



A SCRIPTURAL BLUEPRINT
FOR
BUILDING A CHRISTIAN HOME

HERITAGE HOME

Mary Dates

A SCRIPTURAL BLUEPRINT
FOR
BUILDING A CHRISTIAN HOME



Mary Oates



*I want a heritage home
Where Christ is king,
A home where joy is there,
And love reigns supreme.
A home where children are blest
And Father and Mother rest,
In the Word of God,
In the faith of God,
Whose name is love.*

*I want a heritage home
Like His above.
A home where people may share
His blessed Son and His word.
A home where others may bask
And freely may ask
Of His love for them,
Of His life in them,
Whose name is love.*

Mary Oates

Notes

Unless otherwise indicated all Scripture quotations are from the King James Version of the Bible.

MUSIC

- Baker, Richard, *The Carpenter*, Crescendo Music Publishing Co., Dallas Texas.
Cathy, Sam, *We Two Shall Be One*, John Benson Company, © 1978.
Crosby Fanny J., *Blessed Assurance*, Convention Press, Nashville, Tennessee
Baptist Hymnal, 1975, p. 334
Dungan, Olive, *Lord Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace*, Hymns of the Family of God, Paragon Associates, Nashville, Tennessee,
© 1949, John Church Company
McKinney, B.B., *I Am Satisfied With Jesus*, Broadman Press, © 1926
Milhuff, Chuck, *The Brush*, Ben Speer Music, © 1975

BOOKS

- Eyre, Richard and Linda, *Teaching Your Children Values*, © 1993, Simon and Schuster
(Janet Thomas).
Gothard, Bill, *Institute of Basic Youth Conflicts*, Oak Brook, Illinois, © 1972.
Kramer, Ann, *Intercessors for a Righteous Nation, Scripture Prayers for Children*,
(Amplified Bible Used).
LaHaye, Tim and Beverly, *The Act of Marriage*, Grand Rapids, Michigan, The
Zondervan Corporation, ©1979.
Marshall, Catherine, *Something More*, McGraw Hill Publishing Company, © 1974.
Nee, Watchman, *Song of Songs*, Christian Literature Crusade, © 1965.
Smalley, Gary and Trent, John, PhD, *The Gift of the Blessing*, © 1993
Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville, Tennessee
Smith, Bob, *Dying to Live*, Word Books, Waco Texas, © 1976.

POEMS:

- Haynes, Bonnie, *Discovering Daily*
Lamphron, Janey O., *Mary*
Lamphron, Janey O., *Sin*
Lamphron, Janey O., *True Love*
Lynch, Carole O., *The Grape*
Life Action Ministries, *I Promise to Yield*
Legend of the Sand Dollar, Author Unknown
Three Monkeys, Author Unknown
Wit's End Corner, Author Unknown
Hold High the Torch, Author Unknown

PRAYER:

- Marshall, Catherine, *Something More*, McGraw-Hill Publishing Company, © 1974

QUOTATIONS:

- Arthur S. DeMoss Foundation, *The Rebirth of America*, © 1986
Arthur, Kay, Precept Ministries, Chattanooga, Tennessee
Eyre, Richard and Linda, *Teaching Your Children Values*, © 1993, Simon and Shuster
Institute of Basic Youth Conflicts, Oak Brook Illinois, © 1972, 1976
Kramer, Ann, *Intercessors for a Righteous Nation*, Cookeville, Tennessee
LaHaye, Tim and Beverly, *The Act of Marriage*, Grand Rapids Michigan,
The Zondervan Corporation, © 1979 (Drawings Original)
Nee, Watchman, *Song of Songs*, Christian Literature Crusade, © 1965
Rogers, Dr. Adrian, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee
Smalley, Gary and Trent, John, PhD., *The Gift of the Blessing*, © 1993,
Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville, Tennessee
Smith, Bob, *Dying to Live*, Word Publishing, Waco, Texas, © 1976.
Taylor, Jack, *Eight Steps to Utilize the Power of Praise*, Fullness Magazine,
September - October, 1983, Ras Robinson, Editor
Poem - Young, Helen, *Children Won't Wait*, Brownlow Publishing, Fort Worth, Texas

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Building Blocks of Forgiveness*, Author Unknown
The Bee drawing for the Hallway of Happiness, Author Unknown
Drawing, "The Carpenter", Author Unknown

Heritage Home © Mary Oates
Copyright © 1984, 1998, 2005

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data: Tx 166 - 494
Printed in the United States of America
Proforma Print Media & Promotions Group

Dedication

In loving memory of Sherman Oates, my husband of 59 years (1926-2004), my beloved, my friend, whose invaluable support and participation in this ministry can only be measured in eternity.



Psalm 112:1-9

- 1 Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man who feareth the LORD, who delighteth greatly in His commandments.*
- 2 His seed shall be mighty upon earth; the generation of the upright shall be blessed.*
- 3 Wealth and riches shall be in his house; and his righteousness endureth forever.*
- 4 Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness; he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.*
- 5 A good man showeth favor, and lendeth; he will guide his affairs with discretion.*
- 6 Surely he shall not be moved forever; the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.*
- 7 He shall not be afraid of evil tidings; his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD.*
- 8 His heart is established; he shall not be afraid, until he sees his desire upon his enemies.*
- 9 He hath distributed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth forever; his horn shall be exalted with honor."*

The Author



Mary is a homemaker, mother, and Bible teacher. As a student of the Bible, Mary was deeply impressed by a call of the Lord to:

"Teach the young women to be sober-minded, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good and obedient to their own husbands THAT the word of God be not blasphemed." Titus 2:4-5

This call and commission from the Lord so touched her heart that she began the Heritage Home Ministry. Over the years Mary has spoken to ladies' groups throughout the South. She has held seminars at *Bellevue Baptist Church*, Memphis, Tennessee, *Kirby Wood Baptist Church*, Memphis, Tennessee, *First Baptist Church*, Atlanta, Georgia, and *Gardendale Baptist Church*, Birmingham, Alabama, and over sixty others.

Using an ordinary set of house plans, and applying spiritual principles to every room of the home, she helps you see the blueprint of a home God designed. Her objective is to implant a vision of this home in your heart, help you to understand God's design, and challenge you to go home with the tools to start building a Heritage Home that will be to the praise of God's glory.

Mary's presentation of Heritage Home is a timely message to equip women in the spiritual warfare they are experiencing against their homes.

Foreward

"The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage." Psalms 16:6

Carole and I were blessed by our Christian parents, Mary and Sherman Oates, who nurtured us in a Heritage Home. They believed the Bible and by God's grace, applied His principles to the way they lived their lives and guided ours. In our home we knew that we were treasured and secure. Our childhood was rather idyllic with a stay-at-home mom who was a loving wife, a compassionate mother, and a great cook! She has always possessed a servant spirit and a cheerful heart. As Carole and I parented our own children, we have often wondered how Mama made all that hard work look like so much fun.

It would seem that our wonderful mother must have had an equally marvelous mother to teach her such skills. The incredible fact is that Mama came from a single parent home. When she was only two years old, her parents divorced. She and her five older brothers and sisters were raised by their hard-working and devoted Godly father, Dr. F.B. Long. Although immersed in a busy practice as a country doctor, he became both mother and father to his children. She cherished her relationship with both her dad, her family, and with her Heavenly Father. Through the years God taught her the principles that enabled her to build a Christian home with her husband. These are the truths upon which she has based her life and explains in this workbook.

After God entrusted the ministry of Heritage Home to our mother in 1980, she began to study and teach others these truths. Thousands of women have participated in Heritage Home weekend seminars conducted by Mother and her dedicated team of ladies in over seventy churches. Through countless letters and testimonies, she has heard how lives and homes have been transformed when these truths have been applied. Your own home can be changed, also.

Forward

Perhaps you believe that you are denied the joy of a Godly home because your own family tree has been broken through the storms of divorce, generational sin, parental neglect, an unsaved spouse, or your own unrighteousness. There is Good News for you! Acts 2:39 "For the promise is unto you and to your children and to all that are afar off even as many as the Lord our God shall call." When you accept Jesus Christ as your Chief Cornerstone, He allows you to build a home that will glorify Him. Your past is canceled, and He begins the reconstruction process.

Our mother wrote this study to provide a practical guide to teach and prepare you to build a spiritual home. It is her prayerful desire that you will avoid the many problems so common in today's families when you apply these truths to your own life. We have often heard our mother say, "God's ways work." My sister and I, along with our four daughters, have participated in several of the Heritage Home seminars. We have learned these truths as you will in the weeks ahead. We highly recommend this study because we have seen what can happen when Christians live by God's principles. These scriptural "blueprints" guided our parents in our childhood home, and we continue to follow them today in the homes we established as adults. We know you will find the remodeling tools you need in the weeks ahead as you study, apply, and watch what God will do as He transforms you and your home.

Joyfully,

Janey Oates Lamphron

Carole Oates Lynch

Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	8
INTRODUCTION	9-11
"THE CARPENTER"	13
BLUEPRINT SHEET	14
INSTRUCTIONS	15
LESSON 1, PRAYER	
PART 1, PRAYER FOR THE NATIONS (Week 1)	16
PART 2, HOUSE OF PRAYER (Week 1)	25
LESSON 2, PORCH OF PRAISE (Week 2)	46
LESSON 3, LAW OF GENERATIONS (Week 3)	66
LESSON 4, HALLWAY OF HAPPINESS (Week 4)	80
LESSON 5, BEDROOM OF BLESSING (Week 5)	100
LESSON 6, SYMPHONY OF SONG and BATHROOM OF BEAUTY	
SYMPHONY OF SONG (Week 6)	116
BATHROOM OF BEAUTY (Week 6)	126
LESSON 7, CHILDREN OF CHARACTER	
PART 1, (Week 7)	132
PART 2, (Week 7)	152
LESSON 8, FIREPLACE OF FAITH and DEN OF DELIGHT (Week 8)	164
LESSON 9, KITCHEN OF KINDNESS (Week 9)	178
LESSON 10, LIBRARY OF LUCRE (Week 10)	190
LESSON 11, ROOF OF RELINQUISHMENT (Week 11)	202
LESSON 12, WAITING ROOM (Week 12)	216
BONUS LESSON, PSALMS 23	226 232

Acknowledgments

My gratitude to God for His grace,
To Jesus Christ for opening doors of opportunity to spread His gospel,
For the goodly heritage and family He has given to me,
For Sherman, my husband, to whom this work of the Lord is dedicated.

For our daughters, Carole and Janey, and their husbands, Larry and Jim. Thank you for giving to us our greatest joy as we hear and see you walking in truth and passing the torch of a Godly home to your children, our grandchildren: Melissa, Virginia, Rebecca, Audrey, and Luke, and to our great-grandchildren: Abigail, Samuel, Simon, Lucas, Emma, Thomas, and Kaylee.

As Paul in Romans 16 lists his helpers, fellow workers, beloved in the Lord, I want to express my heartfelt love and gratitude to you, my Heritage Home Helpers, my fellow workers, my beloved in the Lord.

Psalm 68:11 AMP. *"The Lord gave the word (of power); the women who bear and publish (the news) are a great host."*

Elaine Stockdale, Cindy Butler, Betsy Hansen, Susan Marshall, Mary Trammel, Barbara Hatfield, Barbara Curlee, Carole Lynch, Jeanie Thornton, Anita Wilkes, Becky Stewart, Sandra Hardin, Carol Pinkston, Nancy Roser, Alandra Parks, Dorothy Taylor and Jackie Calvert.

To Paul and Diane Stacy, whose ability in composition and computer skills made it possible for these principles to be compiled into a Heritage Home workbook. Job 19:23 AMP. *"Oh, that my words I now speak were written, oh that they were inscribed in a book - carved on a tablet of stone! That with an iron pen and (molten) lead they were graven in the rock for ever!"*

To Barbara Curlee for her creativity in supplying the art work.

To Dorothy Taylor for time spent in editing the workbook.

To our pastors Dr. Tommy Vinson and Dr. Randy Bostick for the encouragement, support, and blessing they have been to all of us.

Introduction

The Heritage Home seminar and workbook is for everyone. Women of all ages who are single, engaged, married, or divorced can reap the benefits of studying the principles taught in this scriptural blueprint.

It is my belief that the Bible presents a perfect pattern for establishing a home that God designed. It is my desire that this study will become a tool that Jesus uses to establish principles and priorities in your life. May He implant a vision of a "Heaven on Earth home in your heart". (Deuteronomy 11:21) I know that Jesus Christ is still a carpenter who is still building homes. He is a Master Builder, a repairer, a restorer, and a reconstruction expert. There are times when He must lift a house off its foundations before He can build the home He has designed because the only sure foundation is Jesus Christ, our Lord. Although our physical homes are expensive, our spiritual homes can be even more costly because we must commit our very lives to our Creator and His creation.

My husband and I built our first home after ten years of marriage. We had lived in eighteen different homes in thirteen cities. When we found a beautiful lot in Corinth, Mississippi, we knew we were finally going to put down roots. I distinctly remember when I first held the blueprints for our first custom built home. I was ecstatic! I took these plans everywhere unfurling my scroll to show my friends the house plans. We did not know it then, but our two young daughters would grow up in this home we were going to build. Those daughters became brides, then mothers, and our grandchildren blessed that home with their laughter.

Several years after our daughters grew up and left home, God awakened me one night to give me another blueprint. I could clearly understand that these were instructions for creating a spiritual home. Once again God wanted me to unfurl His scroll to show other women the plans for a home that only He could build. He called me, commissioned me, and confirmed my mission with this verse:

"The aged women likewise that they be in behavior as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things, that they may teach the young women to love their husband, to love their children, to be sober minded, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands that the Word of God be not blasphemed." Titus 2:3-5

Jesus always spoke to the multitudes in parables using object lessons to make the truths clearer to His listeners. He applied spiritual truths to physical things. Referring to the back cover of the workbook, you can see scriptural truths applied to the rooms of a physical blueprint of a house.

Isaiah 58:12 promises, *"And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations, and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, the restorer of paths to dwell in."* May the promise of God's Word, which is His will, be fulfilled in your life, and in your home, to the praise of His glory.

Although I originally wanted to share these principles in a one-hour presentation, God once again showed me through study that I was to enlarge the basic truths He had shown me. My friend Betsy and I began a twelve week study in her home with an average of fifty women attending. We prayed with the women and prayer groups were formed. God began to show us songs that complimented every room in the house and praise accompanied the sessions. God led us to claim 2 Corinthians 4 as a prayer for the ministry of Heritage Home.

Many years have passed since I was given the gift of the house plan and the truths it represented. The core group of fourteen women in the ministry expanded to include many others who have served as musicians or prayer leaders. Ladies in over seventy different churches have heard these scriptural principles for building a Heritage Home in weekend seminars we conducted.

Introduction

My beloved husband, Sherman, was completely supportive of this ministry. He designed a logo, and built a backdrop of a house for the stage, transporting it and all my props to the many churches where we held seminars. He encouraged me, prayed for all of us, and was an integral part of the ministry from the start. In 1998 there were no seminars because this was the time that God chose for me to write this workbook, fulfilling His promises of Job 19:23 and Psalm 68:11,12.

Mary Oates' Personal Testimony

One Sunday morning when I was nine years old, I sat in a Baptist church in Starkville, Mississippi. I suddenly heard the preacher say something that made me very angry. He stated, "Anyone who divorces and remarries will go to hell."

I stormed to the front of the church, faced the preacher, stomped my foot, and stuck out my tongue. I ran from the church straight home into the arms of my daddy. Since my parents had divorced when I was two years old, he had been both father and mother to me and my five brothers and sisters. My father and I were devoted to each other, and I knew he was not going to hell. After I poured out my heart to him, Daddy didn't condemn the preacher, but he did console his child.

I told him that I was never going to church again. He said, "Honey, you don't have to go to that church, but you will be attending Sunday School and church. I believe the Methodist church across the street will be just fine." The next Sunday I began to attend the Methodist church as he suggested.

Five years later in June of 1939, my sister and I went to a tent revival meeting held on the grounds of the courthouse. I remember that the sermon topic concerned hell. As the pastor described that terrible place, I came under heavy conviction of my sin. On the way home that night, I fell to my knees, begging Jesus to forgive me of my sins and come into my heart to save me. Immediately His peace began to flood my spirit, and a joy I had never experienced entered my heart. After my sister and I told my father what had happened, he explained that I had been reborn by the Spirit of God. He told me that I would want to share my experience with the church on Sunday. I went forward and was accepted into the church. Life flowed fresh and free as I began to serve God and find fellowship in that congregation.

During my college years in Columbus, Mississippi, I met Sherman. I fell head over heels in love with him, and we were married six weeks later. He was the best moral man I had ever known, but after we were married I discovered that he was not a Christian. I had not been taught about being unequally yoked so I believe that God winked at my ignorance. (Acts 17:30) He knew that one day my husband would be saved.

When World War II ended, my husband and I moved to Lafayette, Indiana, to attend Purdue University. It was during this time that I went through a time of extreme testing. I was very far away from home and my family for the first time and in pain from a previous back surgery. We were struggling college students living on a shoestring budget. I became depressed and could not seem to rise above it. I was brought to absolute nothingness. One day when I had become so despondent that I did not want to live, I cried out to the Lord that I would rather die than live. I felt His grace as He sweetly and tenderly put His arms around me and said, "Die and I will live My life through you." I did not know Galatians 2:20, but what He told me was clear and certain. This turning point in my life is characterized by the incredible words found in Galatians.

continued on next page

10

Introduction

"I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Phillipians 1:21

When I cried out to Him in all my distresses, He answered me and delivered me from all my fears. I realized then, and through my life that I could not exist without Jesus as the Lord of my life. I had given Him control of my life, and now the fruit of His Spirit abounded in me.

From that day to this I have discovered daily His grace and the delight of living as His child. The following poem speaks of the reality of my life after that day.

•

Introduction

Discovering Daily

*“Discovering daily who God really is,
Thanking Him daily that He’s mine and I’m His,
Discovering daily God’s great love for me,
Such mercy, forgiveness, amazingly free.
Discovering daily that God really cares,
Discovering daily that He does answer prayers,
Discovering daily what Grace really means,
Unmerited favor beyond all my dreams.
Discovering daily God speaking to me,
Speaking through the Bible, once blind, now I see.
Discovering, discovering each day that I live,
That all that I need He freely will give.
Discovering daily Christ working through me,
Accomplishing daily what never could be.
Discovering daily I can’t, but He can,
Thanking Him daily for my place in His plan.
Discovering daily how real life can be
When I’m living in Christ, and He’s living in me.
Discovering daily a song in my heart,
With anticipation for each day to start.
Delighting and basking in love so divine,
Secure in the knowledge I’m His and He’s mine,
Beside me contentment, excitement I see,
A daily adventure...Christ alive, living in me.”*

Bonnie Hayes

The Carpenter



*I hear the sound of His hammer -
The Builder, repairer is here
Hasten with all that is broken
Restorer of beauty so near.*

*Make me a child in thy likeness
Beauty for ashes within
Thou who art healer of all that is broken
Mold me and make me again*

*Look to the tools that He uses -
Compassion, forgiveness, and love
How could one ever refuse Him
Redeemer, God sent from above.*

*Carpenter, enter my temple
Remove every vestige of sin
Take away all that's displeasing
And build it all over again.*

Richard Baker

Blueprint Sheet

PLANS FOR PROJECT: "Heritage Home"

PATTERNED PRINCIPLES

"And thou shalt rear up the tabernacle according to the fashion (pattern) which was shown thee in the mount."

Exodus 26:30

"Every wise woman buildeth her house." Proverbs 14:1

"Through wisdom is an house builded, and by understanding it is established, and by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches." Proverbs 24:3

PROJECT PROCEDURE

"Let everything be done decently and in order,"

I Corinthians 14:40

POURING THE FOUNDATION

"According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth on it. But let every man take heed how he buildeth upon it. For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

I Corinthians 3:10-11

PLANE-ING THE WOOD

Cut out all unkind criticism, gossip, fault finding!"

POUNDING THE NAILS

"Therefore, whosoever heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, who built his house upon a rock. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, and it fell not; for it was founded upon a rock." Matthew 7:24-25

PROJECT ADJUSTMENT

"In all things showing thyself a pattern of good works." Titus 2:7

PROGRESS REPORT

"So built we the wall, and all the wall was joined together to half of its height, for the people had a mind to work." Nehemiah 4:6

"I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down." Nehemiah 6:3

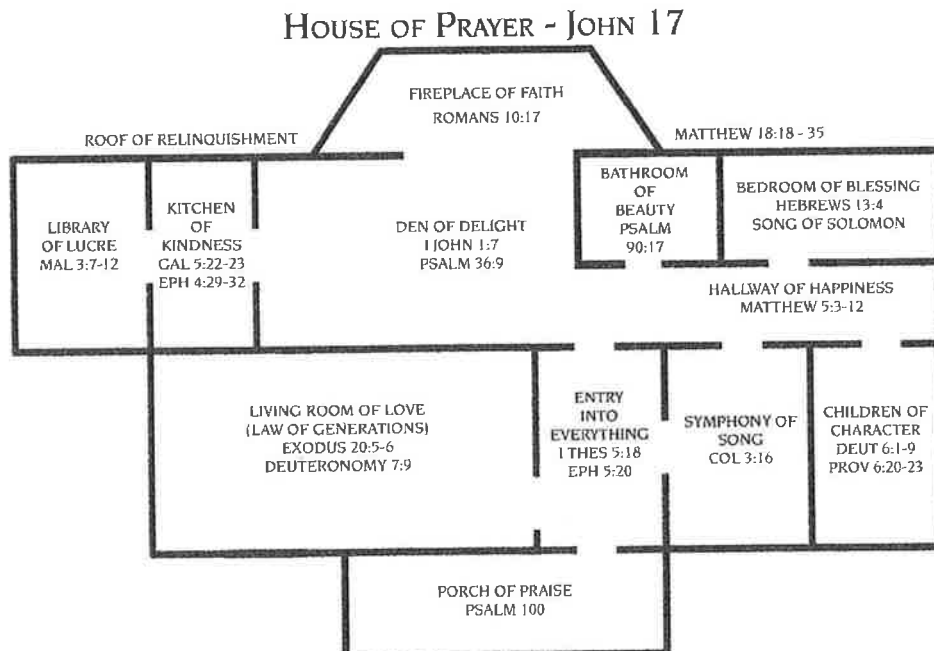
PROJECT COMPLETED

"I have finished the work thou gavest me to do." John 17:4

PROJECT PRAISED

"Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her own works praise her in the gates." Proverbs 31:31

"And his Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things. I will make thee ruler over many things. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Matthew 25:21



Instruction

The Goal:

Heritage Home is designed to give you a total perspective on your lifelong joy of being a Godly wife and mother.

The Group:

This study is particularly designed for women. The principles taught may be easily integrated into the daily routines of life in the home. Some who see themselves as hopeless causes will learn much from this time together. Others will perhaps temper skills they already have put into practice. Still others may find a deep need of spiritual renewal in their commitments to Christ. Finding the freedom to become all that you are designed by God to be is one of the benefits returned from this study time.

The Gain:

Heritage Home is an integrated course of study. It is necessary to do the exercises each day in order to get the most benefit from these weeks of study together. You must do four things to properly prepare and practice this study.

- 1. PRAY -** Each day we ask that you pray about the material studied for that day. This gives you an opportunity to invite the Holy Spirit to convey the truth to your heart.
- 2. PREPARE -** Finding a place and time to study the Word of God is essential to proper spiritual growth. Each day you will use this study text along with God's convictions and concepts.
- 3. PARTICIPATE -** Do your work daily. It will take approximately 30 minutes of study time. Refuse the shortcuts that are so easy to take. A shortcut limits the ministry of the Spirit to your heart.
- 4. PONDER -** Think about it! Luke 2:19 reads, "But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart."

Lesson 1

PRAYER

Part 1: Prayer for the Nation



Heritage Home Ministries



Notes:

*"Where there
is no vision,
the people perish."*

Proverbs 29:18 KJV

"...Write the vision and make it plain upon the tablets that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie; though it tarry, wait for it, because it will surely come, it will not tarry."
Habakkuk 2:2 & 3 KJV

Since your Heritage Home is to be a house of prayer, follow the admonition that Paul gave to Timothy: *"I exhort, therefore, that first of all supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and for all that are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."*
1 Timothy 2:1,2

One of the strongest reasons the people of this country are not leading quiet and peaceable lives is because this admonition has not been heeded.



Look into your heart and ask yourself:

How often do I pray for America?

Do I know the local government authorities, state representatives, senators, and the governor? Have I prayed for them?

Make a list of these governing authorities and dedicate yourself to praying diligently for them.

When beginning to pray for your leaders, use the following Scriptures:

Philippians 2:15

Moral Purity

Proverbs 3:5,6

Seeking the Lord and trusting in Him

James 3:17

Wisdom

Jeremiah 33:3

Petitioning for daily strength, wisdom, and courage

Romans 13:4

Reminding that they are ministers of God for good

Micah 6:8

Knowing what the Lord requires of them

Philippians 1:9-11

Discernment

Romans 14:11,12

Accountability to God

Psaln 75:6

The Source of their promotion

Special verses to pray for the nation:

Psaln 33:12

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."

Isaiah 26:2

"Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation that keepeth the truth may enter in."

Prayer for the Nation

Lesson 1A, Page 2

Putting this into perspective, we as Christians must understand that this world we live in is not a playground, but a battleground, a war zone. We need a wake up call. We are in a war with Satan, sin, and self as we pray for our nation, our families, and our churches.

Jesus declared in *John 14:30* that Satan is the prince of this world. Paul gives warning to the church in *II Corinthians 2:11* by telling them not to be ignorant of Satan's devices.

"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices."

The following verses describe Satan and his devices:

READ AND WRITE

John 8:44

Satan is especially interested in attacking the home. **READ AND WRITE** each Scripture below. Relate each of these areas of Satanic attack to specific situations in our homes or in our country.

DESTRUCTION

John 10:10

DEATH

Hebrews 2:14

DISTRESS

II Corinthians 12:7

DISCORD

Proverbs 6:19

DISPERSION

John 10:12

DIVISION

Matthew 12:25,26



Notes:

*"Where there
is no vision,
the people perish."*

Proverbs 29:18 KJV



Notes:

Multiple horizontal lines for taking notes.

DARKNESS

II Corinthians 4:4

Three horizontal lines for notes.

DEVOUR

I Peter 5:8

Three horizontal lines for notes.

DEPRESSION

Matthew 8:28, 29

Three horizontal lines for notes.

Job 1:6 - 12

Three horizontal lines for notes.

READ

DELUSION

Deuteronomy 18: 9 - 12

DECEPTION

2 Thessalonians 2:9,10

Revelation 20:10

DISTRACTION

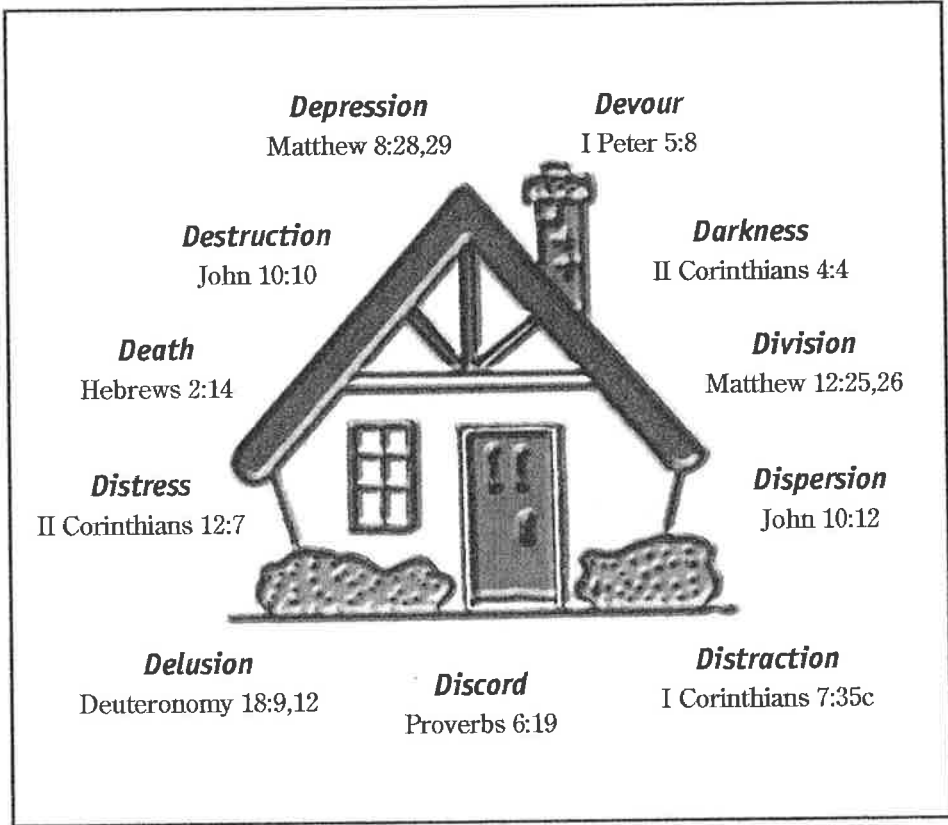
I Corinthians 7:35c

SATAN’S ATTACK ON THE NATION AND HOME

Satan is a person, the head of a host of organized, mobilized, and energized demons who are sullen, violent, unclean spirits. Satan was defeated at Calvary (Colossians 2:14, 15; 1 John 3:8) and by faith we can appropriate our victory over his tactics (Isaiah 54:17; Revelation 12:11)



Notes:





READ

Ephesians 6:10-18 KJV

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore, take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." Verses 10-13KJV

This passage instructs the Christian to put on the whole armor of God. Notice the word **AGAINST**. This is a war word.

From Ephesians 6:10 - 18 - Note what kind of armor needs to be worn during this confrontation. Against what things are we going to wrestle? **WRITE** them below.

READ AND WRITE

Study each piece of equipment. Write the Scripture from Eph. 6:10-18 that correlates to each piece of equipment.

BELT OF TRUTH:

BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS:

FEET SHOD WITH THE GOSPEL OF PEACE:

SHIELD OF FAITH:

HELMET OF SALVATION:

SWORD OF THE SPIRIT:

BUT OUR GREATEST WEAPON IN THIS WARFARE IS PRAYER:

Verse 18, *"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;" KJV*

Notes:

Lined area for handwritten notes.

Prayer for the Nation

Lesson 1A, Page 6



Notes:

Breastplate of Righteousness

Ask God to search your heart
Confess all sin
Claim Christ's righteousness

Helmet of Salvation

Thank God that you are His child
Praise God for your eternal life
Claim the mind of Christ

Belt of Truth

Be true
Hold to the truth
Master your emotions



Shield of Faith

Claim the victory
Advance in faith
Quench the darts of
the wicked

Sword of the Spirit

Grasp the Word
Let the Spirit use the Word
Pray on the basis of the Word

Shoes - Gospel of Peace

Be prepared
Share the gospel
Intercede for the lost

Lined area for handwritten notes.



Notes:

The battle with Satan does not belong to you, but to God. However, as a Christian, you do have distinct responsibilities in this situation.

READ AND WRITE
II Chronicles 20:15

James 4:7

Ephesians 4:27

There is a great spiritual battle raging between the forces of Heaven and the forces of Hell. Sometimes, the situation seems hopeless. It is imperative to **remember** that God is the God of **ALL** hope!

READ AND WRITE
Romans 15:13

Satan's defeat came at Calvary. However this victory cannot be applied to your life until you learn to appropriate the victory. The Lord has given His promise concerning our victorious lifestyle. The Heritage Home team has claimed this Scripture:

READ
Isaiah 54:17

"No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper, and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is from me, saith the LORD." KJV

Memorize this verse.

Our country desperately needs revival. In order for true revival to come to America, God's Word **MUST** be followed.

READ AND WRITE
II Chronicles 7:14

Revival is in the hands of God's people!

He may choose to use only a remnant to accomplish this purpose. Remember the story of Gideon.

READ
Judges 7

How many people did God use to defeat the Midianites?

We must humble ourselves before God. We must confess our sins and the sins of our nation. Then, we must turn from our wicked ways. **It is at this point** that He will hear, forgive, and heal our land. What a powerful promise for all of America!

We must:

- Confess that we have not sought Him first.
- Confess that we have not prayed for our leaders.
- Confess that we have not prayed for our children and families.
- Confess that we have robbed God and that we are covetous.
- Confess that we have allowed the world to shape us into its mold.

READ
Nehemiah 1

Nehemiah prayed. He prayed a prayer for himself and a prayer for his nation. After studying this chapter, search your heart and confess personal and corporate sins. Believe that God has heard your prayer and begin to look for revival!

READ AND WRITE
Isaiah 58:12

Jeremiah 6:16

The principles of Heritage Home provide the basis for the “good way” in which rest and peace for the soul can be found. These principles work, but only inasmuch as they are appropriated. Homes will be repaired, rebuilt, and restored. The key is COMMITMENT:

To Christ, to your home, to your children, to yourself, to your church, to your country.

THE PAIN THAT OUR NATION PRESENTLY FEELS DOES NOT HAVE TO BE THE AGONIZING PAIN OF DEATH. RATHER IT CAN BE...IT MUST BE...THE REJOICING PAIN OF BIRTH...THE REBIRTH OF OUR NATION.



Notes:

*“Where there
is no vision,
the people perish.”*

Proverbs 29:18 KJV

Lesson 1

PRAYER

Part 2: House of Prayer



Heritage Home Ministries



Notes:

“Call unto me and I will answer you...”

Jeremiah 33:3 KJV

John 17

- 1 *These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:*
- 2 *As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.*
- 3 *And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*
- 4 *I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.*
- 5 *And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.*
- 6 *I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.*
- 7 *Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee.*
- 8 *For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.*
- 9 *I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.*
- 10 *And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.*
- 11 *And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.*
- 12 *While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.*
- 13 *And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.*
- 14 *I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.*
- 15 *I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.*
- 16 *They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.*
- 17 *Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*
- 18 *As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.*
- 19 *And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.*
- 20 *Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;*
- 21 *That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.*
- 22 *And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:*
- 23 *I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.*
- 24 *Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.*
- 25 *O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me.*
- 26 *And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.*

MAKE A PROPER APPROACH

Twice in the Old Testament and three times in the New Testament, we read these words,

“My house shall be called an house of prayer.”

If your house is not an house of prayer, IT SHALL BE! God will bring enough trouble, heartache, pressure, and difficulty to make it become “an house of prayer”.

IT SHALL BE!

Jeremiah 33:3 says: “Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.” KJV

This study is designed to challenge and encourage you as you learn how to SPECIFICALLY and SCRIPTURALLY pray for your family. Our Father wants to talk with us, to communicate His will to us. For two thousand years, Jesus has been at prayer, interceding for you and me. He can teach us much about prayer. His desire is that we dial direct and call home often. As you learn these truths, you will have a desire to cover your family with earnest prayer.

WRITE below at least two things for which you are praying as you study this section. Apply them to your study.

- 1. _____
2. _____

REQUEST PRAYED

REQUEST PERSONALIZED

- 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Pray for the leadership of the Holy Spirit because “The Spirit Himself makes intercessions for us with groanings that cannot be uttered. He that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because He maketh intercession for the saints ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF GOD.”

Fill in the blanks below as you begin to memorize Jeremiah 33:3:

“ _____ unto me and _____ thee and _____ thee _____ and _____ things which thou knowest not.”



Notes:

Horizontal lines for taking notes.

“Call unto me and I will answer you...”

Jeremiah 33:3 KJV

Horizontal lines for additional notes.



Notes:

GIVE PROPER ATTENTION

Jesus prayed earnestly for His disciples. John 17:1-3 reads:

“These words spoke Jesus, and lifted up His eyes to Heaven, and said, “Father, the hour is come; glorify Thy Son, that Thy Son also may glorify Thee. As Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, that He should give ETERNAL LIFE to as many as Thou hast given Him. And this is LIFE ETERNAL, THAT THEY MIGHT KNOW THEE, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou has sent.” KJV

SALVATION

As you look at the dial (Page 41 of this lesson), you will note that the first prayer word is SALVATION. This is to remind us to pray for the SALVATION of our family. This is the most important request we must make to our Heavenly Father. Pray for mothers, fathers, children, nieces, nephews, and, if your children are married, include their in-loves. We marry into a special family, and this can be a true mission field for many of us. (Prayer List - Page 45.)

READ AND WRITE

Luke 19:10

To be lost really means to be of no value to God. Take a moment and record below the names of family members who do not know Jesus as their personal Savior.

Now, pray that God would use you or someone else as a witness (by word of mouth or way of life) in order for your loved ones to come to faith in Christ.

READ

Ephesians 1:4

“According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.”

Did you notice that we were **CHOSEN** “in him” before the foundation of the world? God writes our names in the **BOOK OF LIFE**. However, these names are blotted out when we die **if** we have not received him.

READ AND WRITE

Psalms 69:28

Revelation 3:5



Notes:

Series of horizontal lines for taking notes.

In the passages below, we see that God intended for couples to begin marriage in the unity of the Spirit. (II Cor. 6:14) Each one was to be a believer. Both Ezra and Joshua speak of the dangers of not being equally yoked together. The prophet Amos wrote:

“except two agree, they cannot walk together”.

MATCH the Scripture passages below with the reference and verse.

- 1. Amos 3:3 Be heirs together of the grace of life
- 2. Joshua 23: 12,13 Leave an inheritance
- 3. II Cor. 6:14 Be not unequally yoked
- 4. Ezra 9:12 Same Spirit
- 5. I Peter 3:7 Snares and thorns

READ AND WRITE

II Corinthians 6:14

Two horizontal lines for writing.

As you read I Peter 3:7, you realized the Word declares that there would even be a hindrance to personal prayer without unity.

READ

Genesis 24

This passage describes Abraham sending out his servant, Eliezer, to find a mate for Isaac. It was a nightmare to Abraham to think that Isaac would be unequally yoked with an unbeliever. We see the principle: We are to pray that the Holy Spirit will seek out a mate for us, for our children, for our grandchildren, and for our relatives.

SINGING

Now, look once again at the dial. Jesus prays, **“that they might have MY JOY fulfilled (filled full) in THEMSELVES”**. This verse gives us the third prayer word.

Jesus alone brings true and lasting joy. Looking at the word “JOY”, let J stand for Jesus, the Y stand for you and the O stand for nothing in between you and Jesus. This is true joy. Joy produces in our heart a spirit expressed by SINGING. Find a hymn of praise and read it back to the Lord in a spirit of prayerfulness. Some hymns you can use are:

- “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”
- “It is Well With My Soul”
- “Have Faith in God”

What is your favorite?

Horizontal line for writing.



Notes:

Horizontal lines for taking notes.

Singing from your heart will give you a sense of God's presence and His peace for He lives in the praises of his people. (Psalm 23:3). Look below and MATCH the words and verses to see the acrostic of peace given through singing.

- | | | |
|--------|-------------|-----------------|
| P..... | Protection | Psalm 32:7 |
| E..... | Exhortation | Zephaniah 3:17 |
| A..... | Admonition | Colossians 3:16 |
| C..... | Consolation | Mark 14:26 |
| E..... | Exaltation | Exodus 15:2 |

As you finish your study for today, list the people who were singing in the passages you read above.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

SECURITY

Security is the fourth prayer word on the dial.

Do you know that you are secure in Jesus Christ? Do you know assuredly that you are saved? When it comes to your security in Christ, are you...

- ...a doubting believer?
- ...a shouting believer?
- ...a question mark?

OR

...an exclamation point!!!

Security is **KNOWING** God loves you. This is a fact. Feelings will follow. Remember, our faith must be built on the **FACTS** of God's Word, not **FEELINGS**.

In this exercise, you will find four Scripture passages. Look them up in your Bible and fill in the blanks. You will become even more certain of God's security as you see it recorded for you in God's Word.

1. **II Peter 1:10 KJV**

"...Give _____ to make your _____ and _____ sure..."

2. **Romans 8:38,39 KJV**

"For I am _____ that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creation, shall be able to _____ us from the _____ of God which is in _____ our _____."

3. **I Peter 1:4-5 KJV**

"to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away; reserved in _____ for you who are _____ unto salvation _____ to be revealed in the last time."

4. I Corinthians 1:8 KJV

“Who shall also _____ you unto _____ that ye may be _____ in the day of our _____.”

1 John 5:13, “*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may KNOW that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.*”

Remember that I John was written:

“That you may **KNOW THAT YE HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.**”

Read I John. Underline the word “**KNOW**”. Jesus wants us to be sure of our salvation: Our eternal destiny depends on it.

Nothing is more important than knowing and experiencing the peace of this truth. By studying the Word and spending time in prayer, you can settle the salvation issue once and for all.

SANCTIFICATION

As our study moves to another verse in John 17, we discover the fifth prayer word: **SANCTIFICATION!** Verses 14, 17, and 19 convey this truth:

“Sanctify them through Thy truth; Thy Word is truth” ... and for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

Think about the process of sanctification for a few moments. Sanctification is easily defined as a person being “**set apart as holy**”. We become more and more set apart to God by knowing the truth of His Word and by walking in obedience to His Word.

“Sanctify them through Thy truth; Thy Word is truth.”

So, the sanctification process is heightened as an individual believer learns to **love** God’s Word, **read** it, **study** it, **meditate** on it, and **practice** it daily.

Someone has described sanctification as a four-part process:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Positional sanctification: | being “ IN CHRIST ” as you enter by faith. |
| 2. Practical sanctification: | “separated daily FROM EVIL ” |
| 3. Progressive sanctification: | being “separated daily UNTO GOOD ” |
| 4. Prospective sanctification: | being LIKE CHRIST AT HIS RETURN |



Notes:



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

How do you strengthen the sanctification process in your own personal life? Look back and find the answer from the process described on page 34. List practical ways you will choose to make this process more real in your daily life. Write them below.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

SENT

The sixth prayer word is **SENT**. As a way of understanding this prayer request, you will need to read three passages of Scripture. Fill in the missing words of the following verses:

1. **John 17:18**

“As thou has _____ me into the _____, even so have I also _____ into the _____.”

2. **Nehemiah, Chapters 1 and 2**

Nehemiah went from being a cupbearer to being a commander of God’s people. Upon reading the story, can you see where Nehemiah was sent, safe, and supplied? Fill in the blanks below that confirm Nehemiah was

1. S
2. S
3. S

This is a reminder of 1 Thessalonians 5:24.

READ AND WRITE

1 Thessalonians 5:24

READ
Isaiah 6

This is another example of what happens as God prepares to send His people on a mission for Him. Isaiah's heartfelt confession was followed by cleansing. Cleansing was followed by commitment and commitment by a commission. Isaiah was "sent by the Lord." Did you get those steps?

WRITE them below and remember these as you desire to be a "sent" one.

- 1. C
- 2. C
- 3. C
- 4. C

**CLEAN VESSELS ARE ALMOST ALWAYS CLEAN FOR ONE REASON:
TO BE USED!!**

As you close your study today, take a moment to pray Isaiah's prayer to the Lord.

STOP AND CALL HOME!!

Is prayer becoming more personal? Is it becoming easier to talk to your Heavenly Father? Are you praying His Words back to Him for your family?

Remember Jeremiah 33:3. **WRITE** it from memory.

As you begin today's study, take a moment to review the words we have studied. **WRITE** them below:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

Now, use them as you pray to your Heavenly Father.

Of these six words, which do you find most comfortable in praying?

Which prayer word (request) meets the needs of your family?

Now, surrender yourself to the teaching of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God for today.



Notes:



Notes:

Lined area for handwritten notes.

SEED SENT

The seventh prayer word is **SEED SENT**.

John 17:20 & 21, "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also who shall believe on me through **THEIR WORD**; that they all may be one..." KJV

What a wonderful promise! Our seed will also be "sent ones." How do our children and our grandchildren become SEED SENT? By our words and prayers of faith. Children believe on Him through your words. Just as children learn their multiplication tables in school by repetition, they will learn to believe God's Word by repetition. Begin early to teach them to confess the truths of God's Word. With repeated confession, the Holy Spirit can then take their confession and bring conviction to their hearts so they shall be saved.

Romans 10:9-11 KJV

- 9 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."
- 10 "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."
- 11 For the scripture saith, "Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."

See how the words you confess with your mouth become truths you believe in your heart. Confession comes before belief.

After their salvation, we begin to claim promises of Scripture for them. He has committed Himself to bless us by giving us precious promises in His Word. We need to begin to claim them for our children. For them to be **SENT SERVANTS** these, too, can be claimed. You will find others you will want to claim.

READ

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Psalm 102:28</i> | <i>Acts 1:8</i> | <i>Jeremiah 1:7-8</i> |
| <i>Isaiah 61:9</i> | <i>Mark 3:14</i> | <i>Genesis 45:7</i> |

ADD SOME OF YOUR OWN PERSONAL PROMISES TO CLAIM:

How gracious our Lord is to include the prayer promise that our entire family would be sent "on assignment" for Christ in this world!



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of approximately 18 horizontal lines.

SATISFACTION

The eighth word for you to pray for your family is: **SATISFACTION**

READ AND WRITE

John 17:22

Two horizontal lines for writing.

As you read, you will note that Jesus says the glory which the Father had given Him, he has given to us.

READ

Exodus 33:18 - 23

READ AND WRITE

Exodus 34: 6, 7a

Two horizontal lines for writing.

READ

Exodus 34:5-7

What did the Lord proclaim about His glory to Moses when he was on Mt. Sinai?

WRITE in your own words what the Lord said to Moses.

Two horizontal lines for writing.

What is His glory? The glory of God revealed is His character; the essence of who God really is.

READ

II Corinthians 3:18, *“But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.”* KJV

WHEN WE BEHOLD HIS GLORY AND ARE CHANGED INTO HIS IMAGE, THEN WE WILL BE SATISFIED!!!

READ

Psalms 17:15, *“As for me, I will behold Thy face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with Thy likeness.”* KJV



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

The song says:

*"I am satisfied with Jesus,
He has done so much for me,
He has suffered to redeem me,
He has come to set me free.
I am satisfied, I am satisfied,
But the question comes to me,
As I think of Calvary,
'Is my Master satisfied with me?'"*

SPIRIT FILLED

The ninth prayer word is **SPIRIT FILLED**.

READ AND WRITE

John 17:26

Two horizontal lines for writing.

The one indication of God's Holy Spirit moving in us is His manifested AGAPE, unconditional love.

Jesus prayed that "the LOVE with which the Father had loved Him" would be in us. Only the Holy Spirit alive and active in the life of a believer will give them the power to love with the love of Jesus.

READ

Galatians 5:22, 23.

List below the nine fruit of the Spirit.



- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____
- 9. _____

The first three _____, _____, and _____ reflect God's attributes. **LOOK UPWARD!**

The next three _____, _____, and _____ reflect our relationship to others. **LOOK OUTWARD!**

The last three _____, _____, and _____ reflect inward attributes of a believer. **LOOK INWARD!**

You received the Holy Spirit when you personally committed your life to Jesus. There is one baptism, many fillings.

READ

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| 1 Corinthians 12:13 | One baptism |
| Ephesians 1:13 | One sealing |
| Ephesians 5:18 | Many fillings |

How does God produce or reproduce in us this love?

Romans 5: 3-5

- 3 *"And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;*
- 4 *And patience, experience; and experience, hope:*
- 5 *And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us."*

As you conclude this session, take time to **CALL HOME**. Think about the ministry of the Holy Spirit in your own personal life. List some of the ways in which you have known His presence in your life.

Reflect on what you have learned about your home becoming a house of prayer. The goal of this session is that you will, as you pray for your family, remember the prayer words of John 17. Look at the dial on the page 42 and fill in the blanks with the prayer words from the prayer that Jesus prayed for you. When you have finished, you will have established the nine areas of specific prayers that you should pray for your family. Philippians 4:6, 7 tells us to "let our requests be made known to God." Remember that Jesus said, "My house shall be called an house of prayer."

May God bless you as you make that personal commitment to be the praying wife, mother, and friend that you need to be.



Notes:



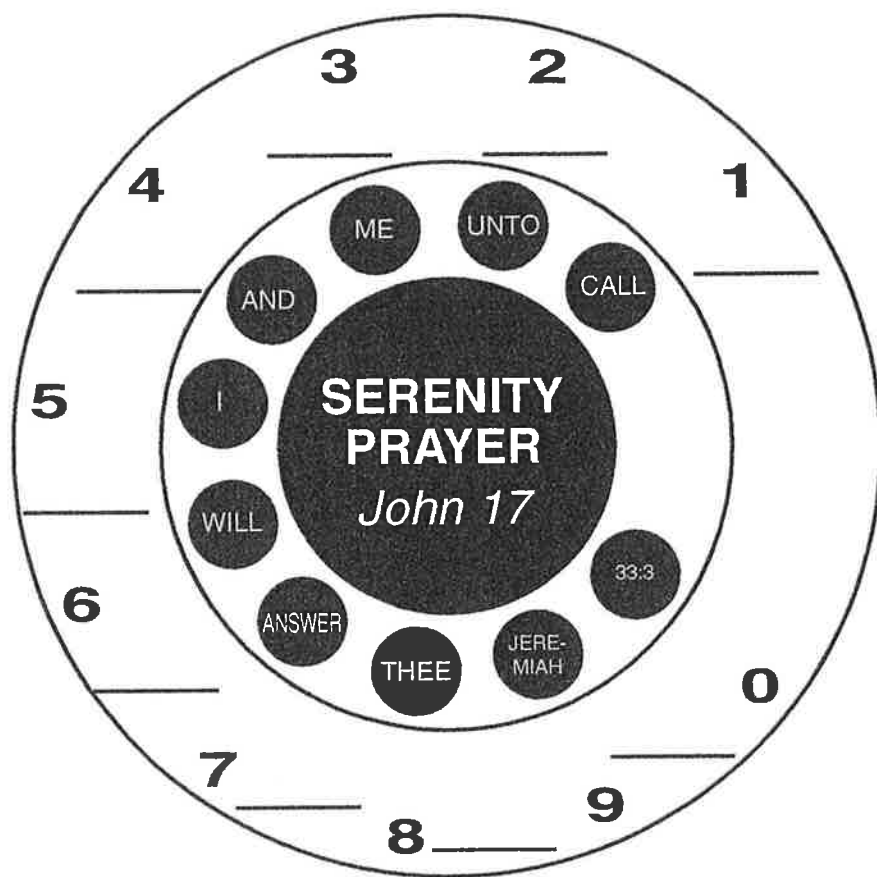
Notes:





Notes:

For use in class or to be filled in from memory.





Notes:

Lined area for handwritten notes.

Testimony

Mary Trammel

Praying specific scriptural prayers for those you love may be a new concept for you, but I can tell you from experience how powerful these prayers are. As Mary says, "If your house is not a house of prayer, it shall be. God will bring enough trouble, pressure, and difficulty to make it become a house of prayer." What happened in my own home proves just that.

When I became a member of Mary Oates' Sunday School class, she began to teach me Biblical principles and truths that I had never heard before. Although I had been a Christian for many years, I became hungry for the Word of God for the first time. I began to realize that there were attitudes in my life that were out of place. One Sunday Mary held up an x-ray as she asked us, "What does God see inside of you?" At that moment I knew that I needed to get rid of the stubborn and rebellious spirit that God was seeing inside me. Later that day I recommitted my life to Christ, asking Him to take my body as a living sacrifice. I wanted God to do in and through me whatever pleased Him. Little did I know that He was going to use my prayers to change my own son's rebellious heart, but it was going to take a long time.

I wanted to pray for my family so I made a prayer notebook with my family's pictures in it. I chose a prayer specifically for each of them. My son, Mickey, was a senior in high school, and he had "become wise in his own eyes". I claimed Proverbs 3: 5-7, praying that he would lean not unto his own understanding, but acknowledge God in all his ways and allow Him to direct his path. With a mother's intuition, I sensed that Mickey was leading a lifestyle totally against what we had taught him in our Christian home. I knew his friends and activities were not helping him pursue the things of God. I claimed 1 Corinthians 6:19-20. I prayed that God would show Mickey that his body was the temple of the Holy Spirit who was in him. I hoped Mickey would know he was not his own, but that he had been bought with a price and, therefore, should glorify God with his body and spirit.

Although I continued to pray, I did not see the changes I longed to see in him.

Even while my son finished high school, began and then dropped out of college, and got a job, my husband Jack and I kept praying, but Mickey continued to rebel against all he had been taught. He was like the prodigal son in Luke 15. He moved away from home, but he never moved away from his father's (or mother's) heart. Our prayers intensified. My prayer partners in Heritage Home prayed with me. Many times Mickey would be convicted of his sinful behavior and then find out it was while we were praying for him. On February 16, 1986, God gave me this scripture for Mickey. "And I will give them a heart to know me. I am the Lord and they shall be my people. And I shall be their God. For They shall return unto Me with their whole heart."

During this time five of Mickey's friends died in auto accidents. He lost his job, his car, and his apartment, but he ran farther and farther from God and his family. We steadfastly prayed, claimed scripture, and waited. It was terribly difficult to have patience, but we held onto our faith that our Father was working. My mother, who had no idea Mickey was away from the Lord, told me she believed Mickey was going to be a preacher. I said, "Well, he's going to have to do a lot of changing." Eventually, Mickey did return to God with his whole heart and he did a lot of changing. He cried out to God when he heard God say, "If you don't change your lifestyle,

"I'm taking you home." Mickey walked back into church after two long years away. He sensed that God was calling him into the ministry and began to prepare by returning to college and earning a 4.0 GPA. His rebellious attitude was transformed completely into one of obedience to the things of God.

My son has been a licensed minister since 1988 and is the pastor of a wonderful church today. His beautiful Christian wife came as an answer to Mickey's own prayers. I think by this time, he had learned something about the power of fervent specific scriptural prayer! He and his wife have given me wonderful grandchildren. If God had not intervened, I cannot imagine what would have happened to my son.

These things happened because God heard the petitions prayed by my husband, my prayer partners, and me. Our home truly became a house of prayer, and it will always be that way. If you have a prodigal son, daughter, brother, sister, or loved one, begin to pray with a specific scriptural prayer for him or her. Mickey's best message as a pastor is one entitled "From The Pigpen to the Pulpit". It is a modern day version of the prodigal son, with his testimony as the centerpiece. I love to sit in the front pew when he preaches that sermon, giving God all the glory.



Notes:



PRAYER LIST for FAMILY MEMBERS

Notes:

*"Call unto me and I
will answer you..."*

Jeremiah 33:3 KJV

<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
---	---

Lesson 2

PORCH OF PRAISE



Heritage Home Ministries



PSALM 100

P
O
R
C
H

O
F

P
R
A
I
S
E

The picture at left is that of a tongue depressor. My father was a doctor. I remember going into his office when I was sick and having him take the tongue depressor in his hand, turn to me, and instruct me to "say Ah." By looking at my tongue he could tell me something of the disease that had made me ill. I am sure you have had a similar experience. A doctor can tell much about your illness by looking at your tongue.

Likewise, the Lord tells much about your "Dis-ease" by listening to your tongue speak. How sick are you spiritually? Our nation has an X-rated tongue. One of every 14 words that come out of the mouths of adults today is profanity. The television, even in prime-time, offers a variety of tongue diseases ranging from profanity to crude obscene joking and slander.

Notes:

Ephesians 4:29 says: *"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."*KJV

Ephesians 5:4 says: *"Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not fitting, but, rather, giving of thanks."* KJV

IT IS OBVIOUS THAT OUR TONGUES NEED CONVERTING.

Each of us must learn that "The Lord inhabits (lives) in the praises of His people." (Psalm 22:3) The study this week is entitled, **THE PORCH OF PRAISE**. It is not only helpful, but also extremely **NECESSARY** that we learn how to praise if we are to build a **"HERITAGE HOME."**

"In everything, give thanks..."

1 Thessalonians 5:18 KJV

READ AND MATCH

Take a moment to read the verses below and match them with the word or words that best describe their meaning:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Proverbs 18:21 | Generations praise Him |
| Psalm 107:8-31 | Rising of the sun |
| Psalm 145:4 | Praise His goodness |
| Psalm 22:3 | Fruit of our lips |
| Psalm 113:3 | Great peace |
| Hebrews 13:15 | Death and life |
| Psalm 119:164, 165 | God inhabits praise |

PRAISE IS THE clearest evidence that we are trusting God. IT IS FAITH IN ACTION!

As you finish this short exercise, take a moment to ask the Lord to teach you about PRAISE. He wants to do so. It is His desire that your home have a "PORCH OF PRAISE." Praise is the entry into a home filled with peace, contentment, and joy. In this study you will find a storehouse of Truth that will help you learn to praise the Lord in both delightful AND difficult situations.



Notes:

Five horizontal lines for taking notes.

Quoted text: "In everything, give thanks..." followed by "1 Thessolonians 5:18 KJV" and five horizontal lines for notes.

Why were we made?

This scripture answers this question. I Peter 2:9, "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a people of His own, that you should show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

SO??? WHAT IS YOUR PROBLEM?

Have you ever been asked that question? It implies that you have some character flaw that irritates some other person. In most cases it can be easily corrected by the proper understanding of the problem and how best to deal with it. The same is true of praise. This study reveals four major problems preventing our praise.

Write in the space below why you think you do not praise God more frequently. When you have finished this lesson, compare what you said with what has been studied. The results will be very convicting.

Three horizontal lines for writing an answer.

PROBLEMS THAT PREVENT PRAISE:

PROBLEM 1: COMPLAINING

READ AND WRITE

Philippians 2:14 admonishes the believer to: "Do all things without _____ and _____."

Our constant murmur grieves the Holy Spirit. As Christians, we may not speak those nasty "four-letter words" that the world uses, but our complaining words damage our testimony of the Lord just as much.

"For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" Luke 6:45

The Scriptures below tell us some of the harm caused by our words. Look up each reference and make a note of the truth found in that verse as it relates to our complaining spirit.

READ AND WRITE

Exodus 16:8

Two horizontal lines for notes.

I Corinthians 10:10

Two horizontal lines for notes.



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

When we complain about people or problems that cross our path, we are actually saying: "As far as our Heavenly Father is concerned, He is NOT love, He is NOT wise, He is NOT in control", and

"If I were God, I would have worked this out ANOTHER way"

In doing this, we slander the Person and Being of God.

PROBLEM 2: INGRATITUDE

The first problem that prevented praise was that of _____.

Now, we look at the second in the list. Murmuring against God begins a downward spiral that continues with an unthankful heart and eventually leads to a reprobate mind (stronghold of rebellion).

READ

Romans 1:21-32

BEFORE THE REPROBATE MIND BEGAN, THERE WAS THE SPIRIT OF INGRATITUDE.

Such a spirit left unchecked will eventually lead to all types of sin. After the words "were not thankful" is a list of 23 sins. The listing includes sins of: lesbianism, homosexuality, covetousness, envy, murder, etc.

We see the root cause (the beginning of these sins) leading to a reprobate mind, is a heart that is not thankful. The list ends with verse 32 which reads:

"Who knowing the judgment of God, that they who commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them." KJV

Ingratitude is one of those widespread unnoticed sins that can easily beset Christians.

READ AND WRITE

I Thessalonians 5:18

Three horizontal lines for writing.

Ephesians 5:20

Three horizontal lines for writing.

Did you notice that we are to give thanks **IN** everything and **FOR** everything? You will need God's grace to do this. That grace has been made available to you.

PROBLEM 3: NEGATIVISM

What were the first two problems?

1. _____
2. _____
3. Negativism

This problem is a result of being part of the sinful race. Often a child's first word is "NO." We come into the world with a negative spirit, and even after being born again, we have not progressed enough to be free of this attitude. Remaining negative is a direct insult to the character of God. Jesus came to give us the Gospel, the "good news" of the Kingdom of God. Each one of us has the right as God's child to choose the proper solution for a negative attitude. Two solutions are listed below. Choose the one that describes you right now. (Mark it with a check mark.) Then, choose the one that Jesus has freed you to be. (Mark it with a star.)

- _____ Negative spirit + Pessimistic Outlook = Miserable Person
- _____ Positive spirit + PRAISE = Joyful Person

WHICH DID YOU MARK? _____

WHY THAT ONE? _____

Try playing the "Christian Cancellation Game." When someone speaks a negative remark, cancel it out by saying something positive. Try it and see just how effective it is for you and for others.

READ

the two letters below from Joyce Landorf's book *The Fragrance of Beauty* for examples of the differences in attitudes.

Dear Joyce,

We're having a terrible snowstorm. It's going to go into a blizzard. No lettuce this spring, and the farmers say this weather is to blame.

Your Uncle Walter couldn't drive to work today, so he had to walk all that way. He can't stand too much of that cold wind and those icy streets.

Mrs. Brondage, down the street, slipped just last week and fractured her hip. Not two days before, I told her that would happen.

I'm not feeling good at all so I can't get out to prayer meeting. Even when I do go, I don't see too many there. Seems like people aren't interested in spiritual things any more. I've quit teaching my Sunday School class. Those little children make me too nervous for words.

Uncle Greg flew to Chicago yesterday. I hope he doesn't crash. You can't trust those airplanes. Just read the newspaper - airplanes crash all the time. Well, I've got to close as I want to hear the 6 o'clock news. My, things are in terrible shape all over the world. I wonder how long all of this can go on. It's awful.

Love,
Aunt Harriet

A Scriptural Blueprint for Building a Christian Home



Notes:



Notes:

Dearest Joyce,

You should have seen the beautiful snow! It's been coming down for hours and everything is white and sparkly. We've had a pretty cold winter so far, but you know that makes great apples and cherries later on!

Cars aren't doing too well on the streets so your Uncle Walter had to walk to work. I think that's great. He needs the fresh air and exercise.

Mrs. Brondage, our neighbor, slipped and fell last week. Today I took her some homemade soup. She seemed pleased and much better.

I haven't been too well this year, but I'm able to get out to prayer meeting once in a while. There are not too many out but the Lord said, "Where two or three are gathered, there am I in the midst." So the Lord comes on Wednesday even when we don't. I'm still teaching my Sunday School class after all these years. My, how I love those dear little tykes.

Your Uncle Greg flew to Chicago yesterday. Isn't that something? Just think, from here to there in a few minutes. What a wonder!

Must close, I want to catch the news. My, when you hear all that's going on in the world today - wars, murders, and what have you - aren't you glad you know Jesus? And that He is in control and cares for us? I am!

Love,

Aunt Hortense

For another example read *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst.

PROBLEM 4: DISCONTENTMENT

The greatest sin among Christian women today is discontentment. As Americans, we should be content. We live in a free country with 85% of the world's wealth and conveniences, yet we complain. We must stop having our "pity parties" and "gripe groups". No other person but Jesus should control the level of our contentment. The following two Scripture passages are especially helpful in showing the value of contentment.



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of multiple horizontal lines extending down the right side of the page.

READ AND WRITE

I Timothy 6: 6-8

Philippians 4: 11

How would you rate your present contentment level?

Weak Average Growing Strong

LIST THE FOUR PROBLEMS THAT PREVENT PRAISE:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

SPEND SOME TIME IN PRAISE TODAY! MAKE IT A HABIT FOR YOUR LIFE.

THE PURSUIT OF PRAISE

As you have studied the problems that prevent praise, you may have had to plead “**GUILTY**” to one or more of them. Being faced with truth about ourselves causes us to respond in one of two ways. Either we resist the change and ignore the conviction of the Holy Spirit, or we reckon within our spirit to change. A Godly life and home demands the latter of the two options. Our study in this section looks at the best way to change if we are to pursue an “**attitude of gratitude**” and praise in our homes.

I Corinthians 11:31 tells us: *“For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.”*
KJV

We must get into the position of praise by agreeing with what the Father has said about a given situation. Confession is easily defined as “**to say with God.**” Confession is to say the same thing that God says about a given condition or sin in my life.

READ AND WRITE

I John 1:9

Our “**Porch of Praise**” must include a probing look at how we view our relationship with God in terms of honesty. We must confess and then begin to praise Him for His forgiveness.



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

READ

Isaiah 6:1-8

1. What is the confession of the prophet Isaiah?

2. How does the response of God to Isaiah's confession make you feel about your own confessions before the Lord?

3. Did God's response free Isaiah for deeper service?

4. How did Isaiah respond to God's request?

Are you willing to make the confession that Isaiah made?

What are you confessing to the Lord about your problems? Jesus gave us a remedy for those mountains in Mark 11:20-24 KJV.

"And Jesus answering saith unto them, 'Have faith in God.'" Vs 22

This literally means to "Have the faith OF God." **WHATEVER** He says to you about your mountain, confess it. and it shall be done.

"For verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall SAY unto this mountain, 'Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea'; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he SAITH shall come to pass, he shall have whatever he SAITH. Therefore, I SAY unto you, 'Whatever things ye desire, when ye pray, BELIEVE that ye receive them and ye shall have them.'" Verses 23-24

What do you need to **SAY** (confess) before the Lord that would free you from your mountain of problems?

WRITE

your impressions from the Lord below.

So many times we have what we call "MOUNTAINS OF PROBLEMS."

Mountains to Molehills

by Janey O. Lamphron

Molehills out of mountains
How so just like you -
To take my cares and worries
It's what you always do.

If I bring my fears and fantasies
And leave them at your door
You pare them down with ease
So they aren't problems anymore.

I don't know how you do it
But I've felt the tools you use
To change my enormous messes
Into stories of such good news.
My problems always look so big to me
I cry and say, "No way-
I'll ever make this work, Lord."
You tell me then, "Just pray."

"When you think you can do it
You never turn to me.
You try to show your talents
And you is all the world can see.

But when you give Me your problems
I whittle them down to size,
I know what you can handle
But it takes "I - will" to die.

You've been saying, "I can do it."
Since you were barely two.
Now its time to say, "I quit",
And see what God can do.

How about coming to "Mr. Fix it"?
Bring Me all your stress-
I love to move your mountains
It's what I really do best.



Notes:



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

Consider the following verses in your Pursuit of Praise

READ AND WRITE

Revelation 12:10-12

Job 2:1

Zechariah 3:1

Jesus is our advocate (our lawyer), and Satan is our adversary (our enemy). Satan accuses us day and night before the Father. Anyone who remains unaware of either the advocate or the adversary is going to lose the battle for praise in her personal life.

Accusation is Satan's favorite fiery dart. We **MUST** know how to defeat those accusations. As noted above, Revelation 12:10-12 assures the believer that help is readily available:

"And they overcame (war word) him (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb (Calvary) and by the word of their testimony (confession of faith); and they loved not their lives unto the death (commitment)." Vs 11 KJV

Our greatest power is to say what God says. Calvary (the blood), conversion (testimony), and commitment (loved not their lives) are the three allies in your praise and confession arsenal. These three are combined to defeat the enemy.

WRITE

the three allies from memory.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

YOU CANNOT LIVE ABOVE THE LEVEL OF YOUR CONFESSION.

Bilheimers says: "Praise is our highest form of prayer."

READ

Proverbs 6:2

"Your confession is vital to praise and prayer. The missing element in prayer is faith expressed by perpetual, purposeful, aggressive **PRAISE**. Praise is the sparkplug of

faith. It is the one thing needed to get our prayers airborne to Heaven. Satan is allergic to praise, and our decision to praise is our opportunity to banish Satan from any situation." *Bilheimers*

As this session of study comes to an end, it might be helpful for you to take a moment and make a list of things that you should confess to defeat Satan. Your list may be as long or as short as you need it to be. Because this may be new to you, three areas are provided to stimulate your thinking.

1. **ARE YOU FEARFUL?**

II Timothy 1:7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." KJV

2. **DO YOU HAVE A NEED TO LOVE OTHERS MORE...EVEN THOSE DIFFICULT PEOPLE?**

Romans 5:5 "And hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who is given to us." KJV

Galatians 5:6 "For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but faith which worketh by love." KJV

3. **ARE YOU BITTER, ANGRY, OR UNFORGIVING?**

Ephesians 4:30-32 "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you are sealed unto the day of redemption. LET all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice; and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you."

CONTINUE YOUR OWN LIST. BE SPECIFIC AND HONEST IN YOUR NEED AND IN YOUR CONFESSION.

THE POWER OF PRAISE

The previous study yielded the opportunity to learn to agree with God. As you enter this study time, you will note that the principles of confession are still present through the text. Eight steps exist in the quest to "plug into the power" of praise.

As each step is studied...

STOP!

Take a moment to pray.

DROP!

Let the principle sink from your head to your heart.

PROP!

Give your problem to God just as Jehoshaphat did.

READ

II Chronicles 20

Using this passage, Jack Taylor, in *Fullness* magazine, suggests some practical pointers intended to help in your praise life.



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of approximately 20 horizontal lines.



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of approximately 20 horizontal lines.

Allow this passage to personally speak to you. Using the example of Jehoshaphat, apply the principle of praise to your individual situation today and everyday. In this passage, Jehoshaphat, of the tribe of Judah (meaning praise), was in a battle against the tribes of Moab, Ammon, and Mt. Seir. He had a "mountain of a problem."

EIGHT STEPS TO UTILIZE THE POWER OF PRAISE

Step 1: Praise God anyway!

READ

II Chronicles 20:6

Jehoshaphat was quick to recognize that God is sovereign. The situation was not out of God's control. Have you realized this with your problem?

Step 2: Depend on the Past Performance of God

READ

II Chronicles 20:7

Knowing that God had acted a certain way in the past gave Jehoshaphat confidence. He knew that God had brought victory to His people. He remembered God as "Jehovah Nissi, the Lord our banner"; the God who fights FOR us. Jehoshaphat took confidence in knowing that God would fight this battle for him. Is your banner "Jehovah Nissi"?

Step 3: Get directly to the Point of the Problem

READ

II Chronicles 20:10, 11

The three nations with which Judah wrestled represent:

- status (Ammon)
- power (Moab)
- flesh (Seir)

Are you being attacked in one of these areas? Your problem relates to one of these three. Get to the point of the problem.

Step 4: Pride must not be present

READ

II Chronicles 20:12

A heart of humility will gain the attention of God. The people of Judah had to admit their inability to handle their problem. How often pride hinders praise! Praise is a death blow to the flesh. It shows we are not depending on ourselves. Our independent spirit toward God is gone, and we are putting our entire trust in Him. A

"declaration of dependence" is needed with no confidence in the flesh. One cannot trust in the flesh and receive his answer from the Spirit.

READ AND WRITE

II Corinthians 12:9

"...My _____ is _____ for _____ for my strength is made _____ in _____" KJV

Have you surrendered your pride to God?

Step 5: Spend time in prayer

READ

II Chronicles 20:13

"And all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children.

The entire family began to pray together. Real strength is found when a family prays together. Make a commitment to pray with one or all of your family members.

Step 6: See the Presence of God

READ

II Chronicles 20:15-19

Be not afraid!
Be still!
Hear His voice!
Believe His words!
See the salvation of the Lord!

Are you able to sense the presence of God in your situation?

"Be still and know that I AM God."

Step 7: Praise wins the battle!

READ

II Chronicles 20:21,22

As you read these two verses, take note of Who set the ambush for the enemy. The chorus "It's Amazing What Praising God Can Do" applies. Have you consciously praised God in the midst of your situation?

WRITE your praise below. Pray it back to God.



Notes:



Step 8: The Prize of Praise!

READ

II Chronicles 20:25-30

Could this really happen to me? To my family? To my problems? It took three days for Jehoshaphat and his people to gather the spoil. Three days to gather the prize! God is able to do exceeding abundantly above all we could ask or think...just as He promised. Oh, how we need to learn to praise!

Take time to list the eight steps of praise below. Beside each step, place your own personal "mountain of problems." Pause long enough to give each step to the Lord. Close your time by reading Psalm 56:12. "Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee."

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

THE PERMANENCE OF PRAISE

Psalm 145 KJV, David's Psalm of praise

- 1 *"I will extol thee, my God, O king, and I will bless thy name forever and ever.*
- 2 *Every day will I bless thee, and I will praise thy name forever and ever.*
- 3 *Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.*
- 4 *One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.*
- 5 *I will speak of the glorious honor of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works.*
- 6 *And men shall speak of the might of thy awe-inspiring acts; and I will declare thy greatness.*
- 7 *They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness.*
- 8 *The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion, slow to anger, and of great mercy.*
- 9 *The LORD is good to all, and his tender mercies are over all his works.*
- 10 *All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee.*
- 11 *They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power,*
- 12 *To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.*
- 13 *Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.*
- 14 *The LORD upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those who are bowed down.*



- 15 *The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their food in due season.*
- 16 *Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.*
- 17 *The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.*
- 18 *The LORD is near unto all those who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth.*
- 19 *He will fulfill the desire of those who fear him; he also will hear their cry, and will save them.*
- 20 *The LORD preserveth all those who love him, but all the wicked will he destroy.*
- 21 *My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD; and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever."*

Notes:

Psalm 145 has been chosen as the Heritage Home Praise Scripture. Every verse is replete with truth about praise. Praise is the one tool that releases the power of God so that He may do His mighty works against Satan and his demons.

Answer the questions below that are related to this Psalm of Praise. **WRITE** the Scriptures that substantiate your answer.

1. How long is God to be praised? _____

IT IS A PERMANENT ATTITUDE.

2. Who praises God? _____

IT IS TO BE PERSONAL PRAISE.

3. Why does praise die out among God's people? _____

EACH GENERATION MUST "PASS IT ON".

4. Underline the words in verses 6-10 that describe the public activities of God's people in regard to praise.

PUBLIC PRAISE IS POWERFUL.

5. What should man speak in regard to praising God? _____

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS KINGDOM.

6. What does God do for His people in verses 14-16? _____

GOD IS PRESENT. GOD IS PATIENT. GOD PROVIDES.



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

7. What can man gain from praising God? Underline these gains in verses 18-20.

GOD BRINGS PEACE. GOD PRESERVES HIS PEOPLE.

8. Who is to speak the praises of our Lord in verse 21?

This psalm speaks about His presence, His peace, His provision, and His preservation.

WRITE

List these words below and claim them as promises to you.

Our only choice is to **REJOICE**. We are to rejoice **IN** everything and **FOR** everything. Our only attitude is to be **GRATITUDE**. It is time to line up with Heaven where praise to our Lord and Savior is continuous. Just as Jehoshaphat took time to praise the Lord, each of us should also.

READ AND WRITE

Match the four verses below to find an admonition concerning praise.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Psalm 71:14 | Praise is to increase |
| Psalm 56:12 | Praise keeps our vows |
| Deuteronomy 10:21 | Praise God for acts He alone can do |
| Psalm 65:1 | Praise is a vow we make to God |

Remember, the **PORCH OF PRAISE** is the doorway into a **HERITAGE HOME**.

Praise Pointers:

- 1. Memorize the Word of God*
- 2. Study praise in the Bible.*
- 3. Use a hymnbook in praise.*
- 4. Share praise times with family and friends.*

THE PRACTICE OF PRAISE

A porch is the entrance into a house. The title of this study section reflects several concepts regarding praise. The primary emphasis is to encourage your heart to praise, even if the other rooms of your "**HERITAGE HOME**" may seem bleak or impossible from time to time. The word "practice" implies that none have arrived at perfection, so "be persistent until you are consistent."



Notes:

A vertical column of horizontal lines for taking notes, starting below the 'Notes:' heading and ending above the page number.

Below you will find several statements reflecting the different aspects of the PORCH OF PRAISE. See if you are able to fill in the blanks as a reminder of your renewed commitment to praise.

- 1. Everyone suffers from the D _____ of negative speech.
2. Do all things without _____ or _____.
3. N _____ spirit + P _____ = miserable person.
4. P _____ spirit + _____ = joyful person.
5. Many have unconsciously developed U _____ spirits.
6. C _____ is agreeing with what God says.
7. You cannot live _____ the level of your _____.
8. If praise is powerful P _____ must not be _____.
9. Praise _____ the _____.
10. The profound truth of praise is that it should be both P _____ and P _____.
11. Jesus was from the tribe of _____ which means _____.

An ACROSTIC is a word in which every letter may be used to prompt or express an idea relevant to the meaning of action of that word. Perhaps this acrostic for praise will yield a pattern for your praise times in the future.

P-PREPARE
to praise. Your heart
must be personally
prepared.

Proverbs 16:1 "The preparations of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord." KJV

R-REMEMBER
and Repent. Think
about God's goodness
in your life.

Romans 2:4 "Or despisest thou the riches of His goodness and forbearance and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?" KJV

A-ADORE GOD
He is the only true source
of help.

Psalms 121:1 "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills. From which cometh my help? My help cometh from the Lord who made heaven and earth." KJV

I-"IMAGE IN"
Envision God's life in
you, His love toward you,
and His longing for your
love and obedience.

Proverbs 29:18 "Where there is no vision, the people perish; ..." KJV

S-SUPPLICATION
Answered prayer deserves
our praise.

Psalms 34:6 "This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles." KJV

E-EXPRESSION
Tell God how much

Psalms 71:24 "My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long; ..." KJV



Notes:

Mary’s Praise Report

The principles of praising God through all the circumstances of life may sound unrealistic to you, but I can relate many experiences when praising God brought His perfect will and powerful peace into my life.

One very difficult experience for my husband and me tested the praise principle. It taught us lessons we cherished and followed faithfully from that time forward. It all began with an anticipated trip to Washington, D.C., to visit our daughter. During our devotional time before the journey, we read Exodus 23:20-25. Verse 25 seemed to plant itself in my mind and as circumstances occurred, I began to know that this verse was a rhema, a special, personal God-sent verse for me and my husband.

“And ye shall serve the Lord thy God, and He shall bless thy bread and thy water and I will take sickness from the midst of Thee.”

After returning from our wonderful trip, my husband began to experience problems with his bladder. The doctor’s exam and x-rays revealed a large tumor that had to be removed immediately. Very early in the pre-dawn hours before Sherman’s surgery, I waited in his room as they prepped him for the procedure. Looking out the large window, we watched as the sun rose through the orange-streaked sky. We were able to rejoice in the Lord and say aloud, *“The sun is rising with healing in His wings.”* (Malachi 4:2)

As the surgery progressed that day, I was supported by the prayers and love of many friends who waited with me at the hospital. We praised God for who He was and what He would do through this circumstance. Peace came to me in those moments and prepared me for what I must face with my husband in the hours ahead. When the doctor appeared, he informed us that Sherman had a large cancerous tumor requiring removal of his bladder and other organs. He would also need chemotherapy to ensure his survival. The diagnosis was devastating, but my prayerful friends and I held hands and praised the Lord for what His healing touch would do in my dear husband’s life.

When Sherman and I talked about the radical disabling surgery the doctor had recommended, he told me that God had not given him the grace for further surgery. As we sought other opinions, we were told repeatedly by other doctors that without this surgery my 58-year-old husband would not live to see his 60th birthday. Sherman remained convinced, however, that God was telling him not to proceed with the physicians’ plan.

God confirmed his message to Sherman through Isaiah 12:2-4 as we studied, sought his will, and prayed together. *“Behold, God is my salvation. I will trust and not be afraid, for the Lord is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation. And in that day shall ye say, Praise the Lord, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted.”* Sherman laughed as he said, *“Mary, God’s going to save my waterwell! You can’t draw water if you don’t have a well.”*

We also knew that we should have an anointing as specified in James 5:16. *“Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith shall save the*

sick and the Lord shall raise him up."

We had sixteen Christian men in our home for a sacred time of obedience to the scriptures. I will always treasure the memory of their willingness to come, to pray, and to praise. Isaiah 10:27 offered us hope as we continued to pray and praise with dear friends the next day.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing."

God truly answered those faithful prayers for eight biopsies later no more cancer appeared, and the surgery was NEVER performed. Sherman kept a log of all the many scriptures that God gave him during these two and one half years as He walked with us through the valley of the shadow of death. The valley, with Jesus, has been very rich in green pastures. Eventually, the incredulous doctors pronounced my husband cancer-free. Sherman's trust in his Father and our obedience to the praise principle caused a miracle of healing. Sherman always knew it was God's mercy that gave him 20 more years of time on this earth. When he shared his testimony, tears came to his eyes. He was always amazed and humbled as he thought of God's grace in healing him. He used Romans 9:15-16 to help him understand why he was so blessed.

"I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then God's gift is not a question of human will and human effort, but of God's mercy..." AMP

I have seen God's healing touch occur in marriages, in wayward children, in broken relationships, and in financial difficulties when Christians choose to praise Him. Praise reveals clearly who God is and what He wants to do for His beloved children. Praise says, "I trust you with all of this, and even though I don't understand or even like what's happening, I know you will make a way through it to bring glory to yourself." Sherman often quoted Ephesians 1:12.

"That we should be to the praise of His glory."

We need to make a commitment to praise, asking the Holy Spirit to bring this truth to our mind in all circumstances of our life.

Mary Oates



Notes:

"In everything, give thanks..."

1 Thessalonians 5:18 KJV

Lesson 3

LAW OF GENERATIONS



Heritage Home Ministries



Notes:

Handwriting practice lines for notes.

"The lines have fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage."

Psalms 16:6 KJV

Handwriting practice lines.

We are so disturbed that the Ten Commandments have been taken off the walls of our schools and court rooms...but **ARE THEY WRITTEN ON YOUR HEART?**

WRITE

Take a few minutes and write the Ten Commandments below.

- 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

How well did you do? Did you have a passing grade?

The Ten Commandments are the heart and soul of the revelation of the character of God. Jesus was what the law looked like as illustrated in a person's life.

In Matthew 5:17, Jesus says: "I came not to destroy the law, but to fulfill it."

In Jeremiah 31:31 we read the PROPHECY of the new covenant that God would make with the House of Israel.

READ AND WRITE

Jeremiah 31:33, 34

Handwriting practice lines for reading and writing.

In the New Testament we are given the PROMISE of the New Covenant (the better covenant) which Jesus made.

READ AND WRITE

Hebrews 8:10

Hebrews 10:16

The Ten Commandments are God's will for us. The Ten Commandments are kept because of love and gratitude, not out of legalism. They are not written on tables of stone like the Law given to Moses, but on tables of the human heart.

We need to consider these commandments in the light of a family contract, as a perfect design for family living. As the Father and Mother have no other gods before them, make no graven images, take not the Lord's name in vain, and remember to keep the first day of the week holy, the children naturally recognize the ultimate value of God in their lives.

As the parents:

- Honor each other
- Do not kill
- Do not commit adultery
- Do not steal
- Do not lie
- Do not covet or envy

The children will:

- Honor their parents
- Be taught to honor life
- Learn that sex produces life
- Be taught to respect the private property of others
- Be taught to respect truth
- Be taught not to covet or envy what others have

"And this is the love of God that we keep His commandments and His commandments are not burdensome."

READ

Psalm 16:6 KJV

"The lines have fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly HERITAGE."

THE FATHERHOOD OF GOD IS ETERNAL

READ AND WRITE

Ephesians 3:14, 15

The important factor in the family is the Father. He is an earthly projection of God the Father.

GOD WANTS A FAMILY



Notes:

*The lines have fallen
unto me in pleasant
places; yea, I have a
goodly heritage."*

Psalms 16:6 KJV



READ AND WRITE

John 14:2

The Father in a home has two basic ministries:

PRIEST I Peter 2:5, "*Ye also, as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.*"

PROPHET Deuteronomy 6:6-7, "*And these words, which I command thee, this day shall be in thine heart; And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and thou shalt talk to them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thy walkest by the way, and when thou lay down and when thy rise up.*"

Every child forms his basic impression of God from one source: his Father.

READ

Genesis 7:7 Noah got his family in the ark.

Genesis 18 Abraham commanded his children and became the Father of many nations.

Joshua 24:15 Joshua said, "*As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.*"

The frightening thing today is that 50% of children go to bed each night without their biological father.

You and I, as wives and mothers, can be true helpmates to our husbands by praying for them. Listed below are Scriptural prayers to pray for your husband. There are twelve, so you can choose one each month. Memorize them, believe them, and see God manifest Himself through them.

Matthew 6:6 tells us to pray in secret and He will reward us openly!

READ AND WRITE

Malachi 4:6

James 1:5

John 10:10

Notes:



Ephesians 1:17,18

Romans 12:1,2

Daniel 5:12

Acts 26:18 - (particular for unsaved)

Matthew 5:6

Matthew 6:33

John 16:8-11

Philippians 1:9-12

Psalms 75:6

Notes:

Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit as you look for other portions of Scripture to help you in praying for your husband.



Notes:

Handwritten notes area with horizontal lines.

Psalm 112 is the one I chose for my husband. As we look at each verse, write the reference beside the words given.

(Psalm 112 KJV)

- 1 Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man who feareth the LORD, who delighteth greatly in his commandments.
- 2 His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.
- 4 Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.
- 5 A good man showeth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion.
- 6 Surely he shall not be moved for ever; the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.
- 7 He shall not be afraid of evil tidings; his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD.
- 8 His heart is established; he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies.
- 9 He hath distributed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.
- 10 The wicked shall see it, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away. The desire of the wicked shall perish.

- _____ FEARS THE LORD
- _____ FAITHFUL TO THE LAW
- _____ FAMILY FOLLOWS
- _____ FINANCES FLOURISH
- (Also read: Proverbs 8:21, Proverbs 13:22)
- _____ FOREKNOWLEDGE OF THE FUTURE
- _____ FAVORABLE AND FRUITFUL
- _____ FIRM FOUNDATION
- _____ FAITH FIXED
- _____ FINANCES TO FEED THE FLOCK
- _____ FOOLISH FADE FOREVER

Identify the verses that apply to:

- _____ his physical health
- _____ his wealth
- _____ his soul
- _____ his spirituality

IT IS IMPERATIVE TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS TO THE CHILDREN!

READ AND WRITE

Malachi 4:6

Handwritten response lines for Malachi 4:6.

What do you think the Scripture means when it talks of "smiting the earth with a curse"?

Handwritten response lines for the Scripture question.



What promise does the Lord give "if we TURN again unto Him"?

READ AND WRITE

II Chronicles 30:9

Joel 2:25,26

Proverbs 1:23

Notes:

Building a conviction is like growing a tree. It takes the right seed, the right time, and balanced care—especially in the beginning! The Scripture says that Jesus *"grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man."*

READ

Proverbs 12:3b The root of the righteous shall not be moved.
Proverbs 12:12b The root of the righteous yieldeth fruit.

MATCH the following blessings with each Scripture:

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| Fruitfulness | Isaiah 27:6b |
| Love | Ephesians 3:17 |
| Established in the faith | Colossians 2:7 |
| Everlasting joy | Isaiah 35:10 |
| Ability to understand the love of Christ | Ephesians 3:18 |
| Peace, righteousness, quietness, assurance,
peaceable habitation, sure dwellings,
quiet resting places | Isaiah 32:17, 18 |

Some of the roots of the rebellious are:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Pride | Proverbs 6:17 |
| Unbelief | Hebrews 3:12 |
| Fear | II Timothy 1:7 |
| Lust | John 2:15-17 |
| Witchcraft | Hosea 4:12 |
| Bitterness | Hebrews 12:15 |
| Despise the Word | Isaiah 30:12-14 |
| Divided Heart | Isaiah 59:12-15 |
| Covetousness | Jeremiah 17:3, 4 |



Notes:

Horizontal lines for taking notes.

Law of Generations

Lesson 3, Page 7

Adultery, fornication, envy,
jealousy, murder, drunkenness

Galatians 5:29-31

Thieves, covetous, drunkards,
revilers, extortioners, effeminate

Corinthians 6:9, 10

Isaiah 53:6 tells us: *“All we like sheep have gone astray; we HAVE TURNED EVERYONE TO HIS OWN WAY, and the LORD hath laid on Him (Jesus) the INIQUITY of us all.”* KJV

Ezekiel 28:15, speaking of Satan: *“Thou was perfect in thy ways from the day thou wast created, till INIQUITY WAS FOUND IN THEE.”* KJV

What does “iniquity” mean?

Horizontal line for answer.

Iniquity is explained in Isaiah 53:6: *“we have turned everyone to his own way.”*

We can look at sin this way: sIn. When I want **my** way and **my** own will instead of God’s way and will, that is sin.

READ

Matthew 3:10 *“And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the tree; therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.”* KJV

The Scripture tells us that this is the remedy for sin.

SINS OF THE FATHERS

READ AND WRITE

Exodus 20: 5,6

Horizontal lines for writing.

This is the reference for the Law of Generations. This Scripture is repeated three times in the Bible: Deuteronomy 5:9, Exodus 34:7, Numbers 14:18.

We inherit fortune, or we inherit debt.

Physical characteristics are passed down from generation to generation in a family. When you go to a doctor, he wants to know the physical history of your family. We all have physical strengths and weaknesses that are passed down from our parents and grandparents. Our ancestors determine our physiological and psychological makeup.

We inherit spiritual assets or liabilities. Are you aware that attitude sins such as **fear, anger, hate, bitterness, pride, greed, and selfishness** are also passed down from generation to generation?



READ

Hebrews 12:1

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us."

IN A HOME, SIN EXTENDS TO THE NEXT GENERATION...IF NOT DEALT WITH.

We all have A sin that easily besets us. Paul discovered his.

READ AND WRITE

II Corinthians 12:7

What did Paul discover regarding this sin and how to deal with it?

In the following Scriptures you will discover the generational sin of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

- Genesis 12:13
- Genesis 20:2
- Genesis 26:9
- Genesis 27:19-27

Abraham's sin was lying. This sin was passed from Abraham to Isaac and then on to Jacob. When a sin is not dealt with, confessed, and cleansed, it is passed down to the next generation.

Jer. 7:26 "Yet they hearkened not unto me, nor inclined their ear, but hardened their neck: they did worse than their fathers."

READ AND WRITE

Proverbs 28:13

A COMFORT: WHERE SIN ABOUNDS, GRACE DOES MUCH MORE ABOUND!
Romans 5:20, *"Moreover, the law entered, that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."* KJV

REMEMBER: WHAT YOU DO IN MODERATION, YOUR CHILDREN WILL DO IN EXCESS. This can be GOOD or BAD.

WRITE

List below any action sins in your life that need to be confessed.

Notes:



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

WRITE

List below any attitude sins that may have been passed down in your family.

In the Old Testament books of Kings and Chronicles we read 21 different times of those who “walked in the sins of Jeroboam.” The sins that he passed down were idolatry, rebellion, and immorality.

READ

Ezekiel 16: 44-47 “As is thy Mother, so is her daughter.”

Their iniquities were pride, fullness of bread (gluttony), and abundance of idleness (laziness).

Isaiah 61:1-3

“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto those who mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness, that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.” KJV

The following prayer can be used to destroy the sins that have been roots of rebellion:

Dear Jesus,

As your child, purchased by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, I acknowledge my sin, and those of my ancestors. I deeply desire to be free of the past sins passed down to my family and claim my freedom from these bondages for myself and all my family. I thank You for speaking through the prophet Isaiah to tell me that you came to proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to those who are bound. I also thank You for promising me that whatsoever we bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven, and whatsoever we shall loose on earth shall be loosed in Heaven. Today I forgive all family members who did not deal with this sin. I claim my freedom from this sin, and today I will begin to keep my freedom by praising You.

Dr. Gerald Mann said, “Trouble is a trigger to reveal the best in the human spirit.”

Galatians 5:1

“Stand fast, therefore, in the liberty with which Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.” KJV

MEMORIZE THIS VERSE AND REMEMBER IT WHEN SATAN TEMPTS YOU



Notes:

REJECTION

One out of every five people feels rejection. Children know whether they are received or rejected while still in the womb.

READ

Luke 1:41 *“And it came to pass, that, when Elizabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost.” Received!*

Luke 1:44 *“For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.” Accepted!*

We overcome rejection and experience acceptance by understanding who we are “**in Christ**”. Neil Anderson, author of *“The Bondage Breaker”*, has written about rejection and how realizing that we are “**accepted in the Beloved**” can impact our lives.

Tim LaHaye lists a formula for the progression of depression:

INSULT

or

INJURY + Anger + Self Pity + Discouragement + Depression = Despair

or

REJECTION

Despair can lead to four kinds of suicide

Mental - Drugs

Moral - Sexual Immorality

Spiritual - Cults

Physical - Physically Destruct

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

The Bible is a will. God’s last will and testament (covenant). How is an earthly will used? It is read to reveal one’s inheritance. One must recognize that there has been a death and that the inheritance has been given by another. Because of the death of Jesus, we have been given an inheritance. As we read the Bible, we will discover our individual inheritance.

READ AND WRITE

Hebrews 9:15

There is a blank Last Will and Testament on page 79 for your convenience. Fill it out and place it with your important papers. Update as needed.

READ AND WRITE

Romans 8:16, 17



Acts 20:32, *“And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.”*

The word “LOGO” speaks of the Word of God. There are UNIVERSAL promises that every believer can claim, such as:

- Matthew 6:33
- John 1:12
- Romans 8:28, 29
- II Corinthians 9:8

When studying about the promises written in the Word, it is important to understand the concept of the **RHEMA**. Rhema indicates an individual Scripture which the Holy Spirit brings to your attention to use in a particular time of need.

This is my possession, my promise, my **INHERITANCE** in the will (Word of God).

II Corinthians 1:20, *“All the promises of God IN HIM are YEA, and IN HIM, AMEN, to the GLORY OF GOD BY US.”* KJV

Listed below are examples of rhemas:

- Psalms 107:20 *“He sent HIS WORD and healed them.”*
- Luke 1:38 *“Be it unto me according to THY WORD.”*
- Matthew 4:4 *“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every WORD that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”*
- Matthew 26:75 *“And Peter remembered THE WORD of Jesus.”*

Do you want to give glory to God? Then claim your **INHERITANCE**, the **PROMISES** of God to you.

WISHES DON'T ALWAYS COME TRUE, BUT PROMISES ALWAYS DO!

READ AND WRITE

II Peter 1:3, 4

Notes:

READ

II Corinthians 7:1

"Having, therefore, these PROMISES, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." KJV

CLEANSING THEN CLAIMING! There is gold in this book. We need to go prospecting!

READ AND WRITE

Hebrews 4:1

Hebrews 6:12

"If any promise of God should fail, the heavens would clothe themselves in sackcloth. The sun, moon, and stars would reel from their courses. A hollow wind would moan through a ruined creation that 'God can lie.'"

—F.B. Meyer

Deut. 29:29

"The secret things belong unto the LORD our God; but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law." KJV



Notes:

"The lines have fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage."

Psalms 16:6 KJV



Last Will and Testament

Lesson 4

HALLWAY OF HAPPINESS



Heritage Home Ministries



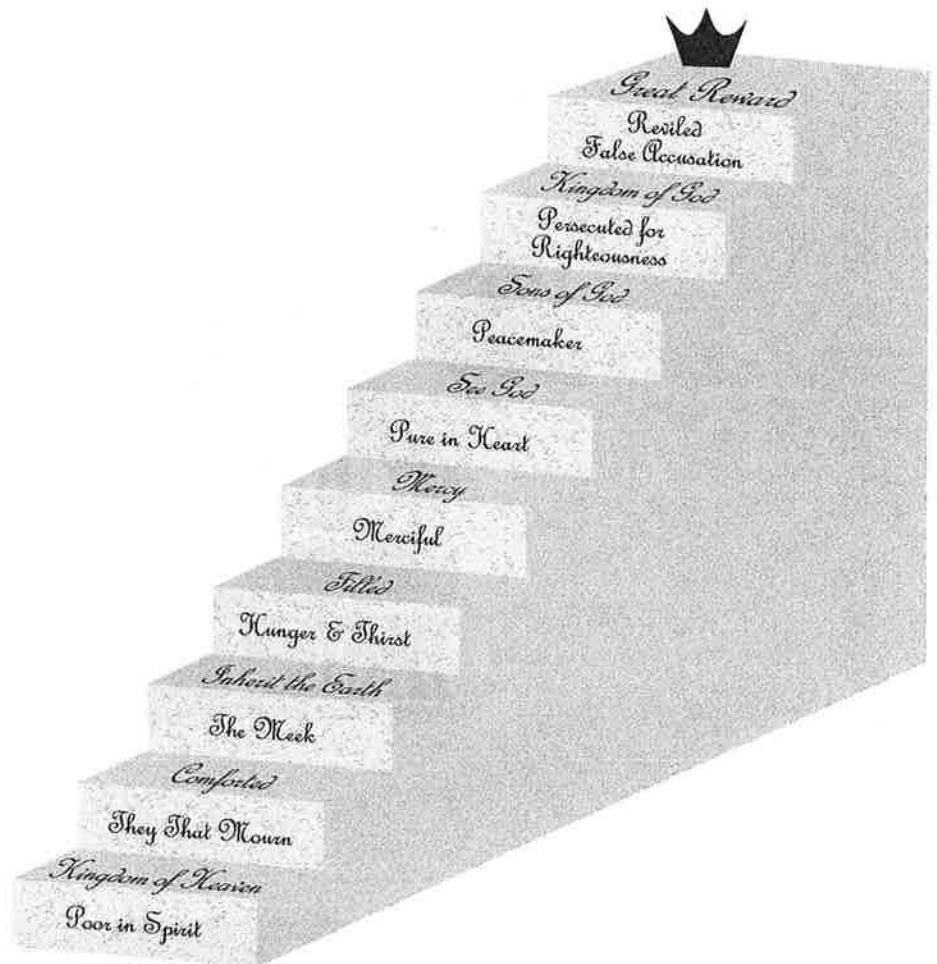
Notes:

Paul said: "I think myself happy...."

Acts 26:2 KJV

As you walk into the hallway of most homes, it is easy to distinguish the priorities of that home. In most homes you will find the family gallery, consisting of portraits of family members and family happenings. You may see wedding pictures, graduation pictures, or pictures of those in military service. It is certain that the grandchildren will be prominently displayed. Heritage is important to all of us.

Many homes have hallways which lead to a staircase going up to the second floor. A stairway is a "step up" to another level. Jesus taught us how to "step-up" to another level of blessing, or happiness, in the Sermon on the Mount (*Matthew 5-7*). This passage allows each one of us to examine the level of happiness that we are currently experiencing in our faith, challenging us to go another step higher in the quest of greater happiness.



Each of these steps represent a characteristic of true happiness described by Jesus.

READ

Matthew 5:1-12 KJV

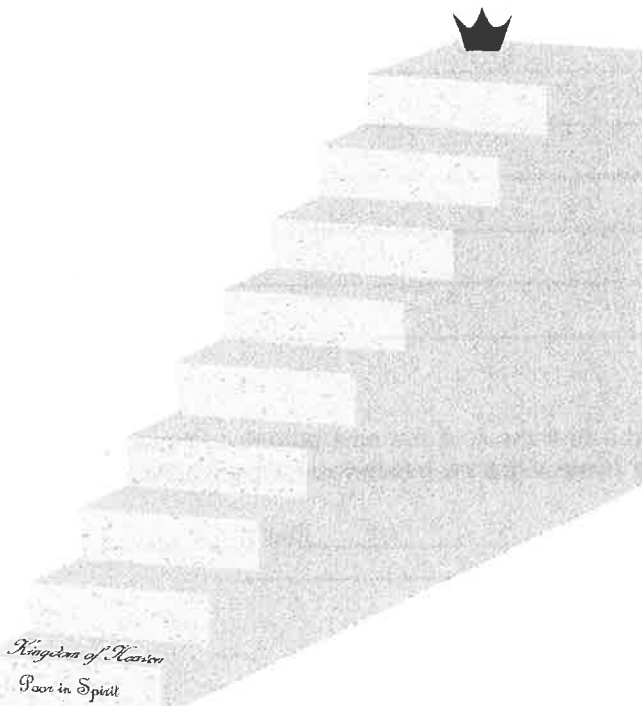
- 1 *And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was seated, his disciples came unto him.*
- 2 *And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,*
- 3 *Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*
- 4 *Blessed are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted.*
- 5 *Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth*
- 6 *Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled.*
- 7 *Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy.*
- 8 *Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God.*
- 9 *Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the sons of God.*
- 10 *Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*
- 11 *Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.*
- 12 *Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad; for great is your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets who were before you.*

After reading the passage, label the step that corresponds with each verse. Include the attitude you are to have and the corresponding blessing that God will give as a result of "stepping up to that step" in your Christian faith. The first step has been filled in as an example to help you.

You have a great section of study ahead. Pray for the wisdom as you begin this study. (James 1:5).

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Then, enjoy the journey that is ahead as you build your Heritage Home. May your "Hallway of Happiness" reflect a portrait of the Be-Attitudes of our Lord Jesus.



Notes:

Paul said: "I think myself happy...."

Acts 26:2 KJV



This passage has been described as "The Birthmarks of the Believer." They are definitely "distinguishing marks" for every believer.



THE BE-ATTITUDES ARE FOR BEING, NOT DOING.

Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

Being reflects attitudes. Doing reflects actions. Jesus is more interested in our Being than in our Do-ing. The things that we do are reflections of our Be-ing.

The nine characteristics of the believer show:

- Our **inward values** (Matthew 5: 3-5)
- Our **upward vision** (Matthew 5: 6-8)
- Our **outward victories** (Matthew 5: 9-12)

READ AND WRITE

Read again Matthew 5:3-12

Write the nine characteristics below.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____

Let's consider the first three of the nine attitudes. Remember that these three reflect the inward values that each believer must establish as a base for happiness.

I. "Blessed are the _____ in _____ for theirs is the _____ of _____."



Notes:

In the Greek, "blessed" means happy, happy! It can also mean congratulations! God's favor rests upon you. We are either poor in Spirit, knowing we have need to grow, or we are spiritually proud. We go from rags to riches as we recognize our poorness of Spirit. We have begun to take our first step toward finding true happiness. You become a poor little rich girl!

READ AND MATCH

As you match the verses below, look for God's attitude toward the pride-filled heart. Notice the difference in one's actions when he has an humble spirit.

<i>Proverbs 6:17</i>	God doesn't forget the humble
<i>Jeremiah 9:23,24</i>	God resists
<i>Isaiah 57:15</i>	A contrite Spirit
<i>I John 2:16</i>	Not of the Father
<i>James 4:6</i>	Glory belongs to God
<i>Philippians 2:8</i>	A proud look
<i>I Peter 5:6</i>	Jesus humbled Himself

These verses readily teach the lesson of humility. The church of Laodicea nauseated Christ for they did not recognize that they had a need. They were proud, self-sufficient, and in need of no-thing.

Do you have an humble and contrite heart or a proud, independent heart? Do you have a teachable Spirit? Talk to God about it NOW! Compose your thoughts with regard to the Scripture you just studied.

II. "Blessed are they that _____ for they shall be _____."

READ AND WRITE

Hebrews 12:1

How dry are your eyes? What breaks your heart? It should be THE sin that easily besets you. God has provided victory over this sin.

READ AND WRITE

From the list below, mark three sins that break your heart. Then write THE sin that troubles you.

- _____ Anger
- _____ Irresponsibility
- _____ Lying
- _____ Bitterness
- _____ Doubt
- _____ Worry
- _____ Fear
- _____ Jealousy



Notes:

Lined area for handwritten notes.

READ AND WRITE

II Corinthians 12:9

Three horizontal lines for writing.

Psalm 51:4

Three horizontal lines for writing.

Your sin breaks God's heart. Does it break yours? If so, I John 1:9 may be claimed. The Lord Jesus forgives sin which is confessed. He who confesses and forsakes his sin shall find mercy. The Lord has promised that He will forgive you and cleanse you from all unrighteousness.

READ AND WRITE

I John 1:9

Three horizontal lines for writing.

Rewrite I John 1:9
in your own words.

Three horizontal lines for writing.

READ AND WRITE

II Corinthians 7:10-11

Four horizontal lines for writing.

This passage deals with Godly sorrow. Write the results of this Scripture.

Three horizontal lines for writing.



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of approximately 18 horizontal lines.

III. "Blessed are the _____ for they shall _____ the _____."

Meekness is strength under control. It actually refers to the taming of a wild horse. A bucking stallion must be broken to be controlled by his owner. God wants to lead you. He wants you to be controlled by His Holy Spirit. All of us must be broken.

We see this principle in the story of the boy with his loaves and fishes. The boy gave the loaves and fishes, Jesus took them, blessed them, broke them, and then fed a multitude. He will do the same thing with our lives.

As we yield our lives to Him, He:

- Takes them
- Blesses them
- Breaks them
- Uses them

READ

Genesis 39-42

This is the story of Joseph. Can you remember the six major events in his life? **WRITE** the events found in this passage.

Two sets of horizontal lines for writing the six major events in Joseph's life.

Dr. Adrian Rogers of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee, shared the following five principles from Joseph's life. They have become a personal goal for many going through this process of brokenness.

1. Don't demand to understand
2. Don't fail to be faithful
3. Don't bow to bitterness
4. Don't hurry Providence
5. Don't let your dreams dissolve

We have **APPOINTED AFFLICTIONS**. On God's calendar there are certain afflictions designed to conform us unto His image.

Hallway of Happiness

Lesson 4, Page 8



Notes:

IV. “Blessed are they which do _____ and _____ after _____ for they shall be _____.”

Bible Study can be divided into three stages:

1. Cod Liver Oil Stage - Studying the Bible is like medicine, and you read it only when you are sick or have problems.
2. Shredded Wheat Stage - The Bible is nourishing, but it is usually dry and tasteless.
3. Peaches and Cream Stage - The Bible is nourishing, satisfying, and sweet, and you want more and more.

How would you describe your Bible study time? _____ Stage.

Righteousness means “to divide” or “choose” the **RIGHT**:

- RIGHT** Influences
- RIGHT** Ambitions
- RIGHT** Desires

The word “filled” in this be-attitude means to be gorged. You want the whole thing. Do you get as hungry for the Word of God as you do for physical food? Should we not delight in spiritual snacks between meals? Maybe it is time to “**PIG OUT!**”

The best way to be filled with the Holy Spirit is to hunger for God’s Word. He Who is the Word, will fill you to overflowing. “Open your mouth and I will fill it,” He has said.

In order to establish a daily study of God’s Word, **TAKE THIS SIMPLE TEST!**

In the following chart, put the day of the week, the date, and the passage you read. See how long it takes you to get a consistent seven days of Bible reading and study into your life. Do not be discouraged if it takes a few tries. You are working on a lifelong, delightful discipline of study that will have eternal value in your life.

	Day	Date	Passage
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

ARE YOU TRULY HUNGRY?



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

V. "Blessed are the _____ for they shall _____."

Hebrews 4:15, 16

"For we have not an high priest who cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us, therefore, come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." KJV

Lamentations 3:22-23

"It is because of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness." KJV

Mercy is available daily.

Evangelist Ron Dunn defines mercy as:

"... the feeling of compassion reaching out; the ability to get inside another's skin, and see with their eyes, hear with their ears, think with their minds, and feel with their heart. It is that quality that moves individuals to action toward another. After all, is that not what God did when He sent His Son for each or us?"

God is so good in opening the door of opportunity for blessings in every person's life. The result is that we have three basic strengths for our daily lives as believers. These characteristics move us to meet our needs and the needs of others.

- 1. Mercy denotes forgiveness
Psalm 103:12 It is only by mercy that we are forgiven.
- 2. Mercy denotes fruitfulness
Luke 6:38 As we give mercy to others, we will receive mercy. We give and it shall be given to us. If you need mercy, give out of your meager resources and you will receive "good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over." Try this principle . . . you'll like it!
- 3. Mercy denotes God's faithfulness
Hebrews 4:15, 16 As we avail ourselves of the mercy seat of God and pray, He will strengthen us, sustain us, and satisfy us with His presence as He hears and answers our need.

Has the Holy Spirit brought to mind someone toward whom you need to show mercy? As you think of people and their needs, write them below.

Two horizontal lines for writing names.

PEOPLE DO NOT CARE HOW MUCH YOU KNOW, BUT THEY DO WANT TO KNOW HOW MUCH YOU CARE!

Hallway of Happiness

Lesson 4, Page 10



Notes:

VI. "Blessed are the _____ in _____ for they shall see _____."

As you read Psalm 24, describe the person with a pure heart. What are his qualities of character? What are his blessings?

Pure means unmixed. There is no place for an alloy in the life of a growing believer. When alloys are made, the level of purity drops and strength is lessened. The same is true of one's personal spiritual life and strength. It is no accident that the Scripture declares that "if thine eye is single, then the body is full of light."

I John 3:3 tells us, who have the hope of Jesus' return, to purify ourselves as He is pure.

Philippians 4:8 tells us to think on whatever things are true, honest, just, **PURE**, lovely, and of good report. Would this describe your thought life?

I Timothy 5:22 admonishes us to "keep thyself **PURE**."

II Timothy 1:3 tells us to have a **PURE** conscience. Do we?

When we are at the judgment seat of Christ, we will be transparent and our motivations for serving Christ will be revealed. Will our motives be pure and free from any selfishness?

VII. "Blessed are the _____ for they shall be called the _____ of _____."

This is the seventh be-attitude. Seven is the number for perfection (maturity). We have to grow to a measure of maturity in order to be called peacemakers.

Peace takers are peacemakers. God is the only One who can give peace. When we take Jesus as our Savior, He gives us this peace.

READ AND WRITE

Romans 5:1

Isaiah 53:5



Colossians 3:15

“Let the peace of God rule (referee) in your hearts, to which also ye are called in one body; and be thankful.” KJV

Peace is our referee in life. If a situation arises and you don't have peace, continue to pray until you do have God's peace.

Jesus said, “My peace I give unto you.” Peace is a gift that Jesus wants us to receive from Him.

The gift of peace is illustrated in the song, *Lord Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace*.

Lord make me an instrument of Thy peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love,
Where there is injury, pardon,
Where there is doubt, faith,
Where there is despair, hope,
Where there is darkness, light,
Where there is sadness, joy.

While seven is perfection in Scripture numerics, eight indicates a new beginning. We will learn now that **there is no advancement without affliction**.

Psalm 34:19

“Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.” KJV

Are you currently going through an affliction? If so, write it below.

Now, **claim the Scripture** that promises He will deliver you out of this affliction.

A bricklayer knows that before he can build a house, the bricks will have to go through the fire. In the same manner, the Lord knows that, before He can build a spiritual house, His building stones (human lives) will also have to go through the fire.

READ AND WRITE

Isaiah 43:1-2

I Corinthians 3:13

Notes:



Notes:

VIII. "Blessed are they who are _____ for _____ sake,
for theirs is the _____ of _____."

"Persecuted for righteousness" . . . Do we react or respond?
To react is to **attack**. To respond is to receive.

To please the Lord we must obey His commands. His command in I Thessalonians 5:18 is, "*In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*" KJV

When Jesus was reviled, He reviled not again, but committed Himself to God. He is our example. Jesus warned us that persecutions would come to those who love Him. In His sovereignty, He has allowed persecutions to come into our lives. If we love Him, He has promised to make these persecutions work together for good. We know that Romans 8:28, 29 is our refuge and peace in times of persecutions.

READ AND WRITE

John 15:20b

Luke 6:27-28

"But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you."

So our "prescription for persecution" is:

- Love.
- Do good.
- Bless.
- Pray.

READ

I Corinthians 4:12-13 " ...being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure it; being defamed, we entreat ..."

READ AND WRITE

Proverbs 16:7

Do we want full joy? Remember: "Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness sake."

IX. "Blessed are ye, when men shall _____ you, and _____ you, and shall say all manner _____ against you falsely, for _____ . Rejoice, and be _____ for _____ is your _____ ; ..." KJV

Be assured that when you come to this stage of growth in Christ, you will be under attack by Satanic forces.



Notes:

Lined area for handwritten notes.

Jesus warned Peter, "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren."

Our sufferings may be described as a **MYSTERY**, a **MISERY**, and a **MINISTRY**.

Some sufferings can be described as a **MYSTERY**: "seeing through a glass **DARKLY**" or the "**VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH**."

All of us can attest that there is a **MISERY** in these trials.

But, II Corinthians 1:3-11 tells us there is a **MINISTRY** God has prepared for us to help others when we have passed through these trials.

Read these verses and realize the **GOD OF ALL COMFORT** desires us to comfort others.

READ AND WRITE

Philippians 3:10

What three things did Paul desire?

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

These should be our desires also.
Write what you think Paul meant by "knowing" Him.

What did he mean by desiring the power of His resurrection?

How do we know the fellowship of His sufferings?



Circumcision of the Heart

Sometimes I feel extremely lonely
But I come alive - truly alive
in the presence of someone who has
had circumcision of the heart.
It doesn't take long to tell when someone
has been cut by life.
There is a vulnerability about them
It clings to them like a silky robe
full of electricity - it clings and traces
the very outline of their figure.
In the same way, I can see where
pain has left its mark -
I can see it in their eyes.
They're full of compassion and searching
for another heart companion -
Someone else who has borne an unspeakable sorrow
and yet survived -
Buoyed by a faith that would not let go -
crushed by tragedy but cushioned by grace.
It's that kind of faith that defies the gravity of the moment
Like the way astronauts are not under the same law of gravity as before
They have risen above it.
Some of us have had our masks ripped away.
Like the survivors of Auschwitz,
Once your nakedness is exposed
there's no use pretending to be something you're not.
I have seen things about myself that can only grieve God more than me -
and yet I feel totally loved.
I have felt the overwhelming tiredness of carrying
emotions too heavy for a broken heart
Yet I know that nothing separates me from the love of God
I have smelled the sickening odor of dreams being burned
ignited by circumstances and sin-leaving only a circle of ashes

continued on next page

Notes:

Nine denotes fruit. The fruit of the Spirit will be manifested in our lives as we allow Christ to live His life through us. Then we will experience joy within ourselves, and we will bring joy to others.

When we are filled with His Spirit, our works will be rewarded. Jesus said, *"Behold I come quickly and my reward is with me."*

Revelation 22:13 *"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last."*

The Scripture teaches that Christians will appear at the Judgment Seat of Christ, the Bema, to receive rewards.

READ

Romans 14:12

II Corinthians 5:10

The believer will be given crowns of reward at the Bema.

READ AND WRITE

Look up these Scripture passages and write the name of the crown beside the passage as it relates to the believer.

1. James 1:12 _____
2. I Peter 5:2 - 4 _____
3. I Thessalonians 2:19 - 20 _____
4. II Timothy 4:8 _____
5. I Corinthians 9:25 - 27 _____



To conclude this study, look back at the stairway and the attitudes - the beautiful attitudes - of the believer. Do they describe you?



Notes:



Below and on the following page you will find what is known as a "Mental Health Inventory." Follow the directions and add up your score. It will show you how far you have climbed on the "steps of spiritual blessedness."

Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of 18 horizontal lines.

HOW'S YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?

Check one space to answer each question: (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___

- (1) Not at all (or "it's Not")
- (2) Sometimes (or "just fair")
- (3) Pretty consistently (or consistently good)
- (4) None of your business

-
- 1. How well do you take rejection? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 2. How does your love hold up in the face of rebuffs? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 3. How panic-proof are you in the face of pressures? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 4. How well can you take injury without resentment? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 5. How well can you handle praise without pride? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 6. Do you generally have a good sense of personal worth? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 7. How realistic is your assessment of your own importance? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 8. Are you able to relate objectively to the needs of others? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 9. Are you available to be part of the solution in most every problem situation? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 10. Are you at rest in the midst of world turmoil? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 11. Are you steadfastly committed to right causes and right actions? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 12. Are you cheerfully optimistic even when all seems lost? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 13. Do you have a clear sense of direction in a confused world? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 14. Are you free from guilt (either real or false)? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 15. Are you free from being plagued by regrets? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 16. Are you free from being black-mailed by fears? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
 - 17. Are your priorities generally in order? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___



Notes:

- 18. Do you have a good sense of humor (especially when the joke's on you?) (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 19. How well do you "hang in there" when the going gets tough? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 20. How non-defensive is your attitude? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 21. How open are you to correction? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 22. How emotionally stable are you? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 23. Are you a confident person? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 24. How well do you handle suffering? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 25. How teachable are you? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 26. How vulnerable are you willing to be? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 27. How transparent and open are you? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 28. How good is your balance between liberty and license? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 29. How well do you "keep going" without encouragement? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 30. How submissive are you to authority? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 31. How effective is your leadership? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 32. How fulfilling is your value system? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 33. How well adjusted is your attitude toward the opposite sex? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 34. How free are you from indulging in emotional thinking? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___
- 35. How willing are you to forego your rights? (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___

- TOTALS** (1) ___ (2) ___ (3) ___ (4) ___

Paul said: "I think myself happy...."

Acts 26:2 KJV

Add up all the 1's, 2's and 3's using the number values; if you checked three, add three; if you checked two, add two; and so on. If your total score is between 70 and 100, you are doing great.

KEEP IT UP!

Lesson 5

BEDROOM OF BLESSING



Heritage Home Ministries



Notes:

“And why one? That he might seek a godly seed.”
Malachi 2:15 KJV



*“Oh the steps of the righteous are ordered by God,
And our steps that were two shall be one;
We are bound now forever by the strength of His Son,
And now we two shall be one.”*

*We two shall be one, saith God;
We two shall be one, saith God;
Forsaking all others; parents, sisters, and brothers;
We two shall be one, saith God.*

*Elected in Jesus to be born from above,
Blest in Him by the gift of His love,
We surrender to live now as one in the Son,
And the two of us shall be one.”*

Sam Cathey

God’s Design

READ

Genesis 2:18

“And the Lord God said, ‘It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help fit for him.’” KJV

Genesis 2:23,24

“And Adam said, ‘This is now bone of my bones, flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife; and they shall be ONE flesh.’”

Malachi 2:15,16

“And did not He make ONE? ...and why ONE? That HE MIGHT SEEK A GODLY SEED. Therefore, take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that He hateth putting away; ...” KJV

Matthew 19: 4-6

“... Have ye not read that He who made them at the beginning, made them male and female; And said, ‘For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they two shall be ONE flesh? Wherefore, they are no more two, but ONE flesh. What, therefore, God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.’”KJV

There is a feminist attack on the divine order of women. Radical feminism has as its design to brainwash women. Unthinking or untaught women fall prey to feminism’s thinking. This movement began in November, 1971, and its goal is the liberation of women and a total reversal of all God-ordained values. Their philosophy states that the freedom of women cannot be won without the abolition of marriage.

We therefore need to study what the Word of God has to say about marriage and headship.

God’s Declaration

READ

Hebrews 13:4 *“Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed is undefiled.”*

Genesis 3:16 *“Thy desire shall be to thy husband and he shall rule over thee.”*

HEADSHIP

Eve broke headship and plunged the world into sin. She should have told the devil to: "Go ask Adam." Adam, because of Eve, broke headship with God. We must get back to headship as God designed it from the beginning.

READ

I Corinthians 11:3

This is the "Chain of Command" verse. Answer the following questions.

- Who is the head of Christ?
- Who is the head of the woman?
- Who is the head of the man?

WRITE these in order: _____

SUBMISSION

Why are we in chaos?

The order is out of order! We need to see the process of making two people **ONE IN THE LORD**. Indeed, this is the greatest of miracles apart from salvation. First, let us see what is meant by "the big 'S'"...SUBMISSION.

SUBMISSION IS: A military word which means to do an assigned job in an assigned way. It is dealing with structure and roles, not honor and merit.

To voluntarily complete, arrange, adapt, or blend to make a complete whole or complete pattern; a responsibility.

You are given an assigned area of work in which you are a manager, requiring initiative and creativity.

God is a God of order. God demands order in creation for our benefit. In the same way, His command for wives to submit to their own husbands is for their benefit. We must trust and obey!

READ AND WRITE

I Peter 3:6

Luke 2:51



Notes:

"And why one? That he might seek a godly seed."

Malachi 2:15 KJV

Why are women told to SUBMIT?

1. For the sake of your children. They learn to submit to your authority, and thereby learn to submit to other authorities, or they learn to rebel and resist all authorities. (School, employer, policemen) Your submission to your husband teaches them to submit.

READ

Isaiah 3:1-12.

WRITE what happens when women rule.

2. For the sake of your husband.

3. For our own sake.

FOR A WOMAN WHO HAS AN UNSAVED HUSBAND, THERE IS NOTHING ASIDE FROM THE WORD OF GOD THAT IS MORE POWERFUL THAN A GOOD LIFESTYLE OF SUBMISSION.

READ

I Peter 2:21 - 31

READ AND WRITE

I Peter 3:1

READ

Nehemiah 1:5-11; 2-8

If you need to make an appeal, turn to the book of Nehemiah and apply the way he approached his authority to help you in appealing to your authority. Find the verses where he prayed, expressed loyalty, presented the facts, was asked to set a time, was submissive, and gave reasons for what he wanted to do.

READ

Esther 2:20, 5:8, 7:3, 8:5

The most evident character traits of Esther are obedience and submission. (2:20-to her uncle; 5:8, 7:3, 8:5-to her husband)

We are seeing the result of exchanged roles in the home. When women take over the dominant role in the family, a tendency of the sons to enter into homosexual relationships can be seen. Biblical counselors say they have never seen a homosexual where the father took the leadership in the home. So, we must let them lead, and we must submit.



Notes:



Notes:

There are three things needed in a home. **READ AND WRITE** the Scriptures listed below

1. COMMITMENT TO OUR COVENANT

Look at the following passages of Scripture concerning our vows, our covenant.

READ AND WRITE
Ecclesiastes 5:4, 5

Psalm 50:14

Psalm 61:5

Psalm 116:14, 18

Have we kept our vows to God, to our husbands?

READ
Ezekiel 16:60
Psalm 105:8
Psalm 106:45
Psalm 111:5b
Hebrews 6:17

God keeps His covenants with us.

WRITE the result of your commitment.



God's Distinctive Differences



SANGUINE	
<u>POSITIVE</u>	<u>NEGATIVE</u>
Extrovert	Restless
Optimistic	Egocentric
Friendly	Unstable
Uninhibited	Undisciplined
Compassionate	Weak-willed



CHOLERIC	
<u>POSITIVE</u>	<u>NEGATIVE</u>
Extrovert	Impatient
Strong will	Hot Temper
Prideful	Demanding
Independent	Unforgiving
Practical	Difficult to please
Disciplined	Impetuous
	Self-sufficient



MELANCHOLY	
<u>POSITIVE</u>	<u>NEGATIVE</u>
Introvert	Critical
Sensitive	Pessimistic
Perfectionist	Negative
Gifted	Temperamental
Faithful	Moody
Idealist	Revengeful



PHLEGMATIC	
<u>POSITIVE</u>	<u>NEGATIVE</u>
Introvert	Lazy
Efficient	Slow-starter
Dependable	Stingy
Calm	Stubborn
Quiet	Selfish
Peacemaker	Indecisive
Witty	

Notes:

As you study the charts, can you decide which temperament fits you and your husband?



Notes:

Lined area for handwritten notes.

We have heard the expression, "Opposites attract." This is true in most marriages. God puts opposites together. There is purpose and planning in this...completeness! Where you are weak, he will be strong. Where you are strong, he will be weak. We are not to **compete**...but to **complete** one another.

Study the chart and note the positives which you possess and the negative ones your husband possesses. Try to realize that your positives will complete him, and that his positives will complete you.

WRITE

Your positives:

Two sets of horizontal lines for writing positives.

Note the negatives you possess. Compare them to your husband's strengths. His positive characteristics will often complete your negative ones.

WRITE

Your negatives:

Two sets of horizontal lines for writing negatives.

Despite the faults that partners have, the marriage still can thrive. But, both partners **MUST** draw upon God's love to keep their love alive.

GOD'S LOVE IS AN UNCONDITIONAL COMMITMENT TO AN IMPERFECT PERSON!

Likewise, our love to our mate is an **UNCONDITIONAL COMMITMENT TO AN IMPERFECT PERSON!**

We need to **RECEIVE** our mates as a gift from God, and thank Him for them. How did Jesus receive you? "Just As I Am" fits all of us perfectly as the way Jesus received us. We short-circuit the power of God to influence our husbands if we do not receive them as His gift to us.

Describe when you met Jesus, and how He has changed you through His love.

Four horizontal lines for describing the experience of meeting Jesus.

Think of this relationship as it relates to your marriage.

Have you seen qualities you don't like in your mate? Yes! However, our mates are the perfecting work of God in our lives. If you have not received your mate **JUST AS HE IS**, you have set up a resistance to him. Release him by receiving him. Begin to see the perfecting work of Christ in completing you.

Marriages may be **MADE** in Heaven, but **MAINTENANCE** is worked out here on earth!

It is God's job to change people, NOT OURS.



Notes:

WRITE AND MEMORIZE

Philippians 2:13

What about sex in marriage? The whole world has gone sex-mad. The divorce rate, which had been fairly steady from 1950 to 1967, started climbing rapidly after books on sex began to be published. One of the first was The Kinsey Report, written in 1967.

Wives, who used to be regarded primarily as mothers, have been knocked off that pedestal. When men stop seeing women as mothers, sex loses its sacredness. Then sex becomes recreation, and the drive is to find new stimulation.

Look at the advertisements in magazines, on billboards, and on television. List some of the things that you feel are demeaning for women to advertise.

Godly Delight

READ

Psalms 45. This is a picture of Jesus the King, and a beautiful picture of a Christian husband and wife.

WRITE the verses that describe the groom by his bride:

- His conversation v. _____
His conquests v. _____
His character v. _____
His clothing v. _____
His castle v. _____

WRITE the verses of the groom describing his bride and her attendants:

- Her commitment v. _____
Her charm v. _____
Her companions v. _____
Her celebration v. _____
Her covenant children v. _____

FIVE STAGES OF MARITAL LIFE

Watchman Nee has described the five stages of marital life as:

- 1. Initial Stage of Love
2. Faltering Stage of Love
3. Growing Stage of Love
4. Transforming Stage of Love
5. Mature Stage of Love

Which stage best describes your marriage? _____

Lined area for notes with horizontal lines.



Notes:

Three things you remember about the wedding:

The AISLE

The ALTAR

The HYMN.....And we think: "I'll alter him."

What turns your husband on?

Sight

How do you look?

Sound

How do you sound?

Fragrance

How do you smell?

How do your linens look? A Wamsutta advertisement says: "After all, its 1/3 of your life."

Describe each of the following women with regard to sex in marriage. Write your comments about them.

"Ivy Iceberg"

"Eva Excuse"

"Sally Sexpot"

"Wendy Wonderful"

If problems exist in a marriage, those problems can most often be caused by:

- 1. Parental interference (Not "leaving and cleaving")
- 2. Money
- 3. Sex

A man depends on sex to enhance his life. Tim LaHaye supports this by stating that sex:

- 1. Fulfills a man's sex drive
- 2. Fulfills his manhood
- 3. Enhances a man's love for his wife
- 4. Reduces tension in the home
- 5. Produces life's most exciting experience



Notes:

PROBLEMS REGARDING SEX IN MARRIAGE

There are several areas which could cause problems in a marriage. Among these are:

- Frigidity—can be caused by premarital or extra-marital sex
- Incest—can sometimes cause frigidity. Forgiveness releases the bindings.
- Gluttony—a rampant problem in our country.
- Feminine hygiene—important to sex.
- Pornography
- Soap Operas
- Novels

All these problems can be deterrents to sex. Consider this list and determine if these areas are hindering your sex life. Remember, God designed and planned our sex drives.

"Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled."

True Love

True love comes

After the adventure, the acceptance

After the blossoms, the bending

After the camaraderie, the commitment

After the discovery, the dedication

After the emotion, the endurance

After the fireworks, the forgiveness

After the gift, the giving

After the honeymoon, the harmony

After the I, the impartiality

After the joy, the journey

After the kiss, the kindness

After the longing, the long-suffering

After the moment, the memories

After the novelty, the nevertheless

After the one, the only

After the passion, the perseverance

After the quest, the quiet

After the ring, the reality

After the self, the servant

After the talk, the truth

After the union, the unity

After the vitality, the vitamins

After the wanting, the why

After the 'x'-itement, the 'x'-ample

After the yes, the years

After the zing, the zeal.

Janey O. Lamphron



Notes:



Notes:

“And why one? That he might seek a godly seed.”

Malachi 2:15 KJV

I promise to yield unto you as unto Christ...

I will willingly yield to your authority in all things.
I will not act independently, but will seek your counsel, advice, and prayer.
I will not resist your leadership or decisions, but will eagerly cooperate with you in a spirit of love and humility.
I will sweetly appeal to you when I question a decision, trusting God to work in your heart that which is pleasing to Him.
I will adopt your priorities, goals, and desires as my own.
I will humbly accept reproof from you, as from the Lord.
I will teach our children to honor and obey you, and will wholeheartedly support your leadership of their lives.

I promise to serve you...

I will sacrificially give of myself to meet your physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.
I will be diligent in keeping our home clean and orderly.
I will discipline myself to be physically and spiritually pleasing for you.
I will be content with God's material provision through you, and will work to live within those means.
I will be a partner with you in reaching out and ministering to the needs of others.
I will seek to make our home a haven of love, peace, and joy.
I will work to create in our home a climate that encourages you to grow spiritually and to become all that God wants you to be.

I promise to love you...

I will accept and admire you as God made you.
I yield my expectations to God and will trust Him to be all that I need.
I will give you the freedom to fail without fear of criticism or rejection.
I will speak words that encourage and build you up.
I will listen with interest to anything that is on your heart.
I will honestly share with you my thoughts and concerns.
I will offer physical love to you, and will not defraud you by selfishly withholding that love.
I will allow God to develop in me a spirit that is meek and quiet.
I will be faithful to you and will give myself to you above all others, until we are separated by death.

Used by permission, Life Action Ministries

If you are willing to do these things, sign this page, make a copy, and give it to your husband.

Lesson 6

PART 1 SYMPHONY OF SONG



Heritage Home Ministries



Notes:

*"The Lord, thy God,
will joy over thee with
singing."*

Zephaniah 3:17c KJV



What kind of music does God like?
What was God's special purpose for music?

The scripture I chose for this room is Colossians 3:16.

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

Psalms 139 tells us we are fearfully and wonderfully made. God has so well equipped us for music ... the eyes to see the music, the ears to hear the sound, the larynx to sing, the sensitivity of the nervous system to feel the impulses and awaken us to gladness, sadness or joy.

In the musical, *The Sound of Music* there was a line in the song that said: "The hills are alive with the sound of music. My heart wants to sing every song it hears." This is not always true today. We have to be aware and sensitive about the songs we hear.

Today, I want to begin this session on music with a positive note. Later on we will deal with the negatives of music.

First of all, God sings.

Zephaniah 3:17 *"The LORD thy God, (He must be a personal God to you.) in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing."KJV*

Jesus sings: (After Jesus had instituted the Lord's Supper)

Mark 14:26 *"And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the Mount of Olives."*

The first recorded song is in Exodus 15. After the children of Israel were on dry land and the waters covered the Egyptians, God gave to Moses a song. *"I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him."*

Apostles sang: (after being filled with the Holy Spirit)

Ephesians 5:19 *"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;"*

Colossians 3:16 (above chosen for this study)

Servants and saints sing:

Isaiah 65:14 *"Behold my servants shall sing for joy of heart."*

The redeemed shall sing:

Isaiah 51:11 *“Therefore the redeemed of the LORD shall return, and come with singing unto Zion, and everlasting joy shall be upon their head; they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away.” KJV*

In Heaven, we will sing:

Rev. 5:9-10 *“And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.”*

Also in Rev. 14:3 *“And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.”*

And in Rev. 15:3 *“And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.”*

Miriam, Deborah, and Hannah sang. Mary’s song called “The Magnificat” is contained in Luke 1:46 - 58 (Compare to Hannah’s song in I Samuel 2:1 - 10)

A Psalm is a poem to be sung to a stringed instrument. The Book of Psalms contains many prayers with praise following. David is the most commonly recognized author of the Psalms. He has his inscription on 73 of them. Psalm 145 - 150 are all praise songs. There are 10 Hallelujah psalms.

Songs fight battles:

II Chronicles 20:22 *“And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.”*

Songs are medicine for the soul:

I Samuel 16:14-16, 23 *“But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him. And Saul’s servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee. Let our lord now command thy servants, which are before thee, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well. And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.”*

New scientific studies have shown that early musical training shapes the growing brains of children and boosts their learning power. This aids in the development of logic, abstract thinking, memory, and creativity.

We think of angels singing. Many commentaries tell that angels rejoice and praise God, but references speak of them saying, not singing. “The redeemed of the Lord sing.”

Luke 2:13 *“Praising the Lord and singing”*



Notes:

*“The Lord, thy God,
will joy over thee with
singing.”*

Zephaniah 3:17c KJV



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

Rev. 5:11-12 "And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing."

Rev. 7:11-12 "And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen."

"You see music is the mightiest force in human life in its influence on ideas, moods, and ideals." Cynthia Moss, Christ and the Fine Arts
G. Stanley Hall says: "...There is probably no other such agent for educating the heart to love God, home, country and for cadencing the whole emotional nature, as music." Christ and the Fine Arts

In the Old Testament, singers were

- Chosen of God I Chronicles 15:12
Anointed I Chronicles 15:16 - 22 16:4 - 6, 37, 41, 42
Clean Numbers 8:5-14

Christians are being tested in areas which will require an aggressive stand...television, clothing, and our music. Satan has taken captive at his will many of our young people, but he has not left adults out of the scene. It is important to understand how he has deceived and distorted music in both the secular and sacred world.
We have to purify our lives and get ready for Christ's return.

Parents, have you noticed that your youth have a different musical taste than you do? Young people, do you find it difficult to understand the music of your parents? Would you define your taste in music as "good"?

READ AND WRITE

I Corinthians 10:31

Lined area for writing the answer to I Corinthians 10:31.

Matthew 15:8

Lined area for writing the answer to Matthew 15:8.

If the heart is pure, the discernment is rich and real.

The type of music you like is not important. The kind of music God likes is very important. Does He like country, rock and roll, soft rock, or opera? Study the background of each of these types of music.

God created everything and is the author of music.

READ AND WRITE

Genesis 1:26

The Trinity is in harmony.

READ AND WRITE

Genesis 1:31a

Everything He made was very good.

READ AND WRITE

James 1:17

John 1:3

Colossians 1:16

Revelation 4:11

This was the Lord's purpose: to bring glory to the Father.

We glorify the father by being obedient to Him. To glorify God means "to **honor Him by our willing obedience to Him.**" True love for the Father is shown by obedience.

Music is to reflect the testimony of a changed life. We sing a new song which are praises to our God. Isaiah 42:8-12 *"I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images. Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them. Sing unto the LORD a new song, and his praise from the end of the earth, ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein; the isles, and the inhabitants thereof. Let the wilderness and the cities thereof lift up their voice, the villages that Kedar doth inhabit: let the inhabitants of the rock sing, let them shout from the top of the mountains. Let them give glory unto the LORD, and declare his praise in the islands."*



Notes:



Notes:

Psalms 40:3 "And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD."

READ AND WRITE
1 John 5:3

Christians are commanded to love the Lord with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, and all our strength. God is looking for someone to glorify Him.

READ AND WRITE
John 4:23

There are four action words which are essential for worship. They are:

- Seek
- Thank
- Rejoice
- Praise

Some music does NOT bring glory to God.
Evil music is NOT in harmony with God's nature and His Word.

READ
Ezekiel 28:11-14

Who was the first and greatest musician, the one anointed as the celestial choir leader? _____

READ AND WRITE
Isaiah 14:12

The root word for "morning star" is praise. "Hallelujah" is the universal word for praise. Satan wouldn't give glory to God. He fell and now is the prince of the power of the air.

READ AND WRITE
John 8:44

The purpose of evil music is to promote the lie that we can choose for ourselves what we think is right or wrong. This deception began with Eve. Satan uses music to draw a listener away from God and glorify himself. He has always wanted this glory and worship.

Christians are experiencing increasing conflicts. One reason for this problem is that we have lost sight of the fact that everything we do should be for the glory of God. When Christians do not love the truth and do not walk in obedience to Him, destruction comes upon them and the opportunity to glorify Him is lost. They are no longer discerning Christians.

READ AND WRITE

Hosea 4:6a

This verse stresses the importance of knowing God's ways and walking in harmony with them.

How is Satan going to use evil music to draw the Christian away from glorifying God?

He is very deceptive and his goal is to block the worshiping of God. His attacks come through the mind and the body. He wants control over the mind through evil lyrics and control of the body through rhythm.

READ AND WRITE

Matthew 12:34

What is the emphasis of this verse?

This is the principle of sowing and reaping. It can also be expressed by, "garbage in, garbage out."

Feed on good ► good out of mouth.

Feed on evil ► evil out of mouth

Listen to yourself.

READ

II Corinthians 10:3,4

WRITE

II Corinthians 10:5

Satan can pollute the mind. 70% of today's young people say they do not listen to the words in a song. They are not consciously aware of the words, but those words affect their minds through subliminal perception. The mind records what is heard, and the mind is often saturated with evil music.

Pop music is the mass medium for conditioning the way in which people think. People can be hypnotized with music, thereby weakening their mental defenses. It is at this point that the subconscious can be programmed by the music.

What are the consequences of knowing God but not glorifying Him as God? This question is answered with the following two verses.



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.



Notes:

*"The Lord, thy God,
will joy over thee with
singing."*

Zephaniah 3:17c KJV

READ AND WRITE

Romans 1:21

Romans 1:23

There is a difference in knowing the truth and **LOVING THE TRUTH.**

READ AND WRITE

II Thessalonians 2:10

READ AND WRITE

Hebrews 3:8

Hearts can be hardened.

READ AND WRITE

I Samuel 15:23

The rock music group KISS wrote a lyric that describes Satan's actions:
"The spell you're under will slowly rob you of your virgin soul."

If God's voice is ignored, it becomes easy to listen to Satan's music. A gradual decline can be detected. Many say that the Bible is too rigid and the truth is rejected. The level of belief is revealed by the lifestyle. Because of the influences of this music, morals become loose and boundaries become broken. Very often, the listener becomes the victim of the worldly attitude of "If you feel like it, do it." **You will never change the morals of a nation until you change the music.**

READ AND WRITE

Isaiah 5:20

KISS then commands followers to kneel and worship the god of rock and roll. The mayor of a city in Michigan presented the keys of the city to KISS while the local high school principal and coach looked on.

In contrast, think of your favorite hymns. How do you think they bring glory to God?

The Institute of Basic Youth Conflicts includes the Principles of Music Evaluation. Study this chart in order to discover what music does to the mind, soul, and body. Note the basic effects of imbalance.

IN HIS IMAGE	BASIS PARTS OF MUSIC	BASIC DRIVES IN MUSIC	TENSION RELAXATION	BASIC EFFECTS OF IMBALANCE
SPIRIT	MELODY MOST CREATIVE TO RAISE SPIRIT TO GOD Eph. 5:18, ps. 40:3	SPIRITUAL	RISE FALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TENSION • UNFILLMENT • FRUSTRATION • DEPRESSION • DESPAIR
SOUL MIND-PSYCH. EMOTIONS WILL	HARMONY ARRANGEMENT OF CHORDS IN SUPPORT OF MELODY	PSYCHOLOGICAL DRIVES	DISSONANCE CONSONANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CONFUSION • REBELLION • SHOWMANSHIP • GUSHY • SENTIMENTAL
BODY SENSES	RHYTHM (LIKE PULSE) NONE=DEAD THROBBING=SICK CONCEALED=HEALTHY	PHYSICAL DRIVES	REPETITION VARIATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SENSUALITY • DISTRACTION <p>1 Sam. 16:23</p>

WRITE your thoughts regarding the types of music to which you are listening.



Notes:

*“The Lord, thy God,
will joy over thee with
singing.”*

Zephaniah 3:17c KJV

Lesson 6

PART 2 BATHROOM OF BEAUTY



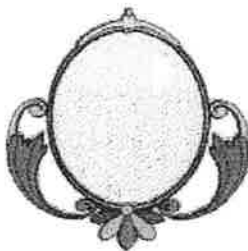
Heritage Home Ministries



Notes:

*“Let the beauty
of the Lord be
upon us....”*

Psalm 90:17 KJV



“But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.” II Corinthians 3:18 KJV

Think of the most beautiful woman you have ever known. What made her beautiful to you? Was it outward or inward beauty?

READ AND WRITE

I Samuel 16:7

God looks for **HEART BEAUTY**. Do you?

Have you been guilty of making snap judgments by outward appearances, only to later find that your judgments were incorrect? **WRITE** about this experience.

Did this experience cause you to be more careful in your judgments? _____

God alone can behold the inner beauty of a person. He does this by knowing all their inner motives, desires, and thoughts. For us to discern true beauty, He has given us the Bible. In studying His Word, insight regarding true beauty can be gained. The Bible is the mirror to behold the glory of the Lord. It has to be consulted in order to find true beauty.

Paul issued a warning to the church in which he told women the proper way to adorn themselves.

READ AND WRITE

I Timothy 2:9

I Peter 3:3

What do these verses declare to be the beauty which God desires in a woman?

Is this the beauty God sees in you? _____

Men are looking for a "Proverbs 31" woman.

READ AND WRITE

Proverbs 31:30

God praised this woman. Her real beauty was her character and it is described in many ways. Referring again to Proverbs 31, choose the verses that match each of her beautiful characteristics:

- Trustworthy _____
- Tender _____
- Tenacious _____
- Teacher _____
- Toiling _____

What is her clothing? _____

READ

Ecclesiastes 12

This chapter describes the process of growing old. It is a reminder that outward beauty will fade, but that inward beauty will last forever. Ecclesiastes 12:13 compliments and confirms Proverbs 31:30. What does God praise in a person?

READ AND WRITE

Psalms 90:16, 17

These verses tie our work and God's glory together. God has appointed a special work to each of His children. It is through this work that their children will see His glory. Moses is the author of this psalm. He had heard Godly wisdom from his mother. He had seen her as one who had worked diligently to rear her three children (Aaron, Miriam, and Moses) in a godless society. He had seen her glory in her work.

READ AND WRITE

Ephesians 2:10

Have you discovered God's foreordained work for you? _____

READ AND WRITE

Philippians 2:13



Notes:

*"Let the beauty
of the Lord be
upon us...."*

Psalm 90:17 KJV



Did you know that God works **in us** to **WILL** and to **DO HIS** good pleasure? There are many Biblical examples of truly beautiful women.

READ

the accounts of the following women and determine what they were to accomplish by their works.

EVE

Genesis 2:20-25 and Genesis 3:1-13

She was the most beautiful woman who ever lived. She was created by a perfect God and reflected Divine perfection. **However, she exchanged her glory for guilt.** After confessing her sins, she heard the first promise of the coming redeemer. Genesis 3:15 What did that promise reveal?

ESTHER

Esther 2:2-4, 12, 13, 16, 17, Esther 4:13-17, and Esther 8:3-17

This reading will take you to a beauty pageant and reveal Esther's work.

ABIGAIL

1 Samuel 25

She was a woman of both beauty and brains. She was married to Nabal, whose name means "fool." What work brought her both beauty and the glory of God?

MARY, MOTHER OF JESUS

Luke 1:38

She is the model of virtue. She began her work when she made herself available to the Lord.

Are you aware that God has a work for each of His children? This work will ultimately show forth His glory.

READ

Luke 11:2-4

This is the Lord's Prayer. When Jesus prayed, "*Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven*", was He praying for us to know the work God had foreordained for us?

Did He know His foreordained work? _____ What was it?

READ AND WRITE

Psalm 90:17

Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in you.

What are some things that rob us of our beauty?

Notes:

Handwritten notes area with horizontal lines.

READ AND WRITE

Isaiah 61:3

Dr. Jesus gave a prescription for beauty.

READ AND WRITE

Philippians 4:6, 7

Dr. Paul diagnosed the problem of anxiety and worry. He also gave a prescription for cleaning our **“WORRY WINDOWS”**.

READ AND WRITE

Romans 13:14

This verse summarizes the responsibility of the Christian regarding beauty.

READ AND MEMORIZE

“And all of us, as with unveiled face (because we) continued to behold (in the Word of God) as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever-increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another; (for this comes) from the Lord (who is) the Spirit.”

II Corinthians 3:19, Amplified

JESUS IS YOUR ONLY HOPE OF GLORY - COL. 1:27



Notes:

*“Let the beauty
of the Lord be
upon us...”*

Psalm 90:17 KJV

Lesson 7

CHILDREN OF CHARACTER

Part 1, Children Won't Wait



Heritage Home Ministries



Do you remember cutting out paper dolls when you were a child? While I made little paper doll children, I believe God was placing a desire for children in my heart. Remember: **He wants Godly seed.**

READ AND WRITE

Malachi 2:15,16a

John 1:12,13

Romans 8:29

Matthew 18:3

Matthew 19:14

Notes:

*"Lo, children are
a heritage from the
Lord..."*

Psalm 127:3 KJV

The devil does not want us to have children. Having no children reduces the number of Godly seed. The devil knows that the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.

Deuteronomy is the family book. This is the book from which Jesus most often quoted. He said in Deuteronomy 28:4: *"Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body."* This is the one specific way that we are laborers together with our Creator God...creativity at its highest.

FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN OF CHARACTER: Psalm 127 and 128.

READ AND WRITE

Psalm 127: 3,4

Psalm 128: 3-6

What is the personal meaning of these verses?

LOOK UP

Psalm 128:3. Note the similarity between children and olive plants. Complete the following statements.

1. Olive plants are the most common plant in Israel
Children are _____
2. The leaves of an olive plant are green on the upper side and white on the under side. White represents purity and green represents growth.
Children need to be _____
3. An olive plant does not produce olives for 25 to 30 years. It takes time to mature and produce fruit.
Children need to be _____
4. Olive plants search through the soil to find a rock on which it can grow.
Children must root on the rock of _____
5. The olive branch is a symbol of peace and plenty.
Children are _____
6. An olive tree is a strong, hardy, finely-grained tree that will withstand years of drought, disease, and destruction.
Children are to be _____
7. Olives are graded as standard, medium, large, extra large, mammoth, giant, jumbo, colossal, and super colossal.
Spiritually, children are graded _____
8. Olive oil is one of the products of the olive tree. Oil in the Bible represents the Holy Spirit.
Children must be filled with the _____ and bring forth _____



Notes:

"Lo, children are a heritage from the Lord..."

Psalm 127:3 KJV



Notes:

"Children Won't Wait"

by Helen Young

*There is a time to anticipate the baby's coming,
A time to consult a doctor;
A time to gather a layette,
There is a time to wonder at the ways of God,
A time to dream of what this child may become
A time to pray that God will teach me how to train this child
I bear,*

*A time to prepare myself that I might nurture his, soul,
For soon there comes a time for birth, for babies won't wait.*

*There is a time for night feedings, and colic and formulas,
There is time for rocking, and a time for walking the floor,
A time for patience and self-sacrifice,
A time to show him that his new world is a world of love,
goodness, and dependability.*

*There is a time to ponder what he is...an individual,
a soul made in God's image,
a soul that will live forever.*

*There is a time to consider my stewardship.
I cannot possess these children. They are not mine.
I must give them roots, and then give them wings.
I have been chosen to care for them, to love them, to
enjoy them, to nurture them, and to answer to
God for them.*

I resolve to do the best for them, for babies won't wait.

*There is a time to hold them close and tell them the
sweetest story ever told;
A time to show them God in earth and sky and flower,
to teach them to wonder and reverence,
There is a time to leave the dishes, to swing them in the park,
to run a race, to draw a picture, to fly a kite,
to catch a butterfly, to give them happy comradeship.
There is a time to point the way, to teach their infant lips to pray.
To teach them to love God's Word, to love God's day,
For children won't wait.*

continued on next page



Notes:

*There is a time to sing instead of grumble, to smile
instead of frown.
To kiss away the tears and laugh at broken dishes or
broken eggs.*

*A time to share with them my best attitudes, a love of
life, a love of God, a love of family.
There is a time to answer their questions...all their
questions,
Because there may come a time when they will not
want my answers.*

*There is a time to teach them, Oh, so patiently, to obey,
to put their toys away.
There is a time to teach them the beauty of duty, the
habit of Bible study, the joy of worship, the peace
of prayer,
For children don't wait.*

*There is a time to watch them bravely go to school, to
miss them underfoot, and to know that other
minds have their attention, but that I will be
there to answer their call when they come home
and listen eagerly to the story of their day.*

*There is a time to teach them independence,
responsibility, and self-reliance; for soon, so
soon, there will be a time to let them go; the apron
strings untied, for children won't wait.*

*There is a time to treasure every fleeting minute of
their childhood...just eighteen precious years to
inspire and train them.
I will not exchange this birthright for a mess of pottage
called social position, business or professional
reputation, or a paycheck.
An hour of concern today may save years of heartache
tomorrow. The house will wait, the dishes will wait,
the new room can wait, but children won't wait.*

continued on next page



Notes:

*There will be a time when there will be no slamming of doors, no toys on the stairs, no childhood quarrels, no fingerprints on the wallpaper.
Then, may I look back with joy and not regret.*

There will be a time then to concentrate on service outside my home; to teach or lead a Bible study, to visit the sick, the bereaved, the discouraged, the untaught, to give myself to the "least of these."

*There will be a time to look back and know that these years of motherhood were not wasted.
I pray there will be a time to see him, an upright and honest man of great integrity; my daughter, a gracious, caring mother whose tongue is filled with kindness, loving God and serving all, passing on this heritage to their children.*

God, give me wisdom to see that today is my day with my children.

*There is no unimportant moment in their lives.
May I know that no other career is so precious, no other work so rewarding, no other task so urgent.*

*May I not defer it nor neglect it, but by Thy Spirit, accept it gladly, joyously, and by Thy grace, realize that the time is short, and my time is now...
For children won't wait!*





READ

John 16: 8-11

This passage explains the Work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

3. Children are to be **CLEAN**.

Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.



READ AND WRITE

John 15:3

Three horizontal lines for writing.

Isaiah 52:11

Three horizontal lines for writing.

Children are not only physically dirty, but also spiritually dirty. However, both can be washed clean.

READ AND WRITE

Isaiah 1:18

Three horizontal lines for writing.

I John 1:9

Three horizontal lines for writing.

4. Children are to be **COMMITTED**.

READ AND WRITE

Romans 12:1, 2

Five horizontal lines for writing.



I stands for IDEALISTIC

1. Children are to be IDEALISTIC.

READ AND WRITE

Joel 2:28

Proverbs 29:18a

Habakkuk 2:2

WRITE

your vision for each of your children, remembering that "where there is no vision, the people perish."

Also, take the time to write a letter to your children expressing your love, appreciation, hopes, and dreams for them. Give them your letter.

As parents, we are the models for our children. This is called **INTEGRITY THERAPY**. We **BECOME** the vision for our children.

READ AND WRITE

Philippians 4:9

Luke 6:40

"I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day,
I'd rather one would walk with me than merely show the way.
The eye is a better pupil, more willing than the ear,
Fine counsel is confusing, but example is always clear.
The best of all our teachers are the ones who live their creed.
For to see the good in action is what everybody needs,
I may misunderstand you and the fine advice you give,
But, I will never misunderstand how you act and how you live."



READ AND WRITE
Psalm 144:12

Explain the meaning of this Scripture. _____

2. **Leading a child to Christ: Every father and mother should know how to lead their child to Christ.**

Scripture supports child evangelism. Fathers are given a mandate to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Jesus believed in children coming to Him at an early age and He invites them to Himself.



READ
Proverbs 9:11
Mark 9:33-37
Matthew 18: 1-14

What stinging judgment did Jesus pronounce on those who offend a child who believes in Him?

READ AND WRITE
Mark 10:14

Note the double imperative of this verse.

Two major Greek words are used for "child."
"Teknon" means "a child"
"Paidion" means "very little or very young child"
When referring to children, Jesus used paidion.



READ AND WRITE

Isaiah 28:9, 10

When is it possible to begin to understand doctrine?

Children are easier to reach than adults.
Children learn more quickly than adults.
Children are sensitive to Biblical Truth and respond more readily to the Gospel than adults. See Ecclesiastes 12:1.
Children come under conviction more easily because their hearts are not hardened.

READ AND WRITE

II Timothy 3:15

The work of the Holy Spirit in salvation is to:

1. Reprove the world of sin
2. ...and of righteousness
3. ...and of judgment

Explain the meaning of this verse. See John 16:8-11.

Galatians 3:24

"The law is a schoolmaster to lead them to Christ." This supports using the Ten Commandments when leading a child to Christ.

THE FACT OF SIN

Read

Romans 3:23

"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

Draw a baseball diamond or a basketball or football goal. Ask if the child has ever missed the goal. Explain that the goal is keeping all of the Ten Commandments and that Jesus never missed that goal. Because we have all sinned (missed the goal), we need a Savior. Tell the child when you became aware that you were a sinner and asked Jesus to be your Savior.

READ AND WRITE

Exodus 20: 15,16,17

Notes:



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

THE PENALTY OF SIN

Read

Romans 6:23

"The wages of sin is death (separation from God), but the **GIFT OF GOD** is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Explain that Jesus has a **GIFT** for him...eternal life. _____

READ

John 3:16

Insert the child's name into the verse and explain that one day Jesus will knock on the door of his heart. He will then understand his sin and his need of a Savior. He will need to ask Him to come in, and Jesus will abide with him forever.

Read

Ephesians 2:8,9

"For by grace are you saved by faith, and that not of yourselves, **IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD**, not of works, lest any man should boast."

I used the sand dollar to explain the gospel with peace being represented by the five doves.

The Legend of the Sand Dollar

*There's a pretty little legend
That I would like to tell
Of the birth and death of Jesus
Found in this lowly shell*

*If you examine closely,
You'll see that you find here
Four nail-holes and a fifth one
Made by a Roman spear.*

*On one side the Easter lