maker should not expect his disciple to have better habits than the disciple maker himself has. This puts a burden on those wanting to be disciple makers and brings them to these questions:

1. What good habits do I want my disciple to pass on to his disciple?
2. What do I need to impart to my disciple so that he becomes an effective disciple maker?

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Introduction to a Vision – Seeing A Need to Develop

"Evangelize" to Convert---->"Establish" to Grow---->"Equip" to Lead

KNOWING → DOING → BEING

NEW BELIEVER

(2 Cor 5:17)

has been Evangelized and has accepted Christ as Savior. Needs to be Established in a daily Quiet Time

GROWING CHRISTIAN

(1 Peter 2:2)

has been Established in Q.T.; needs to be introduced to a Lifestyle of Bible Study, Scripture Memory, and Prayer.

DISCIPLE

(Col 2:6, 7)

has accepted Christ as Lord, has been Established in a life style that includes Bible Study, Scripture Memory, and Prayer on regular intervals, is being Enabled to do Evangelism, and needs to learn how to Establish a Convert and a Growing Christian.

LABORER

(Matt 28:19-20)

has deepened his Commitment to the Lifestyle of a Disciple. Has won people to Christ, has Established Converts & Growing Christians, and has Enabled Disciples for Evangelism; needs to be Equipped to Make Laborers from Disciples

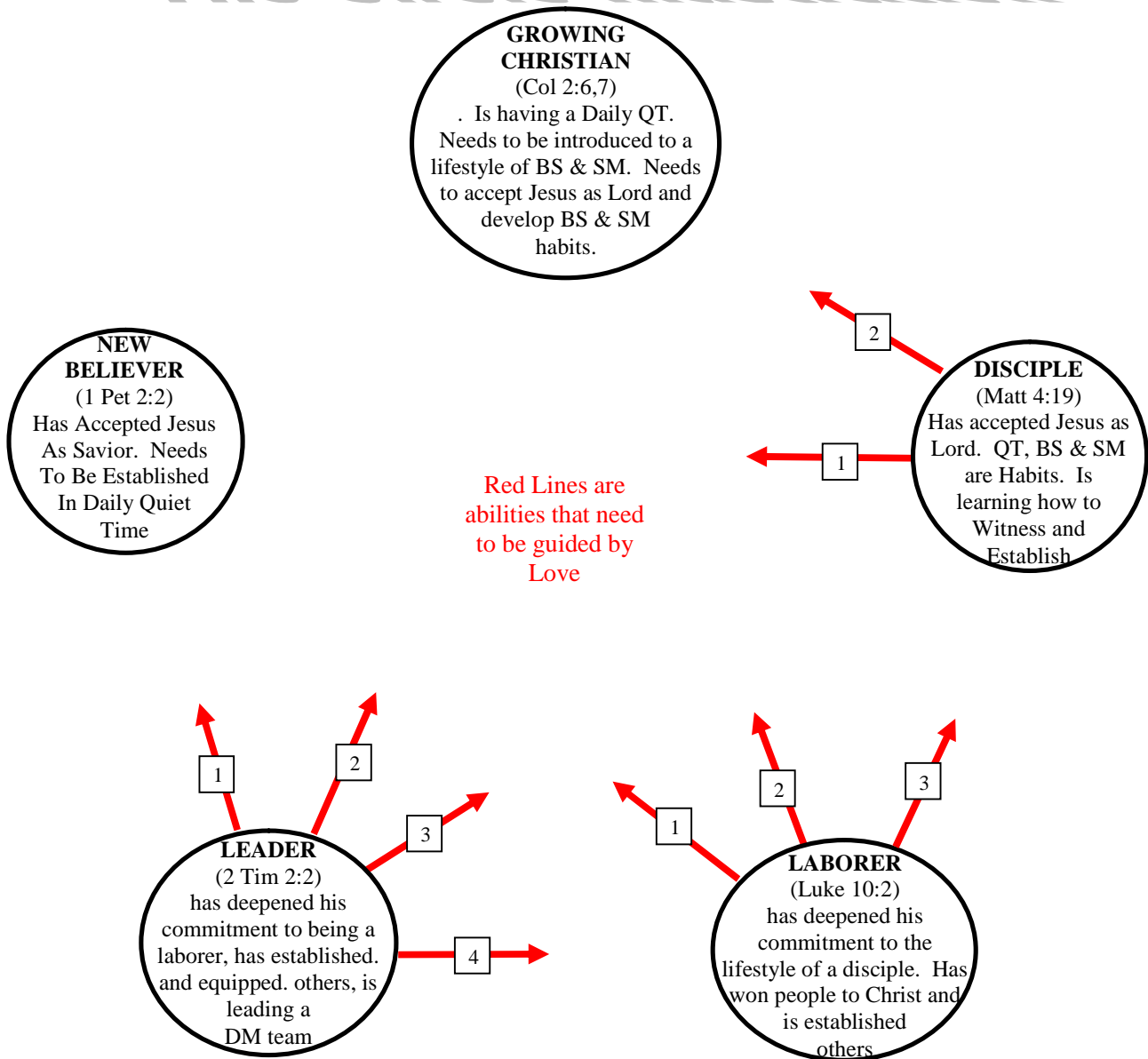
SERVANT LEADER

(2 COR 4:5)

has deepened his Commitment to the Lifestyle of a Laborer, has Established Converts and Growing Christians, has Equipped Disciples and Laborers, is Leading a team of Disciples and Laborers in a Disciple Making Ministry.

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The Circle Illustration



- 4 ABLE TO EQUIP LABORERS (Equipping)
- 3 ABLE TO MAKE DISCIPLES (Enabling)
- 2 ABLE TO HELP SOMEONE FEED HIMSELF FROM THE WORD. (Establishing)
- 1 ABLE TO LEAD OTHERS TO CHRIST (Evangelizing)

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Explanation of the Circle Illustration:

The Circle Illustration is meant to illustrate the possible stages a person might go through, the abilities gained in a disciple making ministry and the need for Love throughout the disciple making process.

Prior to the great commission Jesus revealed his ultimate plan for his disciples in John 17:11 which says:

"And I am no more in the world; and {yet} they themselves are in the world, and I come to Thee. Holy Father, keep them in Thy name, {the name} which Thou hast given Me, that they may be one, even as We {are.} (NAS).

The ultimate plan was that his disciples would be one with him even as he was one with the Father. In other words, he wanted his disciples to be like him. From here it is easy to see the need to reproduce his likeness into his disciples which would result in him reproducing himself through them. Indeed, when we look closely at the great commission, the reproduction process is clear and it extends to the disciples of the disciples (because they are to teach their disciples all that he had taught them).

Matt 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (NAS)

The reproductive process of disciple making is clearly in Paul's ministry when we look at 2 Tim 2:2 which says:

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

The reproductive process is limited to where the disciple maker is spiritually:

Matt 10:24-25a "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master. "It is enough for the disciple that he become as his teacher, and the slave as his master.....(NAS)

The Bible does not provides us detailed plans for a disciple making ministry but it does say this about plans:

Prov 16:9 "A man's heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps." NKJV

The circle illustration is a plan from the heart of a man seeking to make disciples and fulfill the great commission. It has helped this man set personal goals for himself and propose personal goals for others. The reader should realize that the key to success is not in the plan but in seeking the Lord's direction every step of the way. The author believes a good reference for coming up with a disciple making plan can be found in the book: "The lost Art of Disciple Making" by Leroy Eims.

"In this illustration", the **circles** represent stages of development. Key objectives for each stage of development are inside each circle. A comparison of the objectives show an increase of good habits and abilities as development progresses.

"In this illustration", The **arrows** represent expected abilities. For example, a NEW BELIEVER and a GROWING CHRISTIAN have no arrows coming out of them because, they are not expected to be able to reach out and help others. In this illustration, the DISCIPLE is expected to be able to lead people to Christ and follow them up so that they reach the GROWING CHRISTIAN stage. Going through the NEW BELIEVER and GROWING CHRISTIAN stages has taught the DISCIPLE much of what he needs to know. The Laborer will help him know more and put this knowledge into action. The LABORER is expected to be able to help someone become a DISCIPLE. He can do this because the LABORER has been through all three previous stages and he has the council of the Leader to guide him. Finally the LEADER develops. He is able to do everything a LABORER can do because the LEADER has been through all previous stages and his LEADER has taught him additional things he needs to know.

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Introduction to a Vision – Executing the Plan

Paul, a disciple maker, was controlled by love during his disciple making ministry as can be seen in the following passage:

2 Cor 5:11-15 “ Therefore, being conscious of fearing the Lord with respect *and* reverence, we seek to win people over [to persuade them]. But what sort of persons we are is plainly recognized *and* thoroughly understood by God, and I hope that it is plainly recognized *and* thoroughly understood also by your consciences (your inborn discernment). We are not commending ourselves to you again, but we are providing you with an occasion *and* incentive to be [rightfully] proud of us, so that you may have a reply for those who pride themselves on surface appearances [on the virtues they only appear to have], although their heart is devoid of them. For if we are beside ourselves [mad, as some say], it is for God *and* concerns Him; if we are in our right mind, it is for your benefit, For the love of Christ controls *and* urges *and* impels us, because we are of the opinion *and* conviction that [if] One died for all, then all died; And He died for all, so that all those who live might live no longer to *and* for themselves, but to *and* for Him Who died and was raised again for their sake.”
AMP

Jesus made it clear that love was the true mark of a disciple and a disciple maker:

John 13:34-35 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." NIV

Paul, Peter and John emphasized this mark to their disciples:

Rom 13:8 Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. NIV

1 Peter 1:22 Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. NIV

1 John 4:7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. NIV

1 John 3:23 And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. NIV

Conclusion:

Therefore, when it comes to Spiritual Multiplication, remember this:

1 Cor 16:14 Do everything in love. NIV

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PART 1

BIBLE STUDY AND DISCUSSION GROUPS

To proceed through this part of the workbook, the reader is advised to get a copy of the book **“Disciples Are Made Not Born: Helping Others Grow to Maturity in Christ Paperback** by [Walter A. Henrichsen](#)

(Note: page number provided in the following section may not agree with the latest revision of this book.)

Best results will occur when the book is studied in a group setting with time allowed for group discussion.

First Assignment:

Read Chapter 1: " The Kind of Person God Uses " and fill in the blanks on the next page for discussion purposes.

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Chapter 1: "The Kind of Person God Uses"

A. The Author's Basic Discipleship Strategy:

1. Building Faithful men involves in-depth relationships that cannot be nurtured solely in a classroom situation.
2. Christianity can best be spread today by people, totally committed to God, who invest their lives to help others become faithful and committed as well.

B. Discussion of the nine characteristics of a faithful person:

1. He has adopted as his objective in life the same objective God sets forth in Scripture
2. He is willing to pay any price to have the will of God fulfilled in his life
3. He has a love for the Word of God
4. He has a servant heart
5. He puts no confidence in the flesh
6. He does not have an independent spirit
7. He has a love for people
8. He does not allow himself to become trapped in bitterness
9. He has learned to discipline his life

Observations/Questions for Group Discussion::

C. Assignment (Disciples are Made not Born):

Read Chapter 2: "Jesus as Lord" and fill in the following blanks for discussion purposes next week.

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Chapter 2: "Jesus as Lord"

A. Worshipping Christ as Lord through His Word-group reading of Col 1:13-18:

Col 1:13-18

For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. And He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have been created by Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything. (NAS)

B. What does it mean to acknowledge Jesus as Lord?

Notes: _____

C. Faithfulness of the Disciple Maker - a Key to Spiritual Multiplication:

Matt 10:24

"A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master. (NAS)

Luke 6:40

"A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher. (NAS)

Notes: _____

Matt 7:17

17 "Even so, every good tree bears good fruit; but the bad tree bears bad fruit. (NAS)

Notes: _____

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Luke 6:43-44

"For there is no good tree which produces bad fruit; nor, on the other hand, a bad tree which produces good fruit. "For each tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they pick grapes from a briar bush.(NAS)

Notes: _____

1 Cor 3:13

each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is {to be} revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. NAS)

Notes: _____

(add more verses for discussion)

D. Assignment (Disciples are Made not Born):

1. Read Chapter 3, "The Cost of Discipleship" and fill in the following blanks for discussion purposes next week.

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Chapter 3: "The Cost of Discipleship"

Luke 9:23

And He was saying to {them} all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. (NAS)

Luke 14:27

"Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. (NAS)

Notes: _____

A. Break-up into Discussion groups and list the cost associated with each of the following:

1. The disciple has adopted as his objective in life the same objective God sets forth in Scripture. (p 10)

cost: _____

2. The disciple is willing to pay any price to have the will of God fulfilled in his life (p11)

cost: _____

3. The disciple has a love for the Word of God (p12)

cost: _____

4. The disciple has servant heart (p13)

cost: _____

5. The disciple puts no confidence in the flesh (p14)

cost: _____

6. The disciple does not have an independent spirit (p114)

cost: _____

7. The disciple has a love for people (p15)

cost: _____

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8. The disciple does not allow himself to become trapped in bitterness (pp15)

cost: _____

9. The disciple has learned to discipline his life (p16)

cost: _____

10. The disciple has decided to make Jesus Lord of his life (p19-27)

cost: _____

11. The disciple is one who, in every area of his life, determines from the Bible what is right and lives it consistently (p31)

cost: _____

12. The disciple is one who is in constant touch with people in need (p31)

cost: _____

13. The disciple is one who is in tune with the Spirit of God (p35)

cost: _____

14. The disciple has a spirit of desperation burning deep within the soul (p36)

cost: _____

15. The disciple counts the cost before he commits himself (p38)

cost: _____

16. The disciple purposefully destroys all avenues of retreat (p40)

cost: _____

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"Not everyone who says to me 'Lord, Lord' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven" Matt 7:21

"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?" Luke 6:46

B. What does it mean to you to acknowledge Christ as Lord?

Notes: _____

C. Assignment (Disciples are Made not Born):

1. Read Chapter 4, "A Proper View of God and Man" and fill in the following blanks for discussion purposes next week.

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Chapter 4: "A Proper View of God and Man"

Jer 9:23-24

Thus says the LORD, "Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice, and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things," declares the LORD.(NAS)

Notes:_____

A. What Must I Know About God and Man?

1. Because God loves us, he is faithful to us and willing to meet our needs.
2. And because we are needy and inadequate, we must depend on His ability to help us.

B. Discussion of Selected Writings of Isaiah: (verses TBD)

1. List what these verses say about The Nature and Character of God:

40:1-4,12-14,22-23,25-26,28_____

1-4 "Comfort, O comfort My people," says your God. "Speak kindly to Jerusalem; and call out to her, that her warfare has ended, that her iniquity has been removed, that she has received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins." A voice is calling, "Clear the way for the LORD in the wilderness; make smooth in the desert a highway for our God. "Let every valley be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; and let the rough ground become a plain, and the rugged terrain a broad valley;

12-14 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, and marked off the heavens by the span, and calculated the dust of the earth by the measure, and weighed the mountains in a balance, and the hills in a pair of scales? Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, or as His counselor has informed Him? With whom did He consult and who gave Him understanding? And who taught Him in the path of justice and taught Him knowledge, and informed Him of the way of understanding?

22-23 It is He who sits above the vault of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. He it is who reduces rulers to nothing, who makes the judges of the earth meaningless.

25-26 "To whom then will you liken me that I should be his equal?" says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see who has created these stars, the One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power not one of them is missing.

28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable. (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

41:4,20 _____

Isa 41:4

"Who has performed and accomplished {it,} calling forth the generations from the beginning? `I, the LORD, am the first, and with the last. I am He.'" (NAS)

Isa 41:20

That they may see and recognize, and consider and gain insight as well, that the hand of the LORD has done this, and the Holy One of Israel has created it. (NAS)

42:5,8,13 _____

Isa 42:5

Thus says God the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and its offspring, who gives breath to the people on it, and spirit to those who walk in it, (NAS)

Isa 42:8

"I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, nor My praise to graven images. (NAS)

Isa 42:13

1The LORD will go forth like a warrior, He will arouse {His} zeal like a man of war. He will utter a shout, yes, He will raise a war cry. He will prevail against His enemies. (NAS)

43:10,25 _____

Isa 43:10

"You are My witnesses," declares the LORD, "And My servant whom I have chosen, in order that you may know and believe me, and understand that I am He. Before me there was no God formed, and there will be none after me. (NAS)

Isa 43:25

"I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake; and I will not remember your sins. (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

44:6,24-28 _____

Isa 44:6

6 "Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the first and I am the last, and there is no God besides me. (NAS)

Isa 44:24-28

Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, and the one who formed you from the womb, "I, the LORD, am the maker of all things, stretching out the heavens by myself, and spreading out the earth all alone, Causing the omens of boasters to fail, making fools out of diviners, causing wise men to draw back, and turning their knowledge into foolishness, Confirming the word of His servant, and performing the purpose of His messengers. It is I who says of Jerusalem, 'She shall be inhabited!' And of the cities of Judah, 'They shall be built.' And I will raise up her ruins again. "It is I who says to the depth of the sea, 'Be dried up!' And I will make your rivers dry. "It is I who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd! And he will perform all My desire.' And he declares of Jerusalem, 'She will be built,' and of the temple, 'Your foundation will be laid.'" (NAS)

45:7,12,15,18-19,22-23 _____

Isa 45:7 The One forming light and creating darkness, causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the LORD who does all these. (NAS)

Isa 45:12 "It is I who made the earth, and created man upon it. I stretched out the heavens with My hands, and I ordained all their host. (NAS)

Isa 45:15 Truly, Thou art a God who hides himself, O God of Israel, Savior! (NAS)

Isa 45:18-19 For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it a waste place, But formed it to be inhabited), "I am the LORD, and there is none else. "I have not spoken in secret, in some dark land; I did not say to the offspring of Jacob, 'Seek me in a waste place'; I, the LORD, speak righteousness declaring things that are upright. (NAS)

Isa 45:22-23 "Turn to me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. "I have sworn by myself, the word has gone forth from My mouth in righteousness and will not turn back, that to me every knee will bow, every tongue will swear allegiance. (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

46:8-11_____

Isa 46:8-11

"Remember this, and be assured; Recall it to mind, you transgressors. "Remember the former things long past, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like me, Declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, 'My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure'; Calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of My purpose from a far country. Truly I have spoken; truly I will bring it to pass. I have planned it, surely I will do it. (NAS)

47:3_____

Isa 47:3

"Your nakedness will be uncovered, your shame also will be exposed; I will take vengeance and will not spare a man." (NAS)

48:9,13,18-19_____

Isa 48:9

"For the sake of My name I delay My wrath, and {for} My praise I restrain {it} for you, in order not to cut you off. (NAS)

Isa 48:13

"Surely My hand founded the earth, and My right hand spread out the heavens; when I call to them, they stand together. (NAS)

Isa 48:18-19

"If only you had paid attention to My commandments! Then your well-being would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea. "Your descendants would have been like the sand, and your offspring like its grains; their name would never be cut off or destroyed from My presence." (NAS)

50:4-9_____

Isa 50:4-9

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of disciples, that I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. He awakens me morning by morning, He awakens My ear to listen as a disciple. The Lord GOD has opened My ear; and I was not disobedient, nor did I turn back. I gave My back to those who strike me, and My cheeks to those who pluck out the beard; I did not cover My face from humiliation and spitting. For the Lord GOD helps me, therefore, I am not disgraced; therefore, I have set My face like flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed. He who vindicates me is near; who will contend with me? Let us stand up to each other; who has a case against me? Let him draw near to me. Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who is he who condemns me? Behold, they will all wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them. (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

51:1-2,4-6,12-16_____

Isa 51:1-2

"Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, who seek the LORD: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. "Look to Abraham your father, and to Sarah who gave birth to you in pain; when he was one I called him, then I blessed him and multiplied him."
(NAS)

Isa 51:4-6

"Pay attention to me, O My people; and give ear to me, O My nation; for a law will go forth from me, and I will set My justice for a light of the peoples. "My righteousness is near, My salvation has gone forth, and My arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands will wait for me, and for My arm they will wait expectantly. "Lift up your eyes to the sky, then look to the earth beneath; for the sky will vanish like smoke, and the earth will wear out like a garment, and its inhabitants will die in like manner, but My salvation shall be forever, and My righteousness shall not wane. (NAS)

Isa 51:12-16

"I, even I, am He who comforts you. Who are you that you are afraid of man who dies, and of the son of man who is made like grass; That you have forgotten the LORD your maker, who stretched out the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth; that you fear continually all day long because of the fury of the oppressor, as he makes ready to destroy? But where is the fury of the oppressor? "The exile will soon be set free, and will not die in the dungeon, nor will his bread be lacking. "For I am the LORD your God, who stirs up the sea and its waves roar (the LORD of hosts is His name). "And I have put My words in your mouth, and have covered you with the shadow of My hand, to establish the heavens, to found the earth, and to say to Zion, 'You are My people.'" (NAS)

52:13-15_____

Isa 52:13-15

Behold, My servant will prosper, He will be high and lifted up, and greatly exalted. Just as many were astonished at you, My people, so His appearance was marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men. Thus He will sprinkle many nations, kings will shut their mouths on account of Him; for what had not been told them they will see, and what they had not heard they will understand. (NAS)

53:1-12_____

Isa 53:12

Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, and He will divide the booty with the strong; because He poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors. (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

54:9-10,15-17_____

Isa 54:9-10

"For this is like the days of Noah to me; when I swore that the waters of Noah should not flood the earth again, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you, nor will I rebuke you. "For the mountains may be removed and the hills may shake, but My lovingkindness will not be removed from you, and My covenant of peace will not be shaken," says the LORD who has compassion on you.(NAS)

Isa 54:15-17

"If anyone fiercely assails you it will not be from me. Whoever assails you will fall because of you. "Behold, I myself have created the smith who blows the fire of coals, and brings out a weapon for its work; and I have created the destroyer to ruin. "No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper; and every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their vindication is from me," declares the LORD.(NAS)

56:7-8_____

Isa 56:7-8

Even those I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar; for My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples. " The Lord GOD, who gathers the dispersed of Israel, declares, "Yet others I will gather to them, to those already gathered." (NAS)

57:15-19_____

Isa 57:15-19

For thus says the high and exalted One who lives forever, whose name is Holy, "I dwell on a high and holy place, and also with the contrite and lowly of spirit in order to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite."For I will not contend forever, neither will I always be angry; for the spirit would grow faint before me, and the breath of those whom I have made."Because of the iniquity of his unjust gain I was angry and struck him; I hid My face and was angry, and he went on turning away, in the way of his heart."I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore comfort to him and to his mourners, Creating the praise of the lips. Peace, peace to him who is far and to him who is near, "Says the LORD," and I will heal him."(NAS)

A Purpose For Life

58:6-7,13-14_____

Isa 58:6-7

"Is this not the fast which I choose, to loosen the bonds of wickedness, to undo the bands of the yoke, and to let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke? "Is it not to divide your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into the house; when you see the naked, to cover him; and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? (NAS)

Isa 58:13-14

"If 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 shall 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."(NAS)

59:1-2,15-17_____

Isa 59:1-2

Behold, the LORD'S hand is not so short that it cannot save; neither is His ear so dull that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear.
(NAS)

Isa 59:15-17

Yes, truth is lacking; and he who turns aside from evil makes himself a prey. Now the LORD saw, and it was displeasing in His sight that there was no justice. And He saw that there was no man, and was astonished that there was no one to intercede; then His own arm brought salvation to Him; and His righteousness upheld Him. And He put on righteousness like a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on His head; and He put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself with zeal as a mantle. (NAS)

61:8-11_____

Isa 61:8-11

or I, the LORD, love justice, I hate robbery in the burnt offering; and I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Then their offspring will be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples. All who see them will recognize them because they are the offspring whom the LORD has blessed. I will rejoice greatly in the LORD, My soul will exult in my God; for He has clothed me with garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes the things sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

63:10-14,16

Isa 63:10-14

But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit; therefore, He turned himself to become their enemy, He fought against them. Then His people remembered the days of old, of Moses. Where is He who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of His flock? Where is He who put His Holy Spirit in the midst of them, Who caused His glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses, who divided the waters before them to make for himself an everlasting name, Who led them through the depths? Like the horse in the wilderness, they did not stumble; As the cattle which go down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest. So didst Thou lead Thy people, to make for thyself a glorious name.(NAS)

Isa 63:16

For Thou art our Father, though Abraham does not know us, and Israel does not recognize us. Thou, O LORD, art our Father, our Redeemer from of old is Thy name. (NAS)

64:5-7

Isa 64:5-7

Thou dost meet him who rejoices in doing righteousness, who remembers Thee in Thy ways. Behold, Thou wast angry, for we sinned, we continued in them a long time; and shall we be saved? For all of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment; and all of us wither like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. And there is no one who calls on Thy name, who arouses himself to take hold of Thee; for Thou hast hidden Thy face from us, and hast delivered us into the power of our iniquities.(NAS)

65:17-25

Isa 65:17-25

"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. "But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem for rejoicing, and her people for gladness. "I will also rejoice in Jerusalem, and be glad in My people; and there will no longer be heard in her the voice of weeping and the sound of crying. "No longer will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his days; for the youth will die at the age of one hundred and the one who does not reach the age of one hundred shall be thought accursed. "And they shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall also plant vineyards and eat their fruit. "They shall not build, and another inhabit, they shall not plant, and another eat; for as the lifetime of a tree, so shall be the days of My people, and My chosen ones shall wear out the work of their hands. "They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they are the offspring of those blessed by the LORD, and their descendants with them. "It will also come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear. "The wolf and the lamb shall graze together, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox; and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall do no evil or harm in all My holy mountain," says the LORD.(NAS)

A Purpose For Life

66:1-4,18-24

Isa 66:1-4

Thus says the LORD, "Heaven is My throne, and the earth is My footstool. Where then is a house you could build for Me? And where is a place that I may rest? "For My hand made all these things, thus all these things came into being," declares the LORD. "But to this one I will look, to him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who trembles at My word. "But he who kills an ox is like one who slays a man; He who sacrifices a lamb is like the one who breaks a dog's neck; He who offers a grain offering is like one who offers swine's blood; He who burns incense is like the one who blesses an idol. As they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delights in their abominations, So I will choose their punishments, and I will bring on them what they dread. Because I called, but no one answered; I spoke, but they did not listen. And they did evil in My sight, and chose that in which I did not delight."

(NAS)

Isa 66:18-24

"For I know their works and their thoughts; the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and see My glory. "And I will set a sign among them and will send survivors from them to the nations: Tarshish, put, Lud, Meshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant coastlands that have neither heard My fame nor seen My glory. And they will declare My glory among the nations. "Then they shall bring all your brethren from all the nations as a grain offering to the LORD, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, and on camels, to My holy mountain Jerusalem," says the LORD, "just as the sons of Israel bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. "I will also take some of them for priests and for Levites," says the LORD. "For just as the new heavens and the new earth Which I make will endure before Me," declares the LORD, "So your offspring and your name will endure. "And it shall be from new moon to new moon And from sabbath to sabbath, all mankind will come to bow down before me," says the LORD. "Then they shall go forth and look On the corpses of the men who have transgressed against me. For their worm shall not die, and their fire shall not be quenched; and they shall be an abhorrence to all mankind." (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

2. List what these verses about The Nature and Character of Man:

40:6-7,15-17,19-20,27_____

Isa 40:6-7

A voice says, "Call out." Then he answered, "What shall I call out?" All flesh is grass, and all its loveliness is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. (NAS)

Isa 40:15-17

Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are regarded as a speck of dust on the scales; behold, He lifts up the islands like fine dust. Even Lebanon is not enough to burn, nor its beasts enough for a burnt offering. All the nations are as nothing before Him, they are regarded by Him as less than nothing and meaningless. (NAS)

Isa 40:19-20

As for the idol, a craftsman casts it, a goldsmith plates it with gold, and a silversmith fashions chains of silver. He who is too impoverished for such an offering Selects a tree that does not rot; He seeks out for himself a skillful craftsman to prepare an idol that will not totter. (NAS)

Isa 40:27

Why do you say, O Jacob, and assert, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and the justice due me escapes the notice of my God"? (NAS)

42:18-20_____

Isa 42:18-20

Hear, you deaf! And look, you blind, that you may see. Who is blind but My servant, or so deaf as My messenger whom I send? Who is so blind as he that is at peace with me, or so blind as the servant of the LORD? You have seen many things, but you do not observe them; your ears are open, but none hears. (NAS)

43:22-24_____

Isa 43:22-24

"Yet you have not called on me, O Jacob; but you have become weary of me, O Israel. "You have not brought to me the sheep of your burnt offerings; nor have you honored me with your sacrifices. I have not burdened you with offerings, nor wearied you with incense. "You have bought me no sweet cane with money, neither have you filled me with the fat of your sacrifices; rather you have burdened me with your sins, you have wearied me with your iniquities. (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

44:9-20

Isa 44:9-20

Those who fashion a graven image are all of them futile, and their precious things are of no profit; even their own witnesses fail to see or know, so that they will be put to shame. Who has fashioned a god or cast an idol to no profit? Behold, all his companions will be put to shame, for the craftsmen themselves are mere men. Let them all assemble themselves, let them stand up, let them tremble, let them together be put to shame. The man shapes iron into a cutting tool, and does his work over the coals, fashioning it with hammers, and working it with his strong arm. He also gets hungry and his strength fails; he drinks no water and becomes weary. Another shapes wood, he extends a measuring line; he outlines it with red chalk. He works it with planes, and outlines it with a compass, and makes it like the form of a man, like the beauty of man, so that it may sit in a house. Surely he cuts cedars for himself, and takes a cypress or an oak, and raises it for himself among the trees of the forest. He plants a fir, and the rain makes it grow. Then it becomes something for a man to burn, so he takes one of them and warms himself; he also makes a fire to bake bread. He also makes a god and worships it; he makes it a graven image, and falls down before it. Half of it he burns in the fire; over this half he eats meat as he roasts a roast, and is satisfied. He also warms himself and says, "Aha! I am warm, I have seen the fire." But the rest of it he makes into a god, his graven image. He falls down before it and worships; he also prays to it and says, "Deliver me, for thou art my god." They do not know, nor do they understand, for He has smeared over their eyes so that they cannot see and their hearts so that they cannot comprehend. And no one recalls, nor is there knowledge or understanding to say, "I have burned half of it in the fire, and also have baked bread over its coals. I roast meat and eat it. Then I make the rest of it into an abomination, I fall down before a block of wood!" He feeds on ashes; a deceived heart has turned him aside. And he cannot deliver himself, nor say, "Is there not a lie in my right hand?" (NAS)

46:8,12

Isa 46:8

"Remember this, and be assured; Recall it to mind, you transgressors. (NAS)

Isa 46:12

"Listen to me, you stubborn-minded, who are far from righteousness. (NAS)

47:10-13

Isa 47:10-13

"And you felt secure in your wickedness and said, 'No one sees me,' Your wisdom and your knowledge, they have deluded you; for you have said in your heart, 'I am, and there is no one besides me.' "But evil will come on you which you will not know how to charm away; and disaster will fall on you for which you cannot atone, and destruction about which you do not know will come on you suddenly. "Stand fast now in your spells and in your many sorceries with which you have labored from your youth; perhaps you will be able to profit, perhaps you may cause trembling. "You are wearied with your many counsels; let now the astrologers, those who prophesy by the stars, those who predict by the new moons, stand up and save you from what will come upon you. (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

48:4-5,8

Isa 48:4-5

"Because I know that you are obstinate, and your neck is an iron sinew, and your forehead bronze, Therefore I declared them to you long ago, before they took place I proclaimed them to you, lest you should say, 'My idol has done them, and my graven image and my molten image have commanded them.'
(NAS)

Isa 48:8

"You have not heard, you have not known. Even from long ago your ear has not been open, because I knew that you would deal very treacherously; and you have been called a rebel from birth. (NAS)

49:14

Isa 49:14

But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me, and the Lord has forgotten me." (NAS)

50:1-2

Isa 50:1-2

Thus says the LORD, "Where is the certificate of divorce, by which I have sent your mother away? Or to whom of My creditors did I sell you? Behold, you were sold for your iniquities, and for your transgressions your mother was sent away. "Why was there no man when I came? When I called, why was there none to answer? Is My hand so short that it cannot ransom? Or have I no power to deliver? Behold, I dry up the sea with My rebuke, I make the rivers a wilderness; their fish stink for lack of water, and die of thirst. (NAS)

50:11

Isa 50:11

Behold, all you who kindle a fire, who encircle yourselves with firebrands, walk in the light of your fire and among the brands you have set ablaze. This you will have from My hand; and you will lie down in torment.
(NAS)

51:19-23

Isa 51:19-23

These two things have befallen you; who will mourn for you? The devastation and destruction, famine and sword; how shall I comfort you? Your sons have fainted, they lie helpless at the head of every street, like an antelope in a net, full of the wrath of the LORD, the rebuke of your God. Therefore, please hear this, you afflicted, who are drunk, but not with wine: Thus says your Lord, the LORD, even your God who contends for His people, "Behold, I have taken out of your hand the cup of reeling; the chalice of My anger, you will never drink it again. "And I will put it into the hand of your tormentors, who have said to you, 'Lie down that we may walk over you.' You have even made your back like the ground, and like the street for those who walk over it."
(NAS)

A Purpose For Life

52:1-2,4-5_____

Isa 52:1-2

Awake, awake, clothe yourself in your strength, O Zion; clothe yourself in your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city. For the uncircumcised and the unclean will no more come into you. Shake yourself from the dust, rise up, O captive Jerusalem; loose yourself from the chains around your neck, O captive daughter of Zion. (NAS)

Isa 52:4-5

For thus says the Lord GOD, "My people went down at the first into Egypt to reside there, then the Assyrian oppressed them without cause. "Now therefore, what do I have here," declares the LORD, "seeing that My people have been taken away without cause?" Again the LORD declares, "Those who rule over them howl, and My name is continually blasphemed all day long. (NAS)

55:2,7-9_____

Isa 55:2

"Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourself in abundance. (NAS)

Isa 55:7-9

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the LORD, and He will have compassion on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

57:3-13,19-21

Isa 57:3-13

"But come here, you sons of a sorceress, offspring of an adulterer and a prostitute. "Against whom do you jest? Against whom do you open wide your mouth and stick out your tongue? Are you not children of rebellion, offspring of deceit, Who inflame yourselves among the oaks, under every luxuriant tree, who slaughter the children in the ravines, under the clefts of the crags? "Among the smooth stones of the ravine is your portion, they are your lot; even to them you have poured out a libation, you have made a grain offering. Shall I relent concerning these things? "Upon a high and lofty mountain you have made your bed. You also went up there to offer sacrifice. "And behind the door and the doorpost you have set up your sign; indeed, far removed from me, you have uncovered yourself; and have gone up and made your bed wide. And you have made an agreement for yourself with them, you have loved their bed, you have looked on their manhood. "And you have journeyed to the king with oil and increased your perfumes; you have sent your envoys a great distance, and made them go down to Sheol. "You were tired out by the length of your road, yet you did not say, 'It is hopeless.' You found renewed strength, therefore you did not faint. "Of whom were you worried and fearful, when you lied, and did not remember me, nor give me a thought? Was I not silent even for a long time so you do not fear me? "I will declare your righteousness and your deeds, but they will not profit you. "When you cry out, let your collection of idols deliver you. But the wind will carry all of them up, and a breath will take them away. But he who takes refuge in me shall inherit the land, and shall possess My holy mountain." (NAS)

Isa 57:19-21

Creating the praise of the lips. Peace, peace to him who is far and to him who is near, "Says the LORD," and I will heal him." But the wicked are like the tossing sea, for it cannot be quiet, and its waters toss up refuse and mud. "There is no peace," says my God, "for the wicked." (NAS)

58:1-5

Isa 58:1-5

"Cry loudly, do not hold back; raise your voice like a trumpet, and declare to My people their transgression, and to the house of Jacob their sins. "Yet they seek me day by day, and delight to know My ways, as a nation that has done righteousness, and has not forsaken the ordinance of their God. They ask me for just decisions, they delight in the nearness of God. 'Why have we fasted and Thou dost not see? Why have we humbled ourselves and Thou dost not notice?' Behold, on the day of your fast you find your desire, and drive hard all your workers. "Behold, you fast for contention and strife and to strike with a wicked fist. You do not fast like you do today to make your voice heard on high. "Is it a fast like this which I choose, a day for a man to humble himself? Is it for bowing one's head like a reed, and for spreading out sackcloth and ashes as a bed? Will you call this a fast, even an acceptable day to the LORD? (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

65:1-7 _____

Isa 65:1-7

"I permitted myself to be sought by those who did not ask for me; I permitted myself to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, 'Here am I, here am I,' to a nation which did not call on My name." "I have spread out My hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in the way which is not good, following their own thoughts, A people who continually provoke me to My face, Offering sacrifices in gardens and burning incense on bricks; Who sit among graves, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, and the broth of unclean meat is in their pots. "Who say, 'Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am holier than you!' These are smoke in My nostrils, a fire that burns all the day. "Behold, it is written before me, I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will even repay into their bosom, Both their own iniquities and the iniquities of their fathers together, "says the LORD." Because they have burned incense on the mountains, and scorned me on the hills, therefore I will measure their former work into their bosom." (NAS)

3. List what these verses say about God's Commitment to Man:

40:5,8,10-11,29-31 _____

Isa 40:5

Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all flesh will see {it} together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." (NAS)

Isa 40:8

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever. (NAS)

Isa 40:10-11

Behold, the Lord GOD will come with might, with His arm ruling for Him. Behold, His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him. Like a shepherd He will tend His flock, in His arm He will gather the lambs, and carry them in His bosom; He will gently lead the nursing ewes.(NAS)

Isa 40:29-31

He gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks might He increases power. Though youths grow weary and tired, and vigorous young men stumble badly, Yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary. (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

41:1,11-14,17_____

Isa 41:1

"Coastlands, listen to me in silence, and let the peoples gain new strength; let them come forward, then let them speak; let us come together for judgment. (NAS)

Isa 41:11-14

"Behold, all those who are angered at you will be shamed and dishonored; those who contend with you will be as nothing, and will perish. "You will seek those who quarrel with you, but will not find them, those who war with you will be as nothing, and non-existent. "For I am the LORD your God, who upholds your right hand, who says to you, 'Do not fear, I will help you.' "Do not fear, you worm Jacob, you men of Israel; I will help you," declares the LORD, "and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel. (NAS)

Isa 41:17

"The afflicted and needy are seeking water, but there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst; I, the LORD, will answer them myself, {as} the God of Israel I will not forsake them. (NAS)

42:1,6-8,16_____

Isa 42:1

"Behold, My servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one {in whom} My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations. (NAS)

Isa 42:6-8

"I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I will also hold you by the hand and watch over you, and I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, as a light to the nations, To open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the dungeon, and those who dwell in darkness from the prison. "I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, nor My praise to graven images. (NAS)

Isa 42:16

16 "And I will lead the blind by a way they do not know, in paths they do not know I will guide them. I will make darkness into light before them and rugged places into plains. These are the things I will do, and I will not leave them undone." (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

43:1-7 _____

Isa 43:1-7

But now, thus says the LORD, your Creator, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine! "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, nor will the flame burn you. "For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I have given Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in your place. "Since you are precious in My sight, since you are honored and I love you, I will give other men in your place and other peoples in exchange for your life. "Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and gather you from the west. "I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' And to the south, 'Do not hold them back.' Bring My sons from afar, and My daughters from the ends of the earth, Everyone who is called by My name, and whom I have created for My glory, whom I have formed, even whom I have made." (NAS)

43:19-21 _____

Isa 43:19-21

"Behold, I will do something new, now it will spring forth; will you not be aware of it? I will even make a roadway in the wilderness, rivers in the desert. "The beasts of the field will glorify me; the jackals and the ostriches; because I have given waters in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, to give drink to My chosen people. "The people whom I formed for myself, will declare My praise. (NAS)

45:1-3,21-22,17 _____

Isa 45:1-3

Thus says the LORD to Cyrus His anointed, whom I have taken by the right hand, to subdue nations before him, and to loose the loins of kings; to open doors before him so that gates will not be shut: "I will go before you and make the rough places smooth; I will shatter the doors of bronze, and cut through their iron bars. "And I will give you the treasures of darkness, and hidden wealth of secret places, in order that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who calls you by your name. (NAS)

Isa 45:17

Israel has been saved by the LORD with an everlasting salvation; you will not be put to shame or humiliated to all eternity. (NAS)

Isa 45:21-22

"Declare and set forth your case; indeed, let them consult together. Who has announced this from of old? Who has long since declared it? Is it not I, the LORD? And there is no other God besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none except me. "Turn to me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. (NAS)

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48:17_____

Isa 48:17

Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go. (NAS)

49:1-6,8-10,13,15-16,22-23,25-26_____

Isa 49:1-6

Listen to me, O islands, and pay attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb; from the body of My mother He named me. And He has made My mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of His hand He has concealed me, and He has also made me a select arrow; He has hidden me in His quiver. And He said to me, "You are My servant, Israel, in whom I will show My glory." But I said, "I have toiled in vain, I have spent My strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely the justice due to me is with the LORD, and My reward with My God." And now says the LORD, who formed me from the womb to be His servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, in order that Israel might be gathered to Him (for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and My God is My strength), He says, "It is too small a thing that you should be My servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make you a light of the nations so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth." (NAS)

Isa 49:8-10

Thus says the LORD, "In a favorable time I have answered You, and in a day of salvation I have helped you; and I will keep you and give you for a covenant of the people, to restore the land, to make them inherit the desolate heritages; Saying to those who are bound, 'Go forth,' to those who are in darkness, 'Show yourselves.' Along the roads they will feed, and their pasture will be on all bare heights. "They will not hunger or thirst, neither will the scorching heat or sun strike them down; for He who has compassion on them will lead them, and will guide them to springs of water. (NAS)

Isa 49:13

Shout for joy, O heavens! And rejoice, O earth! Break forth into joyful shouting, O mountains! For the LORD has comforted His people, and will have compassion on His afflicted. (NAS)

Isa 49:15-16

"Can a woman forget her nursing child, and have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, but I will not forget you. "Behold, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; your walls are continually before me.(NAS)

Isa 49:22-23

Thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I will lift up My hand to the nations, and set up My standard to the peoples; and they will bring your sons in their bosom, and your daughters will be carried on their shoulders. "And kings will be your guardians, and their princesses your nurses. They will bow down to you with their faces to the earth, and lick the dust of your feet; and you will know that I am the LORD; those who hopefully wait for me will not be put to shame. (NAS)

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Isa 49:25-26

Surely, thus says the LORD, "Even the captives of the mighty man will be taken away, and the prey of the tyrant will be rescued; for I will contend with the one who contends with you, and I will save your sons. "And I will feed your oppressors with their own flesh, and they will become drunk with their own blood as with sweet wine; and all flesh will know that I, the LORD, am your Savior, and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob." (NAS)

51:3,7-8

Isa 51:3

Indeed, the LORD will comfort Zion; He will comfort all her waste places. And her wilderness He will make like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and sound of a melody. (NAS)

Isa 51:7-8

"Listen to me, you who know righteousness, a people in whose heart is My law; do not fear the reproach of man, neither be dismayed at their revilings. "For the moth will eat them like a garment, and the grub will eat them like wool. But My righteousness shall be forever, and My salvation to all generations." (NAS)

52:3

Isa 52:3

For thus says the LORD, "You were sold for nothing and you will be redeemed without money." (NAS)

54:4-8,11-14

Isa 54:4-8

"Fear not, for you will not be put to shame; neither feel humiliated, for you will not be disgraced; but you will forget the shame of your youth, and the reproach of your widowhood you will remember no more. "For your husband is your maker, whose name is the LORD of hosts; and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel, who is called the God of all the earth. "For the LORD has called you, like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit, even like a wife of one's youth when she is rejected," says your God. "For a brief moment I forsook you, but with great compassion I will gather you. "In an outburst of anger I hid My face from you for a moment; but with everlasting lovingkindness I will have compassion on you," says the LORD your Redeemer. (NAS)

Isa 54:11-14

"O afflicted one, storm-tossed, and not comforted, behold, I will set your stones in antimony, and your foundations I will lay in sapphires. "Moreover, I will make your battlements of rubies, and your gates of crystal, and your entire wall of precious stones. "And all your sons will be taught of the LORD; and the well-being of your sons will be great. "In righteousness you will be established; you will be far from oppression, for you will not fear; and from terror, for it will not come near you. (NAS)

A Purpose For Life

55:1,3,10-13

Isa 55:1

"Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money come, buy and eat. Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. (NAS)

Isa 55:3

"Incline your ear and come to me. Listen, that you may live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, {according to} the faithful mercies shown to David. (NAS)

Isa 55:10-13

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there without watering the earth, and making it bear and sprout, and furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it. "For you will go out with joy, and be led forth with peace; the mountains and the hills will break forth into shouts of joy before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. "Instead of the thorn bush the cypress will come up; and instead of the nettle the myrtle will come up; and it will be a memorial to the LORD, for an everlasting sign which will not be cut off."(NAS)

56:4-5

Isa 56:4-5

For thus says the LORD, "To the eunuchs who keep My sabbaths, and choose what pleases me, and hold fast My covenant, To them I will give in My house and within My walls a memorial, and a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name which will not be cut off. (NAS)

58:8-12

Isa 58:8-12

"Then your light will break out like the dawn, and your recovery will speedily spring forth; and your righteousness will go before you; the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. "Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.' If you remove the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, And if you give yourself to the hungry, and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then your light will rise in darkness, and your gloom will become like midday. "And the LORD will continually guide you, and satisfy your desire in scorched places, and give strength to your bones; and you will be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water whose waters do not fail. "And those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; you will raise up the age-old foundations; and you will be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of the streets in which to dwell. (NAS)

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59:20-21

Isa 59:20-21

"And a Redeemer will come to Zion, and to those who turn from transgression in Jacob," declares the LORD. "And as for Me, this is My covenant with them," says the LORD: "My Spirit which is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your offspring, nor from the mouth of your offspring's offspring," says the LORD, "from now and forever." (NAS)

60:10-22

Isa 60:10-22

"And foreigners will build up your walls, and their kings will minister to you; for in My wrath I struck you, and in My favor I have had compassion on you. "And your gates will be open continually; they will not be closed day or night, so that men may bring to you the wealth of the nations, with their kings led in procession. "For the nation and the kingdom which will not serve you will perish, and the nations will be utterly ruined. "The glory of Lebanon will come to you, the juniper, the box tree, and the cypress together, to beautify the place of My sanctuary; and I shall make the place of My feet glorious. "And the sons of those who afflicted you will come bowing to you, and all those who despised you will bow themselves at the soles of your feet; and they will call you the city of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel. "Whereas you have been forsaken and hated with no one passing through, I will make you an everlasting pride, a joy from generation to generation. "You will also suck the milk of nations, and will suck the breast of kings; then you will know that I, the LORD, am your Savior, and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob. "Instead of bronze I will bring gold, and instead of iron I will bring silver, and instead of wood, bronze, and instead of stones, iron. And I will make peace your administrators, and righteousness your overseers. "Violence will not be heard again in your land, nor devastation or destruction within your borders; but you will call your walls salvation, and your gates praise. "No longer will you have the sun for light by day, nor for brightness will the moon give you light; but you will have the LORD for an everlasting light, and your God for your glory. "Your sun will set no more, neither will your moon wane; for you will have the LORD for an everlasting light, and the days of your mourning will be finished. "Then all your people will be righteous; they will possess the land forever, the branch of My planting, the work of My hands, that I may be glorified. "The smallest one will become a clan, and the least one a mighty nation. I, the LORD, will hasten it in its time." (NAS)

62:10-12

Isa 62:10-12

Go through, go through the gates; clear the way for the people; build up, build up the highway; remove the stones, lift up a standard over the peoples. Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth, say to the daughter of Zion, "Lo, your salvation comes; behold His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him." And they will call them, "The holy people, the redeemed of the LORD"; and you will be called, "Sought out, a city not forsaken." (NAS)

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66:10-14_____

Isa 66:10-14

"Be joyful with Jerusalem and rejoice for her, all you who love her; be exceedingly glad with her, all you who mourn over her, That you may nurse and be satisfied with her comforting breasts, that you may suck and be delighted with her bountiful bosom." For thus says the LORD, "Behold, I extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall be nursed, you shall be carried on the hip and fondled on the knees. "As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you; and you shall be comforted in Jerusalem." Then you shall see this, and your heart shall be glad, and your bones shall flourish like the new grass; and the hand of the LORD shall be made known to His servants, but He shall be indignant toward His enemies. (NAS)

C. Assignment (Disciples are Made not Born):

1. Read Chapter 5, "Evangelism and the Disciple" and fill in the following blanks for discussion purposes next week.

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Chapter 5: "Evangelism and the Discipleship"

A. Seven Important things to Know about Evangelism:

1. Evangelism is Important - Ezekiel 22:30/Rom 10:14
2. Evangelism is best Taught by an Evangelist - Eph 4:11
3. Evangelism is Normal - Matt 5:14-16/Acts 9:17-20
4. Evangelism is a Privilege - 2 Cor 5:20
5. Evangelism is a Process - John 4:37-38
 - Cultivating the Soil (Developing a Friendship)
 - Sowing the Seed (Sharing Spiritual Experiences)
 - Reaping the Harvest (Seeing the lost Accept Christ)
6. Evangelism will bring Responsibilities - Matt 4:19 & John 16:8-11
 - We are responsible for following Christ
 - Christ is responsible for equipping us for the task
 - The Holy Spirit is responsible for opening the eyes of the lost
7. Evangelism will bring a Great Reward - Rev 22:12

B. Four Concerns that will help you REAP !

1. **R**elationship with God
 - Be a Believer - John 1:12
 - Be an Abider - John 15:5
 - Be a Follower - Matt 4:19
2. **E**vangelistic Tool
 - Have an Introduction - Chapter 5 of text
 - Have a Gospel Presentation - Rom 1:16
 - Have an Invitation - Rom 10:10
3. **A**ppetite for the Battle
 - Hear God's Call - Ezek 22:30
 - See the Harvest - Matt 9:37-38
 - Develop your Vision - 2 Tim 2:2
4. **P**eople's Destiny
 - Understand their State - Eph 2:1-3, 1 Cor 2:14
 - Pray for Conversion - 2 Tim 2:26
 - Love the Individual - 1 John 3:18

C. A Review of the Bridge Illustration and the "B pack" of the TMS (See Page 2)

D. Assignment (Disciples are Made not Born):

Read Chapter 6 "Recruiting a Prospective Disciple" and fill in the following blanks for discussion purposes next week.

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Chapter 6: "Recruiting a Prospective Disciple"

A. Divide into discussion groups and select a group leader. In the space provided below, briefly describe how each of the 8 Principles of Chapter 6 would operate in a real-life situation. (Group Leaders should be prepared to summarize the comments of the group.)

(p64) 1. "Recruit to a Vision not an Organization":

(p66) 2. "Do Not Create the Impression that people are doing You or God a Favor by being Faithful to the Cause of Christ":

(p69) 3. "Grow into Business - don't Go into Business":

(p70) 4. "Tailor the Job to the Person rather than the Person to the Job":

(p70) 5. "Discipleship must take into account The Whole Man":

(p73) 6. "There must be a proper balance between Love and Rebuke":

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(p75) 7. "You Recruit a person to Discipleship by being His Servant":

(p75) 8. "You Reproduce after Your Own Kind whether you like it or not":

B. Experiencing Principle No. 5 - "The Whole Man"

Before a disciple maker can Teach [impart knowledge], Train [impart skills], and Build [impart character] to another he must first examine his own needs in these areas. Examine your own life and answer the following questions in the space provided:

1. Do I need Teaching? In what area?

2. Do I need Training? In what area?

3. Do I need Building? In what area?

C. Assignment:

1. Read Chapter 7-"How to Train a Disciple-Follow-Up" and fill in the following blanks for discussion purposes next week.

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Chapter 7-"How to Train a Disciple-Follow-Up"

A. How were you followed-up?

1. What are one or two major problems that I had right after I became a new Christian?
2. How did the person who followed me up help me cope with my problems?
3. What was the person like who followed me up?

Conclusion: _____

B. Divide into small discussion groups and select a group leader. Search the text and personal experiences and suggest ways to implement each guideline when relating to a new convert in the space provided below:

pp78 1. How to insure Proper Care and Protection and Deal with any Trouble Areas:

pp81 2. How to insure a Proper Diet:

pp85 3. How to insure Love and Affection:

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pp86 4. How to insure an atmosphere of Acceptance:

C. Think about the needs of a growing Christian you know who is looking to you for leadership. Pick one or two things from the chalkboard that you can implement this week in order to minister to those needs.

1.

2.

D. Assignment (Disciples are Made not Born):

1. Read Chapter 8 - "How to Train a Disciple-Imparting the Basics" and fill in the following blanks for discussion purposes next week.

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Chapter 8: "How to Train a Disciple-Imparting the Basics"

A. The Five-Fold Objective of a Disciple-Making Ministry (1 Thess 1:5-10):

1. Solid Decisions for Christ (1 Jn 5:13):_____

2. Disciples (Matt 28:18-20):

3. Pacesetters (1 Cor 9:24):

4. Reproduction (2 Tim 2:2):

6. Commitment (Luke 14:26,27,33):

B. Charting a Course for a Disciple-Making Ministry

(See Page 183 of "The Lost Art of Disciple-Making")

C. Focusing on the Training Process (pp90-91)

1. What is the Goal of the Training Process?_____

2. How can a Trainer contribute to another person's life?_____

3. How is the Trainer limited?

D. What are the "Basics"?

(See the "Wheel Illustration" text pp93 & See the "Hand Illustration" text pp95)

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E. Example of a Trainer (Disciple-Maker) "Imparting the Basics"?(pp91-93)

*He challenged the young Christian to study the Bible to see what a disciple was.

*He told the young Christian he would be studying the Bible looking for the same answers. They would meet a week later to discuss the results of both studies.

*After the young Christian had seen what The Bible said from both studies, he asked the young Christian if he wanted to be a Disciple.

*He continuously let the young Christian discover the answers to his questions from the Bible. He did not tell the young Christian the answers!

*He had something planned for the next meeting that would help the young Christian move toward becoming a disciple.

Training can help a "FAT" individual become "MAD"

_____	_____
_____	>-----> _____
_____	_____

F. Assignment (Disciples are Made not Born):

1. Read Chapter 9 "How to Train a Disciple-Convictions & Perspective" and fill in the following blanks for discussion purposes next week.

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Chapter 9: "How to Train a Disciple-Convictions & Perspective"

A. Definitions:

1. Perspective = The Ability to See the End from the Beginning-2 Cor 4:19
2. Conviction = A Deep-Seated Belief regarding what is on the Heart of God-Acts 4:19-20
3. Knowing = Mental Assumption
4. Doing = Physical Action (Ask "Why" questions to get Convictions/Perspective)
5. Being = Spiritual Reaction

B. Questions that an Inspiring Disciple maker should ask Himself:

1. What are some personal experiences I've had that illustrate either the need for or application of a Conviction or a Perspective?

2. How can I tell whether or not a Recruit for Discipleship has Conviction/Perspective?

3. How can I build these qualities in myself? In the people I want to train?

Ps 127:12

- #### **C. Major in Principles rather than methods: (Principles answer "Why" questions, are Broad in their Application, and Show "Cause-Effect")**

- #### **D. Major in Meeting the Needs of Others rather than in developing and imparting techniques: (Help them where they want help. After you've gained their respect, you can lovingly lead them to the Scriptures that will reveal their real needs.)**

- #### **E. Major in Developing the Thought Processes rather than the skills: (Stimulate the recruit's thinking toward consideration of the Eternal Consequences of today's choices.**

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D. Decisions and the importance of Finding and Doing God's Will)

F. Major in How To Trust God rather than teaching theories about God: (God's Faithfulness is Historical and is recorded in the Bible. Select some good verses that reveal God's Faithfulness and Meditate on these verses with him)

"You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them." 2 Tim 3:14

G. Assignment (Disciples are Made not Born):

1. Read Chapter 10 "How to Train a Disciple-Gifts and Calling" and fill in the following blanks for discussion purposes next week.

A Purpose For Life
Chapter 10: How to Train a Disciple-Gifts and Calling"

A. Summary of the author's Main Points

1. The Purpose and Importance of Spiritual Gift
The body is made up of many specialized parts that work together to produce a work that no individual part could.
 2. Discovering your disciple's Spiritual Gifts
 - a. Get him involved with people.
 - b. Help him exercise any gift you think he might have.
 - c. A person's gift often lies in the area in which his interest lie and in an area where he can most easily exercise faith.
 - d. Have people who are gifted evaluate his gift.
 3. The Gifts and Calling of God
A person's calling should utilize his Spiritual Gift
- B. "Now about the Spiritual Matters, brothers, I do not wish you to be Ignorant"
(1 Cor 12:1)

The following comes from Russell Kelfer via Bill Gothard's advanced seminar:

- 1 Cor 12:4 - there are different kinds of "Spiritual Gifts" (See Romans 6-8)
1 Cor 12:5 - there are different kinds of "Workings" (See 1 Cor 12:8-11)
1 Cor 12:6 - there are different kinds of "Services" (See 1 Cor 12:28 & Eph 4:11)

C. What are the Spiritual Gifts?

1. Rom 12:6-8 (The Motivation - Which Your Spiritual Gifts?)
 - prophecy-discernment-proclaim the truth
 - service-to do things for people
 - teaching-research-revealing spiritual truth
 - exhortation-encouragement, growth
 - giving-the sharing of resources
 - ruling-administration-to make other people function well
 - mercy-sensitivity
2. 1 Cor 12:7-11 (The Manifestation - Workings that results from the use of Spiritual Gifts)
Which is Yours?
 - the word of wisdom
 - the word of knowledge
 - faith
 - healings
 - miracles
 - prophecy
 - discernment
 - tongues
 - interpretation of tongues

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3. 1 Cor 12:28 (The Ministry - Services that use the Spiritual Gifts)

Which is Yours?

apostles
prophets
teachers
miracles
healing
helps
administration
tongues

4. Eph 4:11 (The Ministry - Services that use the Spiritual Gifts)

Which is Yours?

apostles
prophets
evangelists
pastors
teachers

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From Russell Kelfer's "Spiritual Gifts: How to Discern Your Gift"

A. A Spiritual Gift is not a Talent

1. Talent is a natural ability given at birth cultivated with use (for example, music, art, writing, mechanical inclinations are talents). A Spiritual Gift is a supernatural ability given at conversion
2. Talent is your ability to relate yourself to the world. Spiritual Gift is your ability to relate God to the world
3. Talent draws honor and attention to yourself as you are identified with your abilities. A Spiritual Gift draws honor and attention to God as you become transparent and people are drawn to Christ.
4. You receive physical and emotional freedom by the use of your talent. You receive Spiritual freedom, exhilaration and joy when you use your Spiritual Gift in the Spirit.

B. A Spiritual Gift is not a Temperament

Note: A Temperament is those attributes of the natural man personality drives acquired through birth. Talents are usable but inflatable. Temperaments are usable but have diminishing returns as we grow spiritually.

1. Your temperament is your basic emotional drive. Your gift is your basic spiritual drive.
2. Your temperament is inherited from your parents for the most part at your natural birth. Your gift is given to you at your new birth by a sovereign God.
3. Your temperament governs your actions and reactions in the flesh. Your gift governs your actions and reactions in the Spirit.
4. Your temperament should decrease in importance as you grow in Christ. Your gift should increase in importance as you grow in Christ.

C. A Spiritual Gift is not a Calling

1. A Calling is a distinct call from God to engage in a specific area of ministry in the body of Christ. Your calling is what you do. Your Gift is your motivating drive.
2. Your Calling is an activity, something you accomplish. Your Gift is the means to accomplish your calling.

Assignment (Disciples are Made not Born):

1. Read Chapter 11 "Multiplying Your Efforts" and fill in the following blanks for discussion purposes next week.

A Purpose For Life
Chapter 11: "Multiplying Your Efforts"

A. What are the following verses saying to you about multiplication?

Gen 1:28 _____

Ex 1:7 _____

John 12:24 _____

Mark 4:19 _____

2 Tim 2:2 _____

Matt 28:19-20 _____

Ez 22:30 _____

B. Discuss content of introduction in light of this.

C. Assignment (Disciples are Made not Born):

Read Chapter 12 "Choosing a Life Objective" and fill in the following blanks for your use in the future.

A Purpose For Life

Chapter 12: "Choosing a Life Objective"

A. Which of the following Key Truths from the Course are most important to you? Why?

_____ Giving our Lives for others is life's Greatest Objective

_____ The Key to a Discipling Ministry is Faithful men and women who Yield fully to Christ's Lordship

_____ The Process of Discipling begins with Being a disciple and then winning others to Christ

_____ Discipling involves a developing of the whole man (i.e. not just the spiritual)

_____ Discipling involves In Depth Personal Relationships in which we train others according to their needs

_____ We must be the Type of Person we want our disciples to Become

_____ Discipling includes helping aspiring disciples Discover and use their Spiritual Gifts

_____ A Reproductive one to one ministry has the greatest long-range Potential in fulfilling the Great Commission

B. Picture your self at life's end forty years from now. List the things that you would have to see in your life to consider that it was a success:

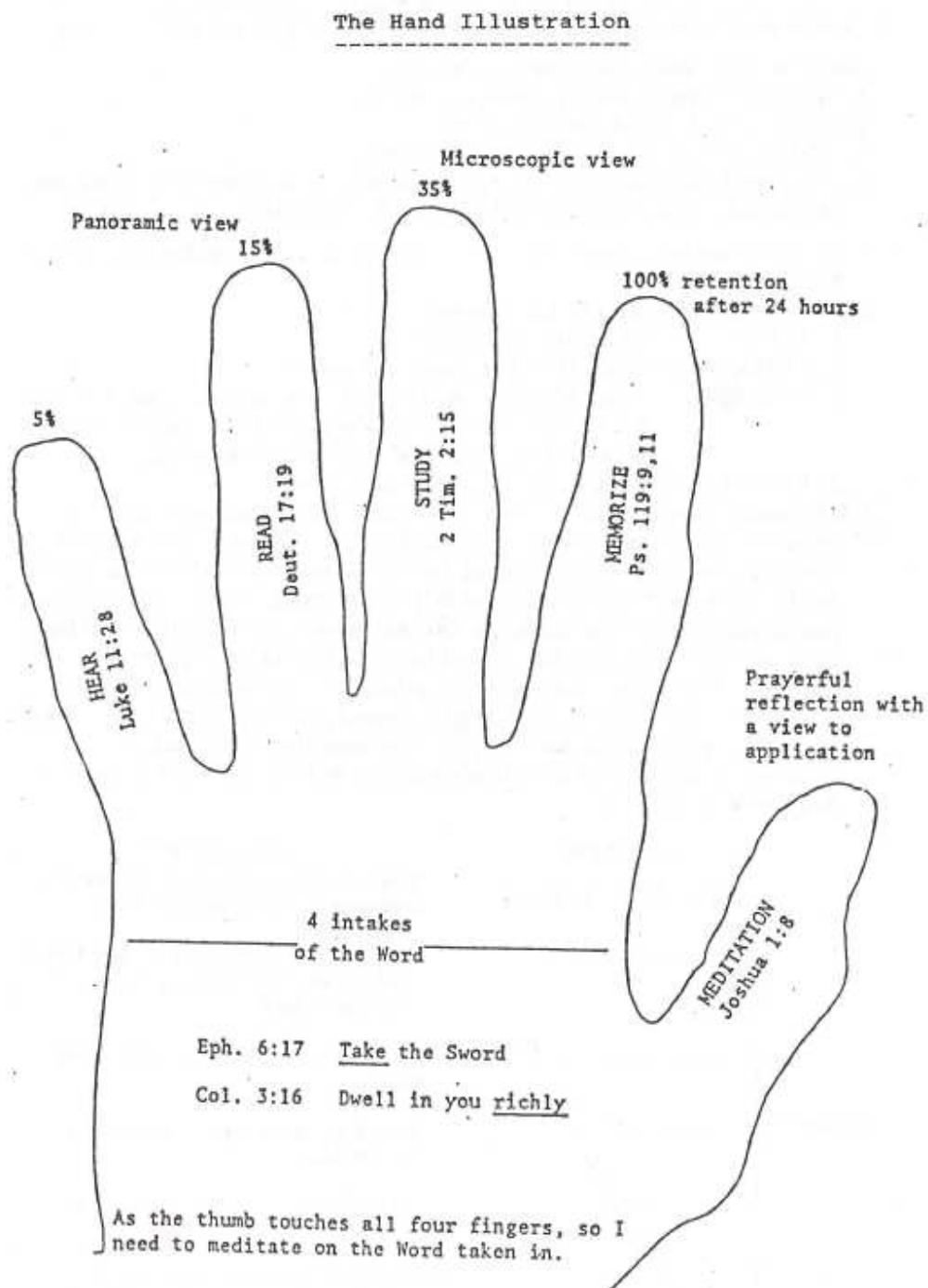
C. What application do you feel led to make after studying this material?

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Part 2: “How To” Workshop Material

A Purpose For Life

1. How to Help Someone Get a Grip on God's Word – Navigator Hand Illustration



A Purpose For Life

UNDERSTAND, REMEMBER AND APPLY THE HAND ILLUSTRATION

HEARING THE WORD - *Hearing the word from godly pastors and teachers provides us insight into others' study of the Scriptures and it stimulates our own desire to understand God's Word. We hear the Word when we listen to godly pastors and teachers explain their understanding of what God is saying in the Bible.

READING THE WORD - *Reading the Word gives us an overall picture of what God has said and done in the past. When you look off the top of a tall building you get an overall picture of the city that the building is in but you can't see details very clearly from up there.

STUDYING THE WORD - *Studying the Word gives us a close-up picture of what God is saying in the Bible. It's like looking through a telescope when we are on the top of a tall building. The telescope helps us see the things that are going on in the city below more clearly.

We study the Word when answer questions as we read it. The following are some sample questions:

1. Who wrote this passage?
2. Who was he writing to?
3. What is he trying to communicate?
4. Why is he writing these things to these people?

MEMORIZING THE WORD - *Memorizing the Word helps us to overcome Satan and temptation (Ps 119:9,11) and it helps us draw near to God (Col 3:2,3). We have memorized a verse when we are able to quote it word perfect without looking at it. The only way to keep a verse memorized is to review it frequently.

MEDITATING ON THE WORD - *Meditating on the Word gives us a deeper understanding of God and his will for us. We can meditate on the word when we hear it, read it, study it and memorize it! We are meditating on the Word when we answer these questions:

1. How does this passage help me understand God better?
2. How does this passage help me understand what God's wants me to do?

A Purpose For Life
Applying the Hand Illustration

HEARING THE WORD

My Pastor talked about _____ last Sunday

READING LUKE 1:1-4, PSALMS 119:9,11 & PSALMS 117

Luke 1:1-4

-Many have tried to remember the things that have been fulfilled among us, these things were handed down to us by those who were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. -Therefore, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, -so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught."

Psalms 119:9,11

How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Psalms 117:1-2

-Praise the LORD, all you nations; extol him, all you peoples.

-For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

-Praise the LORD.

STUDYING LUKE 1:1-4

1. Who wrote this passage? _____

2. Who was he writing to? _____

3. What is he trying to communicate? _____

4. Why is he writing these things to these people? _____

MEMORIZING PSALMS 119:9,11

"How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."

MEDITATING ON PSALM 117

1. How does this passage help me understand God better?

2. How does this passage help me understand what God wants me to do?

A Purpose For Life

2. How To Help Someone Develop the Habit of a Daily Devotion

A QT PLAN TO HELP ME GET MORE OUT OF THE WORD			
John 15:7 "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you." (NAS)			
I N F O R M A T I O N	How can I "Abide in Him" when I pray? ----->	Realize God speaks to me when I <u>READ</u> the word (1 Thess 2:13)	Realize I can <u>SPEAK</u> back God's word to Him when I <u>PRAY</u> (Palmss 5:3)
	What Is GOD's RESPONSIBILITY ----->	SHOW me more of Him and His will for me (Psalms 32:8)	Lovingly RESPOND to my prayer according to His WILL for me. (2 Chron 16:9a)
	What Is my RESPONSIBILITY? ----->	SEEK to know God LISTEN for His will (Psalms 63:1)	Pray About what I FIND and HEAR (John 15:7)
A P P L I C A T I O N	THINGS I CAN DO TO HELP ME GET MORE OUT OF MY QUITE TIME ----->	Look for S.P.E.C.K. While I READ the Word	Use the A.C.T.S. of prayer after I read the Word
		Does this verse show me a <u>SIN</u> to forsake?	ADORATION Worship God with the things He revealed to me about himself
		Does this verse show me a <u>PROMISE</u> to claim?	CONFESSION Tell my Father about the sin His word has revealed in my life
		Does this verse show me an <u>EXAMPLE</u> to follow?	THANKSGIVING Tell my Father what I am grateful for.
		Does this verse show me a <u>COMMAND</u> to obey?	SUPPLICATION Lay my request before my Father
		Does this verse help me <u>KNOW</u> God?	
2 Chr 16:9 "For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His....." (NAS)			
John 16:24 "Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be made full." (NAS)			

A Purpose For Life

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you. (NAS)	
Worksheet For My Quiet Time Plan using Ps 1:1-6	
How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers!	
S:	
P:	
E:	
C:	
K:	
But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night.	
S:	
P:	
E:	
C:	
K:	
And he will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers.	
S:	
P:	
E:	
C:	
K:	
The wicked are not so, but they are like chaff which the wind drives away.	
S:	
P:	
E:	
C:	
K:	
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.	
S:	
P:	
E:	
C:	
K:	
For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.	
S:	
P:	
E:	
C:	
K:	
Things To A dore God For:	
1	
2	
3	
Things to C onfess:	
1	
2	
3	
Things To T hank God For:	
1	
2	
3	
S upplications (Things to Ask God For):	

A Purpose For Life

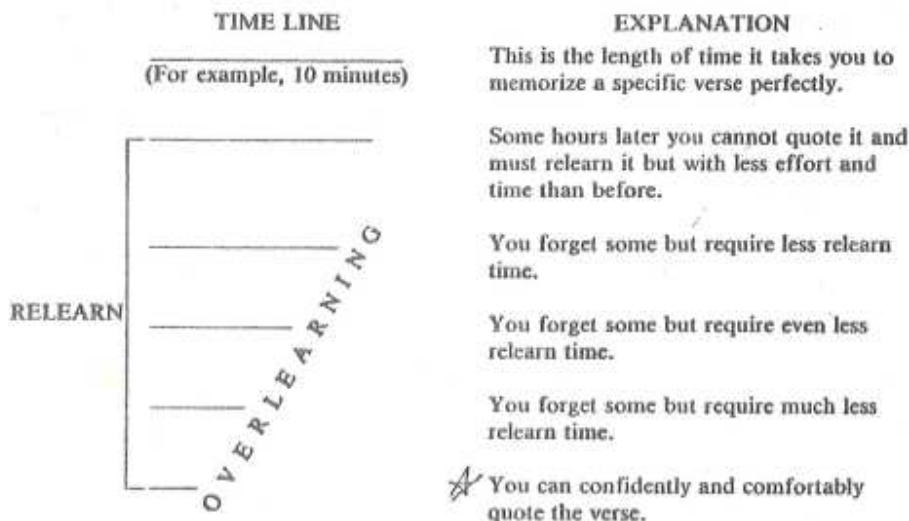
3. How To Help Someone Develop the Habit of Scripture Memory

(Also see "Changing your Thought Patterns" by [George Sanchez](#))

How to Memorize a Verse Effectively

Guidelines for Memorizing a Verse of Scripture

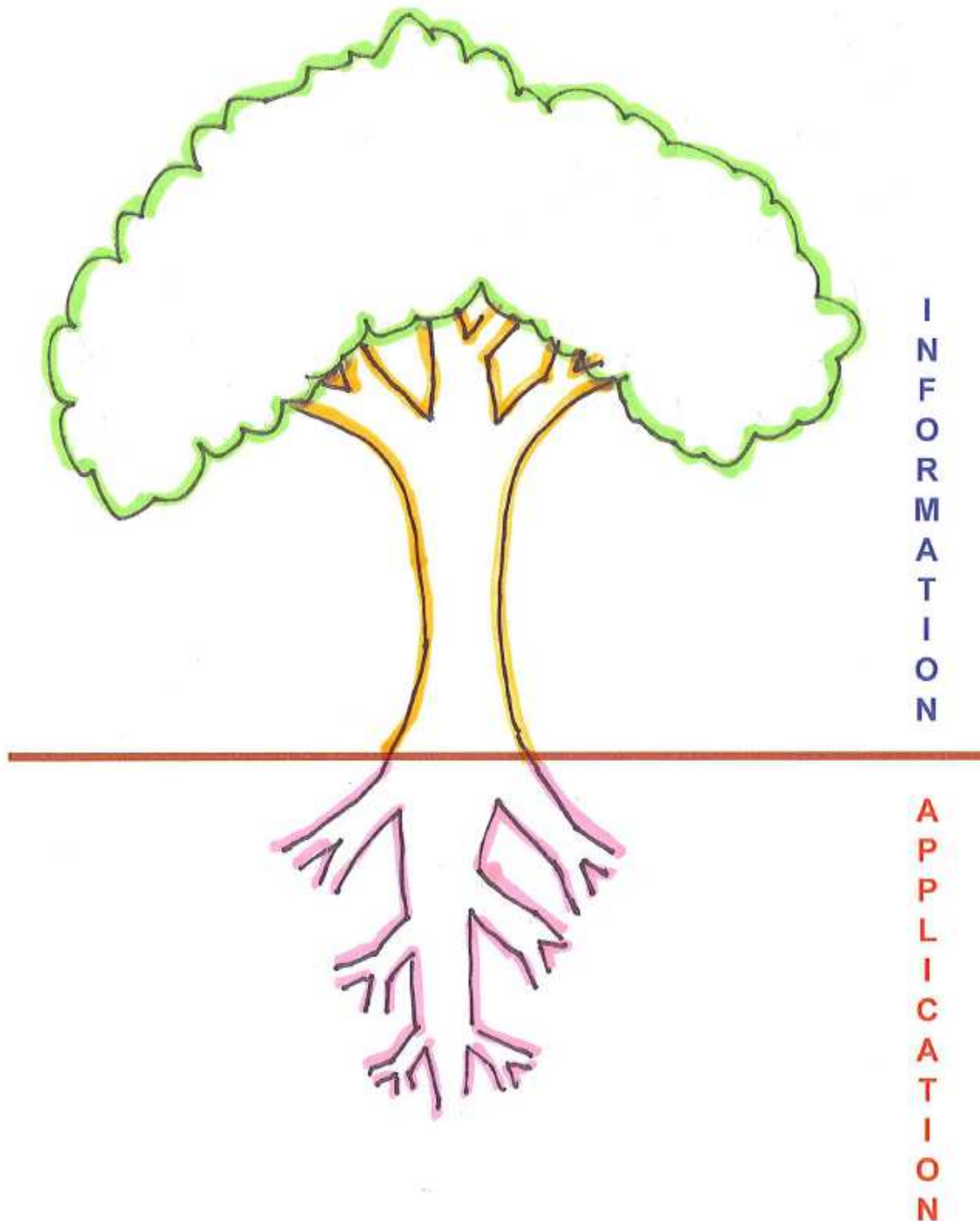
1. Work on the verses audibly whenever possible.
2. Learn the topic and the reference first.
3. Add the first phrase to the topic and reference.
4. After you have reviewed the first phrase, reference, and topic a few times, add the second phrase. Gradually add phrases till you know the whole verse.
- ✱ 5. As you memorize and review the verse, think about how it applies to your own life.
6. Always review the verse in this sequence:
 - a. TOPIC: "Assurance of Salvation"
 - b. REFERENCE: "First John five, eleven and twelve"
 - c. VERSE(S): "And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life."
 - d. REFERENCE: "First John five, eleven and twelve"
7. The most important time to review a verse repeatedly is right after you can repeat the whole (topic, reference, verse, reference) without making a mistake. Review the verse a minimum of once daily after that, preferably several times a day for a few days. Some people say that they cannot memorize. In reality, most people tend to have short memories. God has given us a "forgetter," and there are some things we *should* forget. God has also given us the capacity to remember. But we must apply the basic principles of memory to do this. The primary principle is REVIEW. A verse is learned, partially forgotten, relearned, partially forgotten, and relearned again. The relearning process takes progressively less time till forgetting is replaced by knowing. The following diagram illustrates this:



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4. How To Help Someone Study God's Word

(Also see the "Navigator Bible Study Handbook" Navpress



A Purpose For Life

A. (KNOWING THE INFORMATION) (PASSAGE _____)

1. What is God talking about in this passage?

Branch 1 _____

Branch 2 _____

Branch 3 _____

Branch 4 _____

Branch 5 _____

Branch 6 _____

Branch 7 _____

2. What few words summarize this passage?

Tree Trunk _____

A Purpose For Life

B. (DOING AN APPLICATION) (PASSAGE _____)

1. What could God want the reader of this passage to do about this information?

S- Is there a SIN to confess here?

P- Is there a PROMISE to claim here?

E- Is there an ERROR to avoid here?

C- Is there a COMMAND to obey here?

Root 1 _____

Root 2 _____

Root 3 _____

Root 4 _____

Root 5 _____

Root 6 _____

Root 7 _____

2. What does God want me to do about this passage?

Tap Root _____

A Purpose For Life

5. How To Help Someone Develop A Personal Salvation Testimony

1 Pet 3:15

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. **Always** be prepared to give an **answer** to **everyone** who asks you to give the **reason** for the **hope** that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, (NIV)

Following notes from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words
Copyright (C) 1985, Thomas Nelson Publishers

:

KJV-- **always**, = aei ^104^ has two meanings: (a) "perpetually, incessantly," <Acts 7:51; 2 Cor. 4:11; 6:10; Titus 1:12; Heb. 3:10>; (b) "**invariably, at any and every time**," of successive occurrences, when some thing is to be repeated, according to the circumstances, <**1 Pet. 3:15**; 2 Pet. 1:12>. See EVER.#

KJV-- **prepared**, = hetoimos ^2092^, "prepared, ready" (akin to hetoimasia, "preparation"), is used (a) of persons, <Matt. 24:44; 25:10; Luke 12:40; 22:33; Acts 23:15,21> (for <2 Cor. 10:6>, see above); <Titus 3:1; **1 Pet. 3:15**>

KJV-- **answer** = apologia ^627^, a "verbal defense, a speech in defense," is sometimes translated "answer," in the KJV, <Acts 25:16; 1 Cor. 9:3; 2 Tim. 4:16>, all which the RV corrects to "defense." See <Acts 22:1; Phil. 1:7,16; 2 Cor. 7:11>, "clearing." Once it signifies an "answer," <**1 Pet. 3:**

:

KJV-- **all** = pas ^3956^ signifies "every one, everything, every man" (i. e., person), e. g., <Luke 16:16

KJV-- **account**, = logos ^3056^, "a word or saying," also means "an account which one gives by word of mouth" (cf. No. 4), <Matt. 12:36; Matt. 18:23>, RV, "reckoning"; <16:2; Acts 19:40; 20:24> (KJV, "count"); <Rom. 14:12; Phil. 4:17; Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 4:5>.

KJV-- **hope** = elpis ^1680^, in the NT, "favorable and confident expectation" It has to do with the unseen and the future, <Rom. 8:24,25>. "**Hope**" describes (a) the happy anticipation of good (the most frequent significance), e. g., <Titus 1:2; 1 Pet. 1:21>; (b) the ground upon which "hope" is based, <Acts 16:19; Col. 1:27>, "Christ in you the hope of glory"; (c) the object upon which the "hope" is fixed, e. g., <1 Tim. 1:1>.

.....

Food for thought:

Two "tools" every Christian should have to be an effective witness.

A "Personnel Testimony" and

A "Gospel Presentation".

Will you be **prepared** when the opportunity comes?

A Purpose For Life

Testimony Development Training

(from Navigator Col 2:7)

This Training Will Cover:

Principles, Guidelines, Techniques, and Methods For:

- *Development Your Personal Salvation Testimony and*
- *Helping Someone Else Develop Their Personal “Salvation” Testimony*

Acts Chapter 26 Will Be Our Model

- Here, Paul shares his testimony with a Non-Christian (King Agrippa)
- *The Testimony Had 3 Parts (Before, How, After)*
- The Testimony Is A Little Over 3 Minutes Long

Preparing A Personal Testimony, General Comments:

- A. Primary Aim- Present Your Personal Salvation Testimony From A 3 x 5 card
- B. Number Of Drafts (Depends on complexity of story)
- C. Difficult But Rewarding
- D. Workshops (3-4 hours after you have written 2nd draft)

Types Of Testimonies

- A. Salvation: How I Received Eternal Life
- B. Answers To Prayer
- C. Victory Over Sins
- D. Guidance from God
- E. Benefits Of Stewardship

Note:

1. You will want to refer to the following material when you are writing drafts of your testimony.
2. You will want to be highly conversant with this material when you teach the testimony workshop.

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Overview of Required Work:

The required work is divided into two parts. The first part will prepare you for the second part.

Part 1-Preparation for Workshop:

(This can be done alone using the provided materials)

Your goal in this part will be to write two drafts of your testimony using the materials provided. To be ready for the workshop in **Part 2**, you should proceed as follows:

- a. Look at this section while listening to the tape. Make notes in this section as required while listening.
- b. Write the first draft of your testimony using the material provided and your notes.
- c. Read your testimony out loud while recording it if possible.
- d. Analyze your recording as though you were the instructor and the testimony you are hearing was a testimony of someone you are helping. Use the material provided to do the evaluation. (You may want to listen to the tape again before you begin.)
- e. Re-write your testimony. (This will be the second draft that is required for **Part 2**)

Part 2-Workshop Execution:

(Will be done with others in small and large groups.)

Your goal in this part will be to learn how to help others develop their testimony and to give your testimony from a 3 x 5 card to others. To be ready for this part, you should have evaluated your own testimony using the materials provided and have written your second draft. You need to bring the second draft with you to the Workshop.

Three Issues To Keep In Mind As We Prepare Our Testimony

- The material in this guide is designed to produce a testimony that is best suited for Non-Christian listeners (i.e. those who have no church background or understanding of Christian principles and Christian terms). (Some modifications should be made if it is to be given to Christians. Such as, add 2 or 3 scripture references and Christian terms, etc.)
- The material in this guide is designed to produce a testimony that is best suited for conversational sharing one-on-one or in a small group. It is not designed for large groups of Christians. (Some modification should be made if it is to be given to large groups.)
- This testimony is designed to be a door opener not a convincing tool. We are not going to try to convince a person to come to Christ with this testimony. What we do want to do is to give a person the impression that something has happened to us related to the person of Christ that has changed and enriched our life.

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B. Guidelines for Preparing the More Specific Content

Twelve Principles That Are Very Helpful When Writing/Analyzing Your Testimony

Make it sound conversational; to be spoken, not read.

Say “I” and “ME” not “YOU”. (Share don’t preach.)

Avoid religious words, phrases and jargon. Avoid technical words, phrases and jargon.

Generalize so more people can identify with your story. Don’t give names of specific churches/denominations, details of battle with sin, specific ages/dates, etc.

Include some humor or human interest. This and smiling often relaxes and disarms people.

One or two word pictures increase interest to help the listener visualize/relate to the story.

Include both good and bad aspects of your life in the “BEFORE” part of your testimony.

In the “HOW”, we do three things

- a. Communicate the Gospel clearly and briefly including the following:
Fact of Sin
Penalty of Sin
Christ Paid the Penalty
Must Receive Christ
(Avoid quoting verses here; paraphrased scripture instead.
- b. Make the Bible the Authority. Do not give the impression that the person speaking to you was the authority.
- c. Use the word “pray” when referring to receiving Christ into your life.

9. In the “AFTER” rapidly conclude with 2 or 3 personal benefits. The last sentence in you testimony should have a statement like this:

“but the greatest benefit is to know for certain that I have eternal life.”

10. Avoid dogmatic statements which skeptics can question.

11. Sound adult not juvenile.

12. Simplify & reduce clutter to make the story easy to follow and truth easy to find.

A Purpose For Life

The Sequence of Your Preparation

1. Before you start pray for Gods Help and Insight
 2. Accumulate brief notes on three sheets of paper labeled Before, How, and After. Jot down anything that comes to mind (brainstorm type notes)
 3. Write out first draft using notes on three sheets of paper and guideline. Record it if you have a recorder. It should take about 3-5 minutes to read aloud.
 4. Make improvement in the long draft applying the 12 guidelines creating the second draft.
-
5. Cut your draft down to between 2.5 to 3 minutes at the training Clinic.
 6. Outline your 3-4 minute testimony on a 3 x 5 card at training Clinic.
 7. Learn to give your testimony only using your 3 x 5 card during the clinic.
-
8. Learn to give your testimony in 3-4 minutes without the outline before you teach others.

A Purpose For Life

Two Testimony Formats:

Format	Chronological	Overview Flashback
Order	Historical	Not Historical
Sequence	<p>-Before I Received with Humor or Human Interest</p> <p>-How I Received with 4 Parts of Gospel</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Fact Of Sin</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Penalty Of Sin</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Christ Paid the Penalty</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Must Receive Christ</p> <p>-Since I Received with 2 or 3 Personal Benefits Ending with “But the greatest benefit Is To Know That I Have Eternal Life”</p>	<p>-Rapid Overview of Life Up To Present with Humor or Human Interest</p> <p>-Short How I Received with 4 Parts of Gospel if possible</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Fact Of Sin</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Penalty of Sin</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Christ Paid the Penalty</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Must Receive Christ</p> <p>-Since I Received with 2 or 3 Personal Benefits Ending with “But the greatest benefit Is To Is To Know That I Have Eternal Life”</p>
Reason For Choosing Format	<p>-Converted Later In Life</p> <p>-Interesting “Before” Material</p> <p>-</p>	<p>-Converted Early In Life</p> <p>-No Interesting “Before” Material</p> <p>-“How” is very Short</p>

A Purpose For Life

Common pit-falls To Avoid When Preparing Drafts:

- A. Too Consciensious in the First Draft (Want it to be too perfect too soon)
- B. Too Much Reminiscing
 - Become Sad or Depressed During the Story because of too much Introspection
 - Get Stuck Reliving the Past Instead Of Writing the Story
 - Too much time Trying To Reconcile Old Conflicts
- C. Introduce Spiritual Content Too Early or Too Often. (Introduce Yourself as a Person First.)
- D. Worry Too Much About When You Were Converted
(Can use Lordship Commitment as focus of Conversion Date Unclear by putting 4 parts of Gospel Close to Your Lordship Prayer)
- E. Procrastinating Because This Is A Hard Assignment

A Purpose For Life

Example of my first written testimony (version 1975)

*Man has walked through the ages in many winding paths;
Picking up bits and pieces and wondering what he has.
Many say they have the answer, but how am I to know?
Which one is right or wrong; which way should I go?*

*Stumbling, fumbling, like a blinded baby boy;
Searching for a golden road in life that leads a life to joy.
I follow no direction; only a leading that's inside me;
It is something that is pure and good - what can it be?*

*Roaming, searching, trying to find truth;
Like grabbing something hard to grab, always slipping loose.
Walking, wandering, from road to road;
Seeking the truth, a path made of gold.*

*There must be more to life than working everyday;
The answer must be some truth unfound, can there be another way?
The answer to this question escapes me all the time;
It seems I have all the answers, except the one I seek to find.*

*The years of my life, I see slowly slipping by;
The reason that I am here today, I really don't know why.
Questions, questions, a never ending number;
Oh, let me rest inside that I might find slumber.*

*The world seems so dark and cold; getting darker every day;
I wish, I wish with all my heart that I might find the way.
But this truth I seek to find is not plain to see.
Should I sit and scratch my head and just wonder what will be?*

*Some say they found the answer; while others search far and wide.
For me, I think this search starts within me deep inside.
It's a search for what's right and wrong - this is what I feel;
A search for meaning in life - a search for what is real.*

*Another shows me a book of truth, that leads to a life of gold;
As I read it. I begin to see the purpose of life unfold.
It's a life full of meaning and riches more than I can say;
My quest is taking shape I see, more clear becomes the way!*

*The road I seek is straight and narrow - not a winding path;
It leads to joy unmeasured and to happiness that lasts.
Now I have found the truth I sought, it's in the one who paid the price.
The answer to all my questions is a risen Jesus Christ!*

A Purpose For Life

Example of my testimony after receiving training (version 2003)

BEFORE:

I grew up in a big city. In a part of town that had a reputation for being a trouble spot, a place where police sirens often filled the night. Even my home was a trouble spot. My parents could not get along and would often fight at night. Our neighbors didn't like "all the noise at 3 am" and their kids would often tease me about it. This deeply hurt my feelings because it told me "nobody cared about me". I got mad and stopped listening to my parents and did what I wanted to do. I did a lot of bad things to get "attention" and "fit in". It proved I was brave and not scared of anything and it stopped all the teasing. The things I did to "fit in" got more dangerous and I began to realize I would self-destruct if I continued. So, I jumped at the first opportunity to leave that city and prepare for a future. I got a great job and started to go to college at night. I cleaned up a lot of things in my life because it helped me make progress toward career and social goals. As I started to see how far I could go socially, my moral and ethical standards got worse and worse. Then a guy moved in next to me who said he was a "drummer" in a gospel "rock band". I thought that was strange because I didn't know that a "Christian" could be a drummer or be in a "rock band". This guy was also different in other ways. He seemed to strongly believe that he had a personal relationship with God and seemed to be happy about it.

HOW:

One day, as we got to know each other better, he invited me to a "Mother's Day" gospel rock concert". The name was strange and I really didn't think I would like the music but I went anyway to make him feel better. When I got there, I was surprised by the music, "It really was rock music" ... but the words were about God. The thing that surprised me the most was the joy I saw in the people around me who were singing the words. I had never seen anything like that before. After the music stopped, a guy about my age came out on the stage all by himself. He was very excited and he read from the Bible as he talked about God and God's plan for people. He showed where the Bible says people are separated from God because they want to do things their way instead of God's way. He said this rebellious attitude offends God and the penalty for this offense was death and eternal suffering. He said Jesus paid this penalty when he sacrificed his life on the cross. He said it was up to me to decide if I wanted forgiveness. What I would have to do was pray to God, admit that I was rebellious, believe that Jesus died for my sins and ask God to take control of my life. Well, I had never heard anything like that before. All this made me wonder about God's existence. Then I began wonder if what he was saying was true. Could God see what was in my heart? Did Jesus care enough to die for my sins? What could God do with my life if I gave it to Him? Well, I decide that I needed to determine if what he said was true. I also decided it would have to come from the Bible and not from people's opinions of the Bible. I read the Bible every day after that night; about twenty chapters a day! The more I read about Jesus, the more I realized he was brave and not scared of anything. This was something I could relate to. The difference was he was not doing it to "get attention" or "fit in". He was doing it because it was just right! And as I read, I also came to realize that Jesus cared for people like me, who had a bad home-life. I began to spend more time with that drummer and people began to pray for me. I read the Bible daily and amazed people with how much I understood. But I knew I would not be a Christian until I gave God control over my life. The idea scared me because I didn't know what God would tell me to do after I gave him control! Finally, one Sunday, during a church service, I couldn't resist it any longer and I prayed to God. I admitted I had been running my own life and was separated from Him. Then I prayed for forgiveness and asked God to take control of my life.

AFTER:

I immediately felt close to God, something I had never felt before. I knew I had done ALL that God wanted me to do and there was no reason to be scared of what God would do. After church, the singles that I was with were trying to decide where we would go for lunch. I looked around and realized everything was different; everything was new. It didn't matter where we went to lunch; the thing that did matter was that God finally had control of my life! I stopped worrying about how I could fit into people's plans and started trying to understand God's plan. I began to experience an inner strength that helped me replace a lot of bad habits with a lot of good habits. But the probably greatest benefit of becoming a Christian is to know for certain that I have eternal life.

Part 3

Related Studies and Illustrations

1. My Word Study of “Perseverance”

A Purpose For Life

NAVIGATOR CONFERENCE
WORKSHOP NOTES
WAYNE RUSCHEL

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Definition

Definitions of some words related to PERSEVERANCE (from American Heritage Dictionary):

PERSEVERE - to persist in or remain constant to a purpose, idea, or task in the face of obstacles or discouragement.

Preserve - to keep in an unaltered condition; maintain in an unchanged form.

Endure - to carry on through, despite hardships; to suffer patiently without yielding; persevere.

The idea behind perseverance is to preserve our faith; that is, to maintain our faith as we go through a trial. Perseverance can be thought of as the moment-by-moment aspect of endurance.

Some words that are used in the Bible to describe perseverance (see Appendix A for more detail) are:

<u>ABIDE</u>	persisted
bear/borne	put up with
continue/continually	remain
devote	stand (firm)
endure/endurance	stay (there)
forbear/forbearance	steadfast
hold (fast)	suffer/suffering
overcome	wait
patience/long suffering	

B. Description

John Gills, a puritan author of the early 1700's describes a Christian with perseverance as a "tough saint able to be humble, self denying, submissive to the will of God and patient toward all men...yet showing firmness of mind, resolution, an UNDAMNED courage, and fortitude of soul."

As we go through this work shop, we will see that Christian perseverance:

- Concerns itself with the will of God
- Is exercised in obedience to God's will
- Is done because it is man's duty and this satisfies him
- Is done with a pure view to the honor and glory of God

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- Is done trusting in and depending on God's power, strength, and grace
- Is done believing that God will carry one through the events that he has been called to
- Is not being deterred by any difficulty that occurs, or dangers that may result in accomplishing God's will
- Is always preceded by a choice; a choice to keep on doing the will of God or stop
- Is necessary in a Christian's life

II. THE NECESSITY OF PERSEVERANCE

Paul compared the Christian life to the life of an athlete who trained for the olympic games (I Cor. 9: 24-27). He points out that he who runs in the games should run to win (I Cor. 9:24).

Discipline and endurance is required in both the life of an athlete and the Christian. Both the athlete and the Christian have a course to run. Luke points out that John the Baptist was nearly finishing his course (Acts 13:25). John's course required that he live the life of a Nazirite (Num. 6:2, 3) (Luke 1:15) in the desert (Luke 3: 1-3), be imprisoned, and be beheaded by Herod (Matt 14: 3-12). Paul had a course to run and could say he had finished it while fighting a good fight (II Tim 4: 7). Paul's course required that he be rejected in Iconium (Acts 13: 51, 52; 14: 1-5), stoned in Lystra (Acts 14: 6-20), thrown into prison (Acts 16: 16-34), saved from an angry mob (Acts 19: 13-41), imprisoned for two years (Acts 24: 27), be shipwrecked on his way to Rome (Acts 27: 26-44), and be rejected by the Jews in Rome (Acts 28: 17-29).

Jesus came to do God's will and finish the work God the Father gave him to do (John 17: 4). After completing the work, Jesus could say "it is finished" (John 19: 30). The course that Jesus was on led him through many trials, afflictions, and to the cross (Mark 15: 16-24).

What will be along the way of the Christian's course? Paul urged his followers to bear the weaknesses of those without strength (Romans 15: 1); to bear one another's burdens (Gal. 6:2); to persevere in prayer (Eph. 6: 18); to endure hardship (II Tim 4: 5); and to have great patience (II Tim. 3: 10). We also know that all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution (II Tim. 3: 12).

Paul tells us that suffering is part of the ministry (II Tim. 1: 8) and we are co-heirs with Christ if we share in his suffering (Rom. 8: 17). Jesus said repeatedly that he who endures to the end shall be saved (Matt. 10: 22, Matt. 24: 13, Mark 13: 13) and he told his disciples that perseverance would win their souls (Luke 21: 19).

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The writer of Hebrews said we belong to Christ if we hold fast our confidence and boasting *FIRM* until the end (Heb. 3: 6). Paul said we have been reconciled to God if we continue in the faith and not be moved away from the hope of the gospel (Co. 1:23).

After we find out the course God has called us to, we must make up our mind to finish the course. This will take perseverance. Obstacles to God's work and demands on us will always pop in the course of doing God's will.

III. PERSEVERANCE & THE WILL OF GOD

A. Acting in Obedience

The issue at stake regarding *PERSEVERANCE* is whether or not we will obey God, overcoming the consequences of our faith and being found blameless. The Christian who perseveres is the one who clearly sees this issue and does not lose sight of it. He has made up his mind to do the will of God. Joshua made up his mind to serve the Lord and not other gods (Josh. 24: 15). The consequence of that decision let him into the task of conquering a foreign land, the results being that the people who were under him served the Lord all their lives (Josh. 24: 31). Peter and John made up their minds to keep on preaching what they had seen and heard (Acts 4: 19-20). The consequences of that decision led to trials of church leadership but resulted in strength to the brethren and church growth (Acts 4: 31-32). Jesus (as was prophesized by Isaiah 52: 7) set his face like flint so as to not depart from the path that God the Father had laid out for him and the consequences of that decision was the cross, but the result was man being brought back to God (I Pet. 3:18).

B. Following God's Direction

Since *PERSEVERANCE* starts with obedience to the Will of God, it will continually be required of us as we follow God's direction. Paul was called as an apostle over the church of Philippi. Obedience to this call gave Paul a closeness to God that allowed him to "endure" all things for the sake of those who were chosen for salvation" (II Tim. 2:10). Paul had a course to run, a fight to finish (II Tim. 4:7). Paul knew he would "continue" with all the Philippians for their progress and joy in the faith (Phil. 1:25).

Following God's direction can result in hardships and sufferings. The writer of Hebrews advises us that growth will result if we view hardships as a form of discipline from the Lord (Heb. 12:7). Paul had accepted the fact that suffering was part of the ministry (II Tim. 1:8). Paul was determined to endure all things so that he would not hinder the effect of the gospel (I Cor. 9:12).

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C. Walking by Faith

Perserverance requires that we walk by faith in times of trials trusting God's wisdom and sovereignty. Job perservered as he acknowledged God's sovereignty (Job 2: 9-10). Faith is the substance of things unseen (Heb. 11: 1). Paul looked to the unseen and saw his suffering as "momentary" and "light" compared to "the eternal weight" of glory it would bring (II Cor. 4: 17-18). Moses endured because he had come to depend on God and look to him who was unseen at that time (Heb. 11: 27). The writer of Hebrews exhorts us to set aside the distraction of sin and run with endurance the race set before us, not fixing our eyes on this world but on the risen savior (Heb. 12: 1-3) who we see by faith. As John put it "our faith is the victory that overcomes the world" (I John 5:4) and it is our faith that will help us perservere.

D. Motivated by Examples

It is God's design that we be motivated by the example of others. The writer of Hebrews reminds us to consider the things that Jesus endured in his last days so that we would not become weary or fainthearted (Heb. 2:18). He also exhorts us to be imitators of those who through faith inherited a promise (Heb. 6: 12). Paul said patient endurance is produced in us as we see others endure suffering (II Cor. 1: 6). We are exhorted to have the same attitude Jesus had (Phil. 2: 5) and to follow the example of Paul (Phil. 3: 17). James encourages us to look to the suffering and patience of the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord (James 5:10).

E. Moved by Love

Finally *PERSEVERANCE* without a love of God is impossible. Only through love can we bear and endure all things (I Cor. 13: 7). James indicates the love of the Lord is in those who perservere (James 1:12). Our love for God is what enables us to keep his commandments (I John 5: 3) thereby accomplishing his will.

F. Summary

1) Accept God's Will

Once we understand what God's will is for us, we need to accept it, and acting in obedience, move forward following God's direction. We must walk by faith, motivated by love, knowing that His will is good and acceptable and perfect (Rom. 12: 2, Jn. 14: 21). That doesn't mean that there will be no opposition; in fact, it often is God's will that we go through opposition in doing His will. James tells us that the testing of our faith through such trials produces steadfastness, which, in its full effect, makes us complete, lacking in no spiritual thing (James 1: 3-4). In the "Faith Hall of Fame" there is a passage (Heb. 11: 35b-38) that describes some of the tough trials faithful people go through.

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So, God's will isn't always easy; but it's always best. And it is God's will that we go through trials (rather than around them) in our lives, for our suffering through trials produces endurance, which produces character, which produces hope; and hope doesn't disappoint us because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Rom. 5: 3-5). He helps us to persevere if we walk in His way and not turn to the left or to the right. (Josh 1:7)

2) Be Committed to Persevere

Having the mental resolve to endure whatever trial God brings us through is important (II Tim. 2: 10). Most of the people who have 'dropped back 15 yards and punted' their faith because of a trial never committed themselves to persevere through a trial. "For you have need of endurance, so that you may do the will of God and receive what is promised" (Heb. 10:36, RSV). If we are committed to persevere, then we can accomplish God's will. And there is fulfillment in doing God's will. Jesus found it fulfilling (it was His 'food') to do God's will and accomplish the work of God (John 4:34). Jesus was able to accomplish the work God gave Him to do because He overcame the world (John 16: 33; 17: 4). Timothy was exhorted to always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, and fulfill his ministry (II Tim. 4: 5). And if we commit ourselves to persevere, and 'set our face like a flint,' God helps us to persevere and not to be put to shame (Isa. 50: 7); He strengthens us and upholds us with His victorious right hand (Isa. 41: 10). And indeed, "Blessed is the man who endures trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life which God has promised to those who love Him" (James 1:12).

3) Look to Jesus

Jesus, the God-Man, is our best example of how to persevere through trials and obstacles. Now that we have accepted God's will and committed ourselves to endure whatever obstacles may occur, let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith: consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted (Heb. 12: 1-3). Look in the gospels at the life of Jesus. He accepted the work His Father set before Him (John 4: 34). He was committed to persevere through all obstacles in His path - the Pharisees (Mt. 16: 1-4), the masses (John 6: 22-40), the disciples ignorance (Mt. 9: 14-29) and Satan (Mt. 4: 1-11). And He won - He accomplished all the Father asked Him to do.

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IV. PERSEVERANCE AND GOD'S GRACE

A. Love When We Don't Deserve It

God loves us despite the fact that we don't deserve his love (Rom. 5: 8). That's grace! His love for us compells him to give us hardships to help us grow spiritually. That's grace too! The writer of Hebrews exhorts us to view these hardships as the discipline of God (Heb. 12: 5-7).

B. Strength When We Need It

An abundance of strength is available in Christ to carry out the will of God. For God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power (II Tim. 1:7). We are to stand firm in the faith and be strong (I Cor. 16: 18). The Psalmist said the Lord was the strength of his life (Ps. 28: 7). So it must be when we are called upon to persevere. We must not depend on our strength. For our adequacy is from the Lord (II Cor. 3: 5). This is how the church of Ephesus perserved and endured without growing weary (Rev. 2: 3). We need to be strengthened with all power by God if we are to become steadfast and patient (Col. 1: 11). We need to be strong if we are to overcome the evil one (I John 2:14).

C. Rewards If We Do It

The Bible clearly teaches that those who *PERSEVERE* in doing God's will will obtain rewards by God. Paul said that we are looking for glory, honor, and immortality, by perservering in good deeds (Rom. 2: 7) and he said we will reap if we do not faint (Gal. 6: 9-10). Jesus said that he who overcomes will be given authority over nations (Rev. 2: 26), he will inherit the new Jerusalem and become God's son (Rev. 21: 7); he will be granted the tree of life, the crown of life, freedom of the second death, and a new name (Rev. 2: 7-25). He will be clothed in white *GARMENTS*, always have his name in the book of life, have his name confessed before the Father and his angles (Rev. 3: 5, 11). He will be made a pillar in the temple of God, have God's name, the name of God's city, and have Christ's new name written on Him (Rev. 3: 11, 12), and he will sit down with Christ on his throne (Rev. 3: 21). James said that he who perservers will receive the crown of life (James 1: 12).

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A. Find the Will of God

"For I know the plans that I have for you declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope."
(Jer. 29:11)

God has a wonderful plan for our lives and it is up to us to find out what that plan is. This sheet will offer some steps that will help a believer find the will of God for himself.

Step 1 The Revealed Will of God: God's revealed will is in his Word the Bible. In the Bible we find that God's will for us is our sanctification (I Thess. 4:3).

As we read and study the Bible we get acquainted with God. The more time we spend with God in this way, the better we understand Him, His character, and His will for us.

Start with the Bible when looking for God's will. Topical studies are often helpful in this regard. Jesus will not change. He is the same today as yesterday (Heb. 13:8). His will for a particular person in the past as recorded by the Bible could be his will for you. Study God's Word and pray!

Step 2 Godly Counselors: If God's will is still not clear after studying the Revealed Will of God, you may need the help of a Godly Counselor, one who has been applying God's word to his life for a long period of time. For example, a godly couple who have been married for 30 years often make the best premarital counselors. There is victory in the midst of many counselors (Prov. 24:6). Listen to godly counsel and pray!

Step 3 Circumstances: That's right, look at circumstances last! God has used circumstances to communicate His will, but we should not be lead to think that God will only use circumstances; nor should we think that a review of circumstances is a substitute for a study of the revealed will of God or counsel from a godly couple. Review your circumstances and pray!

Several good books that discuss finding God's Will in detail are available in local Christian book stores. The writer recommends the following:

1. Decision Making and the Will of God by Friesen; Multnomah Press.
2. Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God by Packer; Intervarsity Press.
3. Your Job Survival or Satisfaction? by White; Zondervan

A good book that describes how to do a topical bible study is The Navigator Bible Study Handbook; NAVPRESS.

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B. Planning to Persevere

"The plans of the diligent lead surely to advantage" (Proverbs 21:5)

After we find God's will, we need to work it into our schedule and keep it there. Often the reason we can't is that we have an impossible schedule to keep up with and we try to fit just one more thing into it. Another reason is that we just procrastinate and don't get started. If you can identify with either of these situations, what may help you is to go through the process of developing Purposes, Goals, and Objectives for your life.

1) Purposes/Goals/Objectives Definitions

a) Purpose: This always answers a "why" question.

- i. The purpose is the Biblical basis for why we establish goals in every area of our lives. When someone asks the purpose for establishing goals, we should be able to tell them why we are spending our lives to accomplish these goals. They must be Biblically directed for us to know that they are from God.
- ii. Goals and objectives relate to the purpose for which God has established our existence.
- iii. A purpose is something for which we ultimately hope.
- iv. A purpose is not necessarily measurable in itself, but it is a clear direction toward which we wish to move.

b) Goal: This always answers a "what" question.

- i. The goal explains what we are trusting God to do in our lives to fulfill his purpose for our existence.
- ii. It is a future event towards which we can measure progress of accomplishing the God given purpose in life.
- iii. A goal is a statement of faith.
- iv. Guidelines on how to establish goals and the power of goals are discussed on other sheets.

c) Objectives: This always answers a "how" question.

- i. An objective explains how we believe God wants to accomplish the goal He has given us.
- ii. There can be several objectives for accomplishing one goal.
- iii. This is an activity which will enable us to see progress toward completion of the goal in a given timeframe.

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2) The Art of Establishing Purposes/Goals/Objectives

- a) Spend time with God and His word.
- b) Ask God to give you specific purposes toward each area of life, i.e., God, family, ministry, career and other.
 - i. Ask God to give you promises, commands and his desires from the Word.
 - ii. Write out:
 - a. The verses that gave you the purposes.
 - b. In your own words why you believe God directed you to these verses.
 - c. Why He wants you to establish each purpose.
 - iii. Pray over the verses and your explanation.
 - iv. Claim these purposes and verses as the ones God wants you to direct your life toward.
- c) Repeat paragraph one and two above only direct your thoughts and efforts toward goals.
 - i. Write out the goals God wants you to establish to see Him achieve the purpose in each area of life.
 - ii. Relate each goal to a specific purpose in life.
 - iii. Place each goal into a specific timeframe, i.e., 6 months, 1 year, 2 years, 3 years, 4 years and 5 years.
 - iv. Establish goals in ten year periods for the next 50 years.
- d) Repeat paragraph one and two above only direct your thoughts and efforts toward objectives.
 - i. Be specific; detailed; include dates and quantities when writing objectives.
 - ii. Most objectives for accomplishing each goal will normally change from one timeframe to the next.
 - iii. Relate each objective to each goal in each specific timeframe.

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C. How to Persevere

or

"What Do You Do When the Bottom Drops Out?"

A) Cry Out to God

Let Him know how you feel - be honest with Him. There is a season for everything; "a time to weep, a time to laugh, a time to mourn, and a time to dance" (Ecclesiastes 3: 4). There will be times that we hurt badly, and our Heavenly Father wants us to tell Him about it. There is comfort in releasing our feelings to God.

Some Biblical examples of men crying out to God are:

Job - Job 7: 7-21

David - Psalms 3, 17, 42, 43, 51, 109 (and many more)

Nehemiah - Nehemiah 1: 4-11

Jesus - Matthew 26: 36-46 (in the Garden of Gethsemane)

B) Focus on

1) God's Sovereignty

God is in control (Proverbs 21: 1); He has hedged His protective power about us, and nothing can happen to us without His permission (Job 1: 10; see also I Corinthians 10: 13).

2) God's Concerns

a) His Glory - Isaiah 42: 8; 48: 10, 11

'How is God going to glorify Himself through this trial?'

b) My good (in His purpose) Romans 8:28

'How is God going to use this trial in my life?'

c) His Gospel - Matthew 28: 19-20

'How is God going to use this trial to promote His Gospel?'

d) His Children - Rom. 8: 31-32

'Could God be using this trial in others lives?'

3) God's Word

Meditate on God's Word - He often reveals great and wonderful things about Himself during trials.

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4) Our Response to God

a) Submit to God and Trust Him

Give the trial up to God and let Him deal with you through the trial, and bring the trial to His purposed (and as yet unseen) conclusion (II Corinthians 4: 17-18). Model Jesus' example of submission to the Father at Gethsemane (Matthew 26: 36-46).

b) Develop a Proper Perspective

"Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?" (Job 2: 10). Obeying and following Jesus doesn't mean that bad things won't happen to us. Every day we interact with sinners, and one of them may bring misery into our life. And being a Christian doesn't mean God will deliver us out of a trial "smelling like a rose"; this is a prideful attitude. God sometimes uses trials to humble us, so that we can grow spiritually.

c) Find a counselor (or counselors) you can comfortably share with to help you get through a trial (Proverbs 15: 22, 24: 6). Often times, in the midst of a trial, a high level of emotional anxiety is present which affects our ability to reason properly. Godly counselors can be helpful to us as objective listeners who are not involved in our trial, and thus can help us learn what God wants to teach us by the trial.

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APPENDIX A

APPENDIX A: WORDS IN THE BIBLE THAT ARE USED IN DESCRIBING PERSEVERENCE

GREEK/HEBREW WORD	ENGLISH WORDS USED IN TRANSLATION	BASIC MEANING OF WORD	REFERENCE
HOPOMONO	PATIENCE PERSEVERENCE ENDURANCE ENDURE STEADFASTNESS	AN ABIDING UNDER	REV 1:9 COL 1:11
HUPOMONE	PATIENCE PERSEVERANCE ENDURANCE	AN ABIDING UNDER	JAMES 1:3 LUKE 21:19 II COR 6:4 II COR 12:12 II TIM 3:10 HEB 12:7 I PET 2:20 II TIM 2:12
	PATIENT ENDURANCE PERSEVERANCE	PATIENT CONTINUANCE PATIENTLY WAITED	ROM 2:7 II COR 1:6 II THESS 3:5
HUPOMENO	ENDURE PERSEVERE ENDURED	TO ABIDE UNDER, TO BEAR UP COURAGEOUSLY (UNDER SUFFERING)	MATT 10:22 MATT 24:13 II TIM 2:10 MARK 13:13 ROM 12:12 I COR 13:7 II TIM 2:13 HEB 10:32 HEB 12:2,3,7 JAMES 1:12; 5:11 I PET 2:20
	ENDURE	TO ABIDE UNDER TO REMAIN IN PLACE	I PET 2:20 HEB 12:7
HOPOMENO	PATIENCE ENDURANCE PERSEVERENCE	TO PATIENTLY WAIT	ROM 2:7 II COR 1:6 II THESS 3:5
EPIMENO	PERSISTED	TO CONTINUE LONG, STILL ABIDE IS USED OF CONTINUING TO ASK	JOHN 8:5
PARAMENO	ABIDES CONTINUE	TO REMAIN BY OR NEAR AND HENCE, TO CONTINUE OR PERSEVERE IN ANYTHING	JAMES 1:5 PHIL 1:25
PROSMENO	REMAIN	PERSISTANT LOYALTY	ACTS 11:23
	STAY THERE	TO ABIDE STILL AFTER A PROBLEM	I TIM 1:3 ACTS 18:18
ANAMENO	WAIT	WAITING WITH PATIENCE AND CONFIDENT EXPECTATION	I THESS 1:10
DIAMENO	CONTINUE	TO CONTINUE THROUGHOUT	LUKE 22:28

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GREEK/HEBREW WORD	ENGLISH WORDS USED IN TRANSLATION	BASIC MEANING OF WORD	REFERENCE
NIKAO	OVERCOME OVERCOMER	TO SUBDUE	I JOHN 2:14 REV 2:7-11,26 REV 3:5,12,21 REV 21:7
EMMENO	CONTINUE	TO STAY IN THE SAME PLACE	ACTS 14:22
KATECHO	HOLD	TO HOLDDOWN, RETAIN, POSSES, SEIZE ON, TAKE	HEB 10:23
SUBPARAMENO	CONTINUE	TO REMAIN IN COMPANY	PHIL 1:25
KARTEREO	ENDURED HOLD FAST	TO BE STEADFAST	HEB 11:27 JOB 2:9
MAKROTHUMEO	PATIENTLY WAIT PATIENTLY ENDURE	TO BE LONG TEMPERED	HEB 6:15
KAKOPATHEO	HARDSHIP	TO SUFFER EVIL	II TIM 2:9
		TO ENDURE HARDSHIP	II TIM 4:5
SUNKAKOPATHEO	HARDSHIP ENDURE SUFFERING	TO SUFFER HARDSHIP	II TIM 2:3 II TIM 1:8
MAKROTHUMIA	LONG SUFFERING PATIENCE	FORBEARENCE PATIENCE LONG SUFFERING	II COR 6:6 GAL 5:22 EPH 4:2 COL 1:11: 3:2 II TIM 3:10: 4:2 II PET 3:16
STEKO	STAND FIRM	STANDFAST BY THE FAITH BY ADHERENCE TO IT	II THESS 2:15 I COR 16:13
	BEAR ENDURE	TO PROTECT OR PERSEVERE BY COVERING	I COR 9:12 I COR 13:7
PROSKATEREO	DEVOTE	TO BE STRONG TOWARD, TO ENDURE OR PERSEVERE IN	COL 4:2 ACTS 6:4
	CONTINUE ABIDE	TO CONTINUE STEADFASTLY IN A THING AND GIVE UNREMIT- TING CARE TO IT	ROM 13:6 ACTS 1:14 ROM 12:12
EUPARETROS	DEVOTION	SITTING CONSTANTLY BY APPLYING ONESELF DILIGENTLY	I COR 7:35 TO IT
EISTELOS	CONTINUALLY TO THE END	UNTIL THE END	LUKE 18:5 MATT 10:22: 24:13 MARK 13:13 JOHN 13:1
MECHRITHELOS	CONTINUAL	UNTIL THE END	HEB 6:11 REV 2:26
ARCHITHELOS	UNTIL THE END	UNTIL THE END	HEB 3:6,14

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GREEK/HEBREW WORD	ENGLISH WORDS USED IN TRANSLATION	BASIC MEANING OF WORD	REFERENCE
BASTAZO	BEAR BORNE ENDURED	TO BEAR A BURDEN IN RESPECT OF SUFFERING ENDURED IN THE CAUSE OF CHRIST	LUKE 14:27 REV 2:3 ROM 15:1 GAL 6:2
HUPOPHERO	ENDURE BEAR	TO BEAR UP UNDER	I COR 10:13 II TIM 3:11 I PET 2:19
TROPHERO	BEAR PUT UP WITH	TO ENDURE	ACTS 13:18
ANECOMAI	BEAR ENDURE FORBEAR SUFFER	TO HOLD UP AGAINST A THING AND SO BEAR WITH	I COR 4:12
PROSKARTERESIS	PERSEVERENCE	ENDURING CONSTANTLY PERSEVERENCE	EPH 6:18
HISTEMI	STAND	STEADFASTNESS	I COR 7:37 EPH 6:11,13,14 COL 4:12
HEDRAIOS	STEADFAST	IMMOVABLE SETTLED, STEADFAST	I COR 7:37 I COR 15:58
QAVAH (HEB)	WAIT	TO BIND TOGETHER TO EXPECT, TO TARRY	PSALMS 37:34

2. My Study of My Adversary

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1 Pet 5:8

Be of sober {spirit,} be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. (NAS)

a. Does Satan really exist?

a1. Non-Biblical accounts:

The Church of Satan worships Satan today!

a2. Biblical accounts:

Seven OT books teach the existence of Satan and all NT books.

Jesus specifically refers to him in Matt 13:39 and Luke 10:18 & 11:18

b. Why should I study what the Bible says about Satan?

Prov 22:20-21, 2 Cor 11:3, 2 Cor 11:14, 1 Tim 4:1, 1 Pet 5:8

c. What does the Bible say about the Origin of Satan?

Ezek 28:11-15 _____

d. What does the Bible say about the Fall of Satan?

Isa. 14:12-20, 1 Tim 3:6 _____

e. What does the Bible say about the Personality of Satan?

2 Cor 11:3, Rev 12:17, 2 Tim 2:26, Matt 25:41, 2 Cor 6:15

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f. What does the Bible say to describe Satan?

Zech 3:1, Luke 4:13, Isa 14:12, Matt 12:24, 2 Cor 6:15, 1 John 5:19, 1 Thess 3:5, John 12:31, 2 Cor 4:4
Eph 2:2, Rev 12:10, Rev 12:9, Rev 12:3, 2 Cor 11:14

g. What does the Bible say about Satan's Nature?

Eze 28:14, Eph 6:11-12, Eze 28:12, John 8:44, 1 John 3:8, Rev 12:10, 1 Pet 5:8, James 4:7, Job 1:12

h. What does the Bible say about Satan's Work?

Gen 3:15, Matt 4:1-11, Matt 2:16, John 8:44, Matt 16:23, John 13:27, Rev 20:3, Rev 16:13-14
2 Cor 4:4, Luke 8:12, Rev 2:13, Luke 16:13, Acts 5:3, Rev 12:10, 1 Thess 2:18, Eph 6:11-12
1 Cor 7:5, Rev 2:10, Matt 13:38-39, 1 Tim 4:1-6, Matt 4:6, Luke 4:10-11, 1 Pet 5:8

i. What does the Bible say about the Judgment of Satan

Eze 28:16, Gen 3:14-15, John 12:31, Rev 12:13, Rev 20:3, Rev 20:10

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j. What does the Bible say about our defense against Satan?

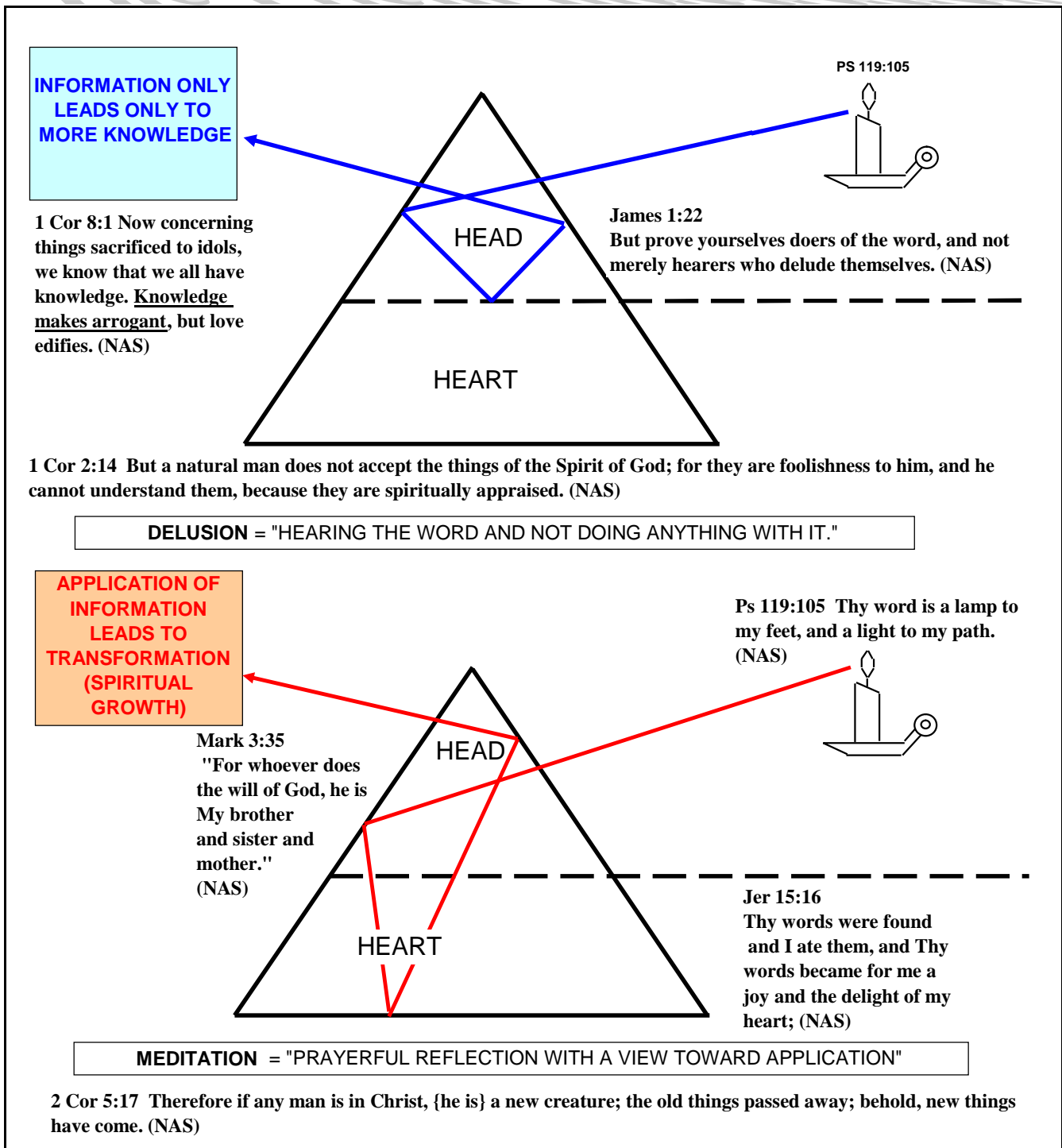
John 17:15, Heb 12:3, Heb 2:18, 2 Cor 12:7, James 1:12, 1 Pet 1:7-10, 1 Pet 5:8-9, 2 Pet 1:4-9
Jude 20-24, 2 Cor 12:7, Jude 8-9, 1 Pet 5:8-9, Rom 16:20, 1 John 2:13, 1 John 5:18, Rev 12:11
James 2:7, Eph 6:11-18, Eph 4:27, 2 Cor 2:11, Matt 4:1-11, John 2:14, Ps 119:9,11, 1 Cor 10:13
1 John 2:29, 1 John 3:9, 1 John 5:1-4,18, Rom 8:1-13, Gal 5:15-26, Rev 12:11

k. What should I do about Satan based on the above?

A Purpose For Life

Related Illustrations

The Prism Illustration



A Purpose For Life

Applying the Bible - Explanation of the Prism Illustration:

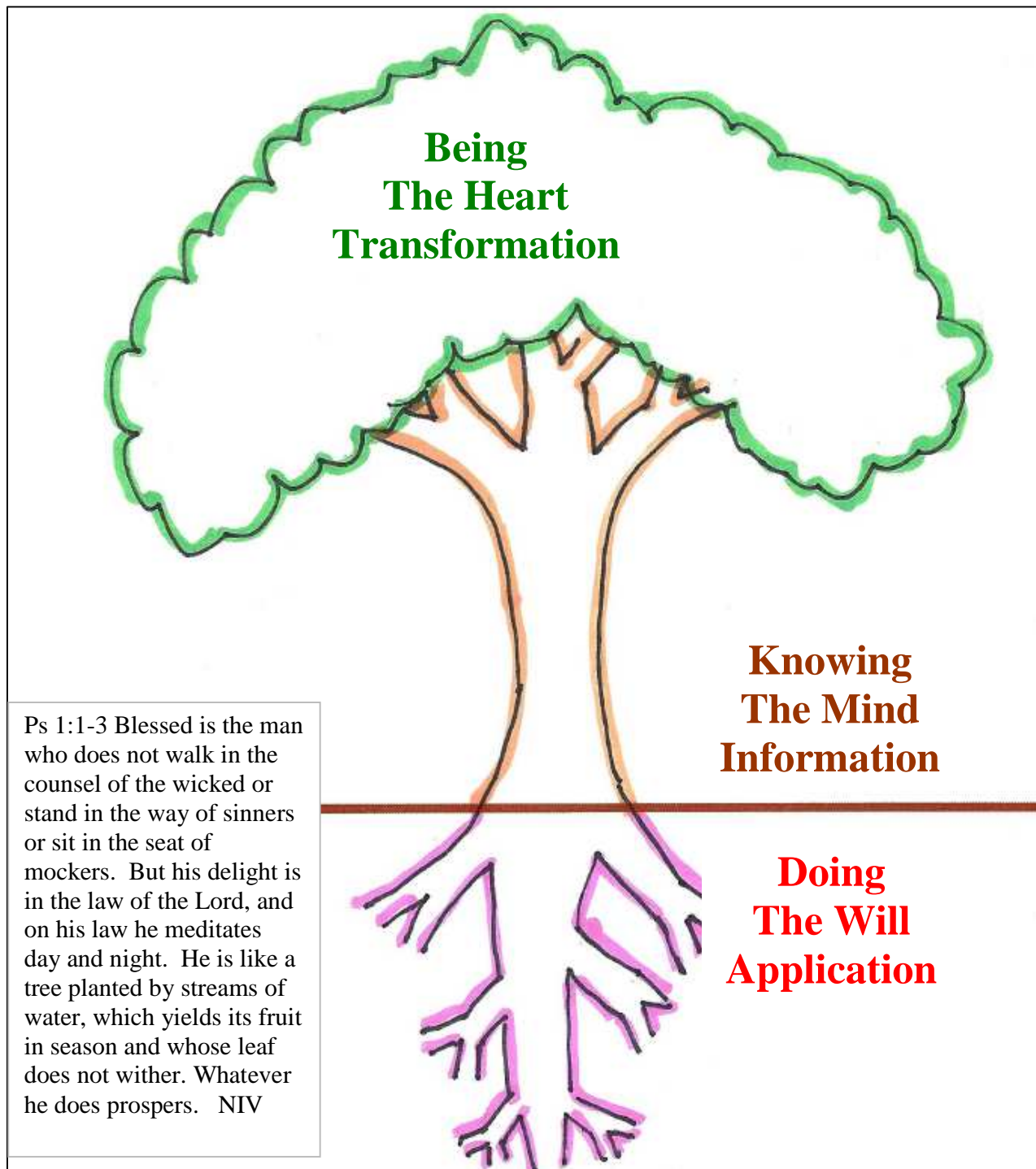
The Prism Illustration shows two states of man, the natural man (above) and the new man (below). The new man wants to please God, the natural man does not. The will of the new man directs God's intentions through the heart into actions. The old man is simply not willing to let this happen.

So the point of the illustration is this: We as Christians need to be willing to seek, understand and become the will of God no matter what it is.

- Seeking requires an act of the will and involves time in the Bible.
- Understanding requires an act of the will and involves looking for what matters to God not what matters to me.
- Becoming requires an act of the will and involves submission to God.

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The Tree Illustration



“Knowing” → “Doing” → “Being”

“The Mind” → “The Will” → “The Heart”

“Information” → “Application” → “Transformation”

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Applying the Bible - Explanation of the Tree Illustration:

Various references to vegetation can be found throughout the Bible.

The intent of the Tree Illustration is to show how application of the Bible can be seen in a diagram of a tree. There are two parts of the tree that can be seen (above the ground) and one part that normally cannot be seen (below the ground).

The top of the tree can be seen and it is our **heart**. Our heart is revealed to others when we react to adverse circumstances. Our heart is a reflection of who we really are. It is our “**being**”. It is where **transformation** takes place and fruit is produced.

Prov 27:19 As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man. (NIV)

Matt 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (NIV)

Matt 7:17 Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. (NIV)

The other part of the tree that can be seen is the trunk. The trunk is where the **mind** is and it is where **information** from the Bible resides. “**Knowing**” the Bible is an essential part of the tree and needed to produce good fruit.

Ps 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. (NIV)

Jer 15:16 When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God Almighty. (NIV)

The part of the tree that is not easy to see is the roots. The roots of the tree provide nourishment to the whole tree allowing it to grow and bear fruit in the heart. The root is where the **will** is and the place where **application** takes place. As a result, it is where “**doing**” resides.

Prov 2:1-5 My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.(NIV)

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