

Week 15—The Spirit Filled Life, Part 3 (Worship and Tithing)

Have you received the baptism of the Holy Spirit?
Some ways we worship:

The Spirit Filled Life (Part 3)

1. Worship:

- Hebrew = SHA CAH (shawkaw) - show reverence to; bow down in homage to
- Greek = PROSKUNEO (proskooneh o) - to kiss like a dog licking his master's hand
- To bow down, paying homage (kiss), out of respect, i.e. Psalm 95:6

2. Who is able to receive worship?

- Exodus 20:1-6; Matthew 4:10 (i.e. Revelation 19:10; 22:8)
- It is an abomination to worship anything else. 1 Samuel 15:23; Colossians 3:5; Ephesians 5:5; Romans 1:25; Deuteronomy 17:3; Matthew 6:4; Acts 10:25-26; Revelation 13:4-13

3. Christ was worshipped by:

- Angels - Hebrews 1:6
- Magi - Matthew 2:1-2, 11
- Men - John 9:30-38
- Women - Matthew 15:25
- Disciples - Matthew 28:17
- Heavenly Choir - Revelation 4:10-11

4. How do we worship?

- John 4:23-24; 1 Samuel 15:22
- Worship in Prayer; as the incense on the Levitical altars. Psalm 141:2; Revelation 5:8; Hebrews 13:15
- We worship in Songs of Praise. Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; James 5:13 (i.e. Psalm 150)
- We worship in our Daily Walk. 2 Corinthians 3:2-3
- We worship in Sacrifice, *Personal Sacrifice*.

Personal Sacrifice; Tithing

1. Giving to the Lord.

- How to give? 2 Corinthians 9:6-7
- Method of collection? 2 Kings 12:9
- Luke 21:1-4 - this tradition was carried into the New Testament (contrast the condition of the heart to the amount given).

2. How much to give?

- The First Fruits belong to the Lord. Proverbs 3:9; Exodus 22:29-30; Leviticus 27:32; Numbers 18:26
- The Lord's challenge: Malachi 3:7-10

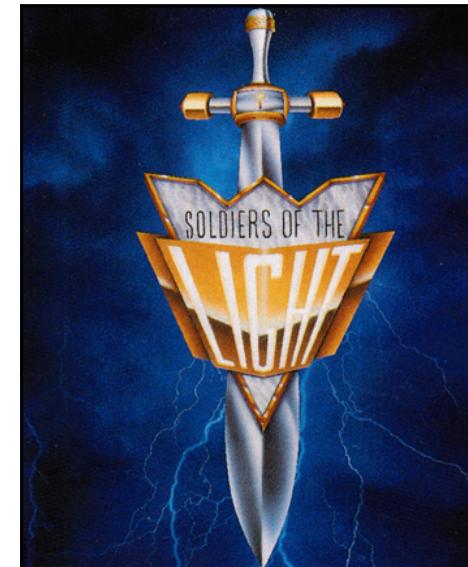
3. Purpose of giving:

- The needs of the congregation - 2 Kings 2:9; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2
- Minister's salary - Hebrews 7:5; Numbers 18:21-26; 1 Corinthians 9:7-14; 1 Timothy 5:17-18

Read aloud together: Psalm 150

New Believers/Foundation Bible Study

*"...the sword of the Spirit,
which is the word of God."
Ephesians 6:17*



*"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth
not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."
2 Timothy 2:15*

Repentance

Week 1—Repentance & Faith

To repent means to change your mind and attitude about sin, so that you turn from your sin, and you turn to God (Jesus Christ) for forgiveness and cleansing.

1. Who preached repentance?

- Matthew 3:1-2
- Matthew 4:17
- Mark 6:7-12
- Acts 2:38
- Acts 17:22-30

2. What are characteristics of true repentance?

- 2 Corinthians 7:9-10
- Luke 18:9-14
- 1 Thessalonians 1:9

3. Repentance is a change of 3 elements:

- Intellectual element - A change of mind. What we think.
- Emotional element - A change of heart. What we desire.
- Volitional element - A change of will. What we do.

4. It is to be our message to the unbeliever:

- Luke 24:44-48

Faith

1. How does the Bible define faith?

- Hebrews 11:1 - What is faith? It is the confident assurance that something we want is going to happen. It is the certainty that what we hope for is waiting for us, even though we cannot see up ahead.

2. Where does faith come from?

- Hebrews 12:1-2

3. How do we receive our faith?

- Romans 10:17

4. The importance of faith:

- We should live by it - 2 Corinthians 5:7
- We are saved by it - Ephesians 2:8-9
- It is our defense (shield) against the enemy - Ephesians 6:16
- It never gives up - Hebrews 11:7, 30. (i.e. Genesis 6:13-22; Joshua 6)
- It gives us victory over the world and its problems - 1 John 5:4

The principle element in repentance is a change of mind and attitude about Christ; a change from an unbelieving and rejecting attitude to a believing and accepting attitude. **True faith** in Christ involves the confession and forsaking of sin. **True repentance** and faith are inseparable. They are mutually dependent upon each other.

Application Question: How have I repented and trusted in Christ? (Isaiah 1:18)

Assignment: Read 1 John, memorize John 1:12-13, and pray for one another by name.

3. Basic points that should be covered:

- All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23
- The wages of sin is death. Romans 6:23
- God demonstrated His love to us by sending Jesus Christ to die. Romans 5:8
- We are saved by faith in Jesus Christ. Romans 10:9-10, 13
- Optional verses: Isaiah 59:1-2; John 3:3, 16; Acts 3:19-20; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-9

4. Tools for witnessing:

- A Bible - A pocket New Testament is sufficient.
- Tracts - “The Big Question” and the “Bridge to Life” are excellent.
- Memorize Scripture - Roman’s road is best. Romans 3:23; 5:8; 6:23 & 10:9-10

5. Remember:

- The Holy Spirit is the One who will speak through you. Matthew 10:18-20
- The Lord is the One who adds to the church daily. Acts 2:47; 1 Corinthians 3:6-8

Assignment: Read the book of Acts, memorize Acts 1:8, and pray for one another.

What does it mean to you, that you are part of the body of Christ?

The Spirit Filled Life (Part 2)

1. The promise of the coming of the Holy Spirit:

- It was prophesied in the Old Testament. Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:1-21
- It was promised by Jesus in the New Testament. John 14:16-17, 26; 15:26-27

2. In Acts 1:4-5, what did Jesus tell His disciples to wait for?

3. Turn to Acts 1:8

- The word “power” comes from the Greek word “dunamis” which also means “dynamite”. Where does the power (the ability) to witness for Christ come from?
- Before we were Christians, the Holy Spirit was with (para) us convicting us of sin, and drawing us to Christ. John 16:7-8
- When we became Christians, the Holy Spirit was in (en) us. John 14:16-17; 20:22; 1 Corinthians 3:16
- The third experience of the Holy Spirit is when He comes on or upon (epi) us, and overflows out of our life. John 7:37-39
- Flow (Greek) literally means to gush forth.
- Baptize (Greek - Baptizo) overflowed. We become a channel through which the Holy Spirit overflows to everyone around us. (Greek lit. = immersed, saturated)
- Look at these examples of the Spirit coming upon a believer:
 - Acts 10:44
 - Acts 19:6

4. When we are baptized with the Holy Spirit, what happens?

- We receive power to witness for Jesus, and to serve Him in whatever area He asks us to.
- We receive increased power to overcome sin.
- The Scripture comes alive to us.
- Our relationship with God is more alive and vital.
- We receive spiritual gifts when we pray to God and ask for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We receive it by faith (Luke 11:11-13; Galatians 3:2, 5, 13-14), just as we received Jesus Christ into our life by faith. At this time we will receive one or more spiritual gifts from God.

Sharing Your Faith

1. What must happen in our personal lives before we are ready to share our faith?

- 1 Peter 3:15

2. What does it mean to “sanctify” the Lord in our hearts?

Sin

How was your faith put into action this week?

1. What is sin?

- Isaiah 1:2
- Isaiah 53:6

2. Who sins?

- Romans 3:23

3. Where did sin come from?

- Isaiah 14:12-15 (Ezekiel 28:14-17)

4. Why do I sin?

- Adam’s decision in the Garden of Eden:
- God told Adam not to eat the fruit of the tree of Knowledge and of the tree of Good and Evil - Genesis 2:9, 16, 17
- Sin in the human race originated in Adam’s free decision to disobey God’s will - Genesis 3:1-6
- The effects of Adam’s decision on us today:
- Sin entered the world through one man, Adam - Romans 5:12
- Adam’s sin separated man from God - Genesis 3:22
- Adam’s sin resulted in both physical and spiritual death for man: Physical Death - separation of the soul from the body, Genesis 3:19; Spiritual Death - separation of the soul from God for eternity - Romans 6:23; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-10; Revelation 21:8
- Therefore I sin because I am a ...
- Does a believer sin? Contrast 1 John 1:8 to 1 John 3:9

Salvation

1. Definition of salvation

- Being saved from the penalty, power, and dominion of sin in our life, and from eternity apart from God.

2. What is God’s gift (grace) to us?

- John 3:16; Romans 6:23

3. How are you saved?

- Ephesians 2:8-9

4. What do we put our faith in for salvation?

- Romans 10:9, 10, 13

Forgiveness

1. Definition of forgiveness is an act of pardon.

- What does God want to do with your sin? 1 John 1:7-10; Psalm 103
- What must we be willing to do? Mark 11:25; Matthew 18:22-35
- How does God now see my sin? Isaiah 43:25; Jeremiah 31:34

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2. What is our response to God's gift (grace) of salvation to us?

- Ephesians 2:10

Salvation is a free gift from God. We have to **Recognize** our sin, **Receive** Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior, and **Rejoice** that God has given us eternal life in His Son.

Assignment: Read Romans 6 & 8, memorize Romans 6:18, and pray for one another.

In what way did you see the Holy Spirit at work in your life this week?

1 Corinthians 12:13 says every believer has been baptized into, or identified with, the body of Christ.

The Spirit Filled Life (Part 1)

1. The Holy Spirit places us into the body of Christ

- Whose body is it according to 1 Corinthians 12:27?
- Are all the members in a church body the same? 1 Corinthians 12:14, 17; Romans 12:4-5
- Who gives us our place in the body? 1 Corinthians 12:18; Ephesians 4:11-12
- Are we all needed in the body? 1 Corinthians 12:21-25; 1 Peter 4:10
- Do you need the other members of the body? 1 Corinthians 12:21-26
- Who is the Head of the body? Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 1:22

2. The Holy Spirit gives each person certain abilities - Turn to 1 Corinthians 12

- According to verses 4-6, does everyone have the same gifts?
- Is there anyone who does not have at least one gift according to verse 7?
- For whose benefit did God give these gifts?
- What are some examples of gifts in verses 8-10?
- Whose choice is it as to who receives which gifts? Verse 11
- According to verse 31, what can we pray for?
- What is the greatest gift according to Paul in verse 31? (See 1 Corinthians 13)
- Paul makes some very strong statements in 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 concerning the importance of love. In these verses, which is the most important: using our gifts or showing love?

Summary: When you became a Christian, you immediately became a child of God, and were placed into a new spiritual family; the family which is the body of Christ. Just as a human body functions best when each member does its job, so the body of Christ, the church, is healthiest when each member is growing spiritually and fulfilling its special role.

Assignment: Read Galatians, memorize Philippians 1:6, and pray for one another.

2. The doctrine of the Trinity is not explicit in the Old Testament, but it is implied:

- Genesis 1:26; 3:22; 11:7; Deuteronomy 6:4

3. It is explicit in the new Testament:

- Matthew 3:16-17; 1 Peter 1:2; Jude 20, 21; 1 John 5:7

4. The Bible teaches there is only one God:

- Deuteronomy 4:39; 2 Samuel 7:22; Isaiah 43:10

5. Even creation implies the doctrine of the Trinity:

- Space: Length, width, depth in 1 space
- Man: Body, soul, spirit in one man (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

In the Holy Trinity we have one God manifested (revealed) to us in 3 distinct persons, all having the same attributes, and all being called God. It is difficult to understand totally; we must accept it by faith.

- $1 \times 1 \times 1 = 1$
- Water = liquid, ice, steam
- Remember Deuteronomy 29:29

Assignment: Read John 14-17, and memorize John 14:18.

1. Definition

The Bible is God's revelation of Himself to man, His creation. The Bible forms one continuous story; the story of humanity in relation to God. From the beginning to the end, the Bible has one great theme; the Person and work of Jesus Christ. John 1:1, 14

2. Read Hebrews 1:1-3

- In these verses we see that God's Word is a progressive revelation.
- Sundry times
- Diverse manners
- Times past
- Unto the fathers by the prophets
- In these last days
- Unto us by/in His Son (The express image of His person)

3. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- What portion of Scripture is inspired by God?
- The word "inspired" in this verse means "God Breathed." It's as if God spoke it Himself. (See Genesis 2:7).
- What is God's Word profitable for?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.

4. Characteristics of the Word of God

- The Word of God: 1 Peter 1:23, 25
- The Word is: Hebrews 4:12
- My Word will: Luke 21:33
- The Gospel of Christ is: Romans 1:16

5. How do I know the Bible is reliable and without error?

- 2 Peter 1:19-21 assures us that God's Word is true and reliable. Note: There are over 300 prophecies in the Old Testament fulfilled during the life and ministry of Jesus. If we analyze the probability of one person fulfilling just eight, the probability would be 1 in 10 with 17 zeros after it! We can understand why Peter declares that the written word of prophecy is more sure.
- 2 Timothy 3:16 tells us that all Scripture finds its origin in God.
- Titus 1:2 tells us that God cannot lie. John 17:17
- What does this say about the reliability of God's Word?

Note: God's Word is the only thing HE puts above HIS name!!! Psalm 138:2

Assignment: Read Psalm 119:1-88, memorize Psalm 119:105, and pray for one another.

How important is God's Word to you?

Week 4—The Word of God, Part 2

1. An overview of the Bible:

- The Bible contains 66 books: 39 in the Old Testament, and 27 in the New Testament.
- The books are divided into chapters (1240AD by Hugo de Sancto Caro, *Hugo Cardinalis*), and verses (1445AD by rabbi Mordecai Nathan) for reference.
- The Old Testament was written in the Hebrew language. Collected by Ezra, in 536BC divided the scrolls into 1– Torah, 2– Nevi'im, 3– Ketuvim = TaNaKh. These divisions are mentioned by Jesus in Luke 24:27, 44.
- The New Testament was written in the Greek language. (Remember that our English Bible is a translation from these original languages.)
- Did God make a mistake? Why the need for a New Testament? What's wrong with the Old one? Read Hebrews 8:9-10.
 - The foundation of the Old covenant with Israel was man's obedience to it (verse 9).
 - The foundation of the New covenant is God's action on behalf of man. (Note the "I wills" in verse 10). It was enacted by the shed blood of Jesus Christ. (Luke 22:20).

2. How to study the Scriptures: 2 Tim. 2:15, Heb. 5:13-14, Deut. 29:29, Isa. 28:9-13

- Precept upon precept: a precept is an established fact of God's Word, i.e., "all have sinned"; "God is love"; "Jesus is risen".
- Line upon line: The systematic story line of Scripture that ties the established facts of God together.
- Here a little, there a little: The use of foundation facts of Scripture to understand other portions of Scripture.

Note: The New Testament is contained in the Old Testament, and the Old Testament is explained in the New Testament.

3. Because the Bible is inspired, we need the Holy Spirit to help us understand it:

- The man without the Spirit does not understand the things that come from God - 1 Corinthians 2:14
- The Holy Spirit (Greek - Parakletos - One called along side to help) will teach us and help us to remember - John 14:26; 1 John 2:27

4. The chart on page 8 outlines the "Inductive Bible Study" method.

5. Basic divisions of Scripture:

- Old Testament: Historical preparation for the Messiah
 - 5 books by Moses - Beginning history/law
 - Joshua/Esther - Messiah preparation history
 - Job - Song of Solomon -Poetic & wisdom
 - Isaiah to Daniel - Major prophets
 - Hosea to Malachi - Minor Prophets

Week 12—The Holy Spirit

What blessing did you receive as a result of fellowship this week?

The Holy Spirit - His Deity & Person

1. The Holy Spirit is a person: In Greek, personal pronouns are used - He, Him, etc.

- Greek (parakletos) - "One called alongside to help," Helper, Comforter, Counselor.
- In John 14:16, who is the "He" referring to?

2. He does things only a person can do:

- He teaches and helps us to remember. John 14:26
- He calls men to service (He speaks). Acts 13:2
- He convicts us of sin. John 16:8
- He leads. Romans 8:13-14

3. Being a person, He can be affected by our actions or attitudes:

- We can lie to Him. Acts 5:1-3
- We can grieve Him. Ephesians 4:30
- We can quench Him. 1 Thessalonians 5:19
- We can insult Him. Hebrews 10:29

4. The Holy Spirit possesses all of the attributes of God:

- Omnipresent - Psalm 139:7-10
- Omnipotent - Luke 1:35
- Omniscient - John 14:26; 16:12-13
- Eternal - Hebrews 9:14
- Holy - Romans 1:4
- Creator - Job 33:4; Psalm 104:30

5. He is distinct from the Father and Son:

- Matthew 28:19
- Luke 3:21-22

6. When we are saved:

- He regenerates us (makes us spiritually alive). John 3:3-8; Titus 3:4-7
- He indwells us. 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19
- He brings satisfaction for our needs. John 4:13-14; 7:37-39
- He is the seal of our salvation (Security of Ownership). Ephesians 1:13-14

The Holy Spirit is recognized as God in Acts 5:3-4. He is active upon man convicting him of sin, and guiding the believer into all truth. John 16:7-11

Summary of the Trinity

1. Genesis 1:1 - The word for God in Hebrew is Elohim.

- Singular word for God - El; dual tense - Elah; 3 or more - Elohim (uniplural noun).

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Week 11—Fellowship

What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus?

1. Definition:

- **Fellowship** - Sharing something with another person in a deep way. Friendly relation and companionship. An association of people with similar interests and tastes.

2. The distinction between the saved and the lost: 1 Peter 2:9-11

- What names does the Lord call us in 1 Peter 2:9?
- Have we always been His people according to 1 Peter 2:10?
- How are we described in this present world in 1 Peter 2:11?
- What should be our response to 1 Peter 2:9?

3. With whom do we fellowship?

- 2 Corinthians 13:14
- 1 John 1:3
- 1 John 1:7

4. What is our motivation to fellowship?

- Romans 8:35-39
- 1 John 2:3-6
- Hebrews 10:25

5. What activities did the early believers share in?

- Acts 2:42
- Colossians 3:15-16

6. The key issue of fellowship is love.

- John 13:34-35
- 1 John 3:18
- Galatians 6:10

7. What do we do when we fellowship?

- Hebrews 10:25
- James 5:16
- Hebrews 10:24
- 1 Corinthians 11:24-26
- 2 Corinthians 8:4; Romans 15:25
- Romans 12:13; Acts 11:29
- Romans 15:1-2
- 1 Peter 2:2-3
- Matthew 18:19-20
- Colossians 3:16

8. Is fellowship optional for Christians?

- Hebrews 10:25
- What are the dangers of not fellowshiping with other Christians regularly?

Assignment: Read the book of Philippians, memorize Hebrews 10:25, and pray for one another.

- New Testament: Manifestation - Consummation of Christ
 - The Gospels: The life & works of Christ
 - Acts: The further works of Christ through the Apostles
 - The Epistles: Church doctrine
 - Revelation: Jesus' rule established

6. Basic themes of Scripture:

- God - Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 1:1; Psalm 103
- Man/Creation - Genesis 2:7
- Sin - 1 John 2:15-17; Romans 3:23
- Jesus - John 5:39; Luke 24:7, 44, 45
- Redemption - Romans 3:24; 10:8-13
- Salvation - Romans 1:16; 10:8-13
- Satan/spirit world - Genesis 3:1; 2 Corinthians 4:4
- Prophecy - 2nd coming of Jesus - Revelation 3:11
- Man - Beginning and final end - John 3:17-19

7. Basic types of Scripture:

- Historical: narrative that lays foundation for future things, i.e., Genesis/Gospels
- Poetical: song-like, worshipful or proverb-like. Psalms
- Prophetical: the Word describing future events, i.e., Isaiah, Revelation, portions of the Gospels
- Instructional: practical application of Scripture, i.e., Romans, Deuteronomy, Corinthians, Proverbs

Assignment: Read Psalm 119:89-176, memorize Psalm 119:18, and pray for one another.

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Observation	Interpretation	Application
<p><u>Narrative Form</u> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Who? What? When? Where? How? Why?... narratives retell the event. Find the relationship between characters. Feel the emotions. Place yourself in the shoes of the character. What do you see? feel? think? <p><u>Epistles Form</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline the development of ideas in the passages. Note repeated words. Look For: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparisons Contrasts Transition words: therefore, in order that, because, for, since. <p><u>Prophetic Form</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hebrew poets used parallelism, one idea said two different ways. A proverb is a type of statement where human behavior is compared to something in nature. (ex. Proverbs 5:3) A parable is an art form Jesus used to deliberately hide the truth from those who did not want to hear. (Matthew 13:10-13) Prophetic revelation tells divinely inspired revelations of future and present events. 	<p>What did the passage mean to the people who originally heard it?</p> <p>1) What does the author:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mean to make him write this way? see to make him write this way? feel to make him write this way? think to make him write this way? <p>2) What would it mean to the people who heard it in Biblical time and culture?</p> <p>There are some good tools that are good for instructional and exhortive forms.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What is the reason for the idea? Why did the author use it? Could he have used another word? What does the idea mean? What is the relationship of this idea to the events following ideas? Context is most important. 	<p>1. Appeal to the Holy Spirit for teaching - 1 Corinthians 2:9-16</p> <p>2. Apply main point to your life, like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there an example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I/we should follow? sin I/we should forsake? error I/we should avoid? promise I/we should claim? command I/we should obey? action I/we should take? <p>3. So what?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do I plan to do about it? What difference will this make in my life? What specific plans can I make?

How did 1 John 4:4 minister to you this week?

1. Definition of Lordship:

- 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 - the Lordship of Jesus Christ is the daily submission and surrender of our entire self to the authority and leadership of Jesus, recognizing His sovereign right to rule over us. Colossians 1:18

2. What is Jesus' plan for His disciples?

- Luke 9:23 states the heart of discipleship. 1 Peter 5:3
 - Deny yourself** - Putting the Lord and others first; refusing to live my life to please myself.
 - Take up your cross daily** - Submitting our will to the will of God. Luke 22:42
 - Follow Me** - Following Jesus, and no one or nothing else. Matthew 4:19; 1 Peter 2:21; Revelation 2:4-5
- The whole principle of Lordship is the removal of self off of the throne of one's life, and the invitation to Jesus to sit on the throne and rule, trusting Him to do what is best for us.
- The battle of submission: 2 reasons why people do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord of their life:
 - We're afraid God may ask us to do something we don't want to do.
 - We are not sure that God has our best interest at heart. Jeremiah 29:11

3. How do I know if Christ is Lord of my life?

- We show our love for Jesus by obeying His commands. John 14:15, 21, 23; 1 John 3:23
- We must read the Word of God, see what God's will is for our lives, and then we must do it. James 1:22-25

4. What is the blessing of putting Christ first in my life?

- 1 Peter 3:15-16
- Romans 12:1-2
- Romans 6:22

The Lordship of Jesus Christ is the most crucial issue of any Christian's life. We are all aware of those around us who are reaping in their lives the by-products of their lack of obedience. Jesus has our best interests at heart. We must give Him our entire life, and we must live only for Him daily. Only then will we experience the full life that He has promised us. As we continually confess Jesus Christ as Lord of our lives, we are assured of true faith living in our hearts. Romans 10:9-10

Note: Psalm 37:3-7

Assignment: Read Romans 7 and 8, memorize Matthew 16:24, and pray for one another.

- o **The Helmet of Salvation** - It refers to the intake of the Word which will help protect our thoughts from doubt and the world, the flesh, and the devil. It will make us secure in our relationship with the Lord.
- o **The Sword which is the Word of God** - It is the only offensive weapon. When attacked, respond with the Word.

3. Realize it is not a physical battle; it is spiritual - Ephesians 6:12.

- Read 2 Corinthians 10:4-5. What can spiritual weapons accomplish?

4. Pray always.

- It is God's will that we pray continually (1 Thessalonians 5:17) - Ephesians 6:18.

5. How did Jesus respond to Satan's attack?

Read Matthew 4:1-11

- What was Jesus' physical condition?
- What did Jesus respond with to Satan's 3 offers? Matthew 4:4, 7, 10
- What is the only offensive weapon we have in the spiritual armor? See Ephesians 6.
- What does this tell us about handling temptation or trials of any kind?
- What is the promise of 1 John 4:4?

Note: James 4:7 - *"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."*

Assignment: Read Matthew 4:1-11 and Jude, memorize Ephesians 6:12, and pray for one another.

Why should we always be thankful for God's Word? Could it change your life?

1. The Existence of God

- The Bible does not seek to prove the existence of God. The fact that there is a God is assumed throughout the Scriptures. The first verse of the Bible, Genesis 1:1, is an example. *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."* God's existence is presented as a statement of fact that needs no proof. The man who says there is no God is called a fool in Psalms 14:1.
- However, even apart from the Bible, there are certain evidences for the existence of God.
 - o Mankind has always believed in a universal being.
 - o Creation must have a Creator. The universe could not originate without a first cause.
 - o The wonderful design which we see in creation demands an infinite Designer.
 - o Since man is an intelligent being, the Creator must have been of a much higher order in order to create him.

2. The Nature of God

God is Spirit - He is invisible.

- John 1:18
- John 4:24

God is a person - Personal names are used in reference to Him.

- Exodus 3:14
- Exodus 6:3

3. The Attributes (Characteristics) of God

- Omnipresent (present everywhere) - Jeremiah 23:23-24
- Omnipotent (all powerful) - Jeremiah 32:17, 27
- Omniscient (all knowing) - Job 34:21
- Eternal (everlasting) - Deuteronomy 33:27
- Holy (free from all defilement; absolutely pure) - Isaiah 6:3
- Righteous or just (always does what is right) - Psalm 145:17
- Merciful (doesn't give us what we deserve) - Deuteronomy 4:31
- Immutable (He doesn't change) - Malachi 3:6
- Truthful (cannot lie) - Titus 1:1-2
- Awesome (inspiring awe, which is reverent wonder tinged with fear) - Deuteronomy 7:21
- Personal characteristics are ascribed to Him:
 - o Knowledge - Isaiah 55:8-11
 - o Emotions - Genesis 6:6

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- o Will - Joshua 3:9-10

4. The Love of God

- What is the very essence of His nature?
 - o 1 John 4:7, 8, 16
- Whom does God love?
 - o God loves His Son - Matthew 3:17
 - o God loves the world - John 3:16
- How did God demonstrate His love for us?
 - o Romans 5:8
- How do I experience God's love each day?
 - o Romans 5:5

5. The Father is God

- The Father holds the place of authority within the Godhead. He is not more important than the Son or the Holy Spirit, but authorizes their ministries (John 6:38; 14:16).

Note: God revealed Himself to Moses as... Exodus 34:5-7

Assignment: Read John 8, memorize 1 John 1:3, and pray for one another by name.

What keeps our prayers from being answered?

Satan

1. His names give us insight into his evil character:

- Satan - (Greek) Satanas (adversary or opponent) most common name used 52 times - Revelation 12:9
- The devil (slanderer) 35 times - Revelation 12:9
- A liar and murderer - John 8:44
- The god of this age - 2 Corinthians 4:4
- An angel of light - 2 Corinthians 11:14-15
- Ruler of the kingdom of the air - Ephesians 2:2
- The tempter - 1 Thessalonians 3:5
- Apollyon (destroyer) - Revelation 9:11
- The accuser of our brothers - Revelation 12:10; Job 1, 2

2. The origin of Satan:

- Exodus 28:14-17
- Isaiah 14:12-15

3. How does Satan operate?

- As a schemer - Ephesians 6:11
- As a lion - 1 Peter 5:8-9
- As a liar - John 8:44
- As a deceiver - Genesis 3:13; Revelation 20:10

Spiritual Warfare - Ephesians 6:10-18

How do we stand strong against Satan's schemes, lies, and attacks?

1. Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might; not by ourselves.

- Ephesians 6:10

2. Put on the full armor, not part of it, or there will be a weak spot for Satan to attack.

- Ephesians 6:11, 13
 - o **The Belt of Truth** - Truth overcomes deceit and lies, and is the key to every area of the Christian life.
 - o **The Breastplate of Righteousness** - This speaks of right acts as practiced by the believer. The breastplate was to protect the heart of the soldier.
 - o **The Sandals of the Gospels** - The sandals speak of mobility and preparedness. We are to be ready to use God's Word in spiritual battle (1 Peter 3:15).
 - o **The Shield of Faith** - (Above all, take this up) - the shield of faith protects us from the attacks (those fiery darts) of Satan (such as temptations, impure thoughts, etc.).

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- Ephesians 3:20
- John 15:5

8. How should we pray?

- Romans 8:26
- 1 John 5:14
- Matthew 5:6
- Jude 20
- 1 Corinthians 14:15

9. Hindrances to prayer:

- Isaiah 59:2
- 1 Peter 3:7
- James 1:6-8
- Luke 18:9-14

Assignment: Read Ephesians 1:15-23 and 3:14-21, memorize James 5:16, and pray for one another.

Week 6—Jesus the Son

Are you able to call your Heavenly Father Papa/Daddy? See Romans 8:15.

Jesus the Son

1. Jesus possesses all of the attributes of God.

- Omnipresent - Matthew 28:18-20
- Omnipotent - Matthew 28:18
- Omniscient - John 16:30
- Eternal - John 1:1-2
- Holy - Acts 3:14
- Creator - Colossians 1:16-17
- Immutable - Hebrews 13:8 (Malachi 3:6)

2. Jesus is called God in the New Testament

- John 10:29-33; 10:28
- Who is called God in Hebrews 1:8?

3. The uniqueness of Jesus (Webster's definition of unique: "being the only one")

- Unique in His virgin birth:
- Prophesied in Isaiah 7:14
- Fulfilled in Matthew 1:18-25
- Unique in His sinless life - Hebrews 4:14-16
- Unique in His death:
- Why did He die? - 1 Peter 3:18
- He was separated from the Father for the first time - Matthew 27:46
- Unique in His resurrection from the dead (cannot be disproved)
- It is recorded in the Bible - Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20, 21
- Witnessed by over 500 people - 1 Corinthians 15:1-8
- Because of His power over death and sin, we too, have spiritual power in our lives. 1 Corinthians 15:12-14, 56; Romans 5:10
- The Christian faith rests on His resurrection - 1 Corinthians 15:17

4. Christ desires to live His life through His children - Galatians 2:20

- What do I receive in exchange for my life before Christ?
- How do I allow Christ to live through me? (Romans 6)

5. The only life that pleased the Father was that of His Son:

- Luke 9:35 - The only way to the Father is through Jesus. John 14:6
- John 14:6 - There is only one life that pleased the Father - Jesus'. Acts 4:12

Assignment: Read John 1, memorize John 3:16, and pray for one another.

Can you say that you know Jesus the Son of God better?

Assurance

Assurance (certainty) of salvation is based on the authority of God’s Word. There are many evidences we can look at so that we can know we are saved and have eternal life.

1. God promises eternal life in His Word.

- According to John 1:12, what is the promise associated with receiving Jesus?
- John 3:16 states that whoever believes in Christ has...
- John 5:24 says that the one who believes in God will not...
- In John 10:27-29 we learn that we will never...

2. The Holy Spirit gives us assurance of our salvation.

- According to Romans 8:16-17, what does the Holy Spirit bear witness of in our lives?
- Who is the guarantee of our future life according to Ephesians 1:13-14?

3. Turn to the book of 1 John.

What is the purpose of John’s letter?

- 1 John 5:13

John uses the phrase “we know” (assurance) throughout his letter to help these believers come to a place of assurance about their salvation.

- According to 1 John 2:3-5, how do we know for sure that we “know Him”?
- In 1 John 2:23, what is the action here that rules out the assurance of salvation?
- What is the basis of assurance in 1 John 3:14-15?
- In 1 John 4:13, what has God given to His children to bring us assurance of salvation?

4. Read Philippians 2:12-13.

Verse 12 states that the Christian life is a life of obedience, but what power is available to live the Christian life according to verse 13? (Hebrews 12:6-8)

- Philippians 2:12-13

God wants you and I to know that we have eternal life (1 John 5:11-13). It is not His will that we live our life on a daily basis wondering if we are saved. If you doubt your salvation, remember that our salvation rests only on God’s finished work for us. Even if our hearts at times forget that, it is still true. (1 John 3:19-20). Pray and ask God to remind you of His faithfulness to keep His promises.

Matthew 7:16 - “*Ye shall know them by their fruits...*”

Note: If you can lose it, then it wasn’t *eternal* life!!!

Assignment: Read 1 John, memorize Philippians 2:12-13, and pray for one another.

Are you certain of eternal life? Have you accepted God's faithfulness to you?

Everyone engages in prayer at one time or another. Even that person who says, “I don’t believe in God,” cries out when the crisis looms, “Oh God, help me!” We are all acquainted with prayer to some extent or another. Prayer is one of the greatest privileges God has given man. We can come into the presence of God, the Creator of this universe, and talk with Him. And what’s more, He always listens!

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Prayer

1. What is Prayer?

2. Who should pray?

- Psalm 32:6
- Matthew 27:50-51; Hebrews 4:14-16

3. To whom should we pray?

- Matthew 6:6, 9

4. What should we pray for, and about?

- Philippians 4:6
- Matthew 6:10
- Matthew 9:38
- 2 Thessalonians 3:1
- James 5:13-16
- Ephesians 3:14-19

5. Where should we pray?

- 1 Corinthians 1:2
- Luke 19:46
- Matthew 6:6

6. When should we pray?

- Luke 18:1
- 1 Thessalonians 3:10
- Psalm 61:2

7. Why pray?

- Luke 22:40
- Ephesians 6:10-12

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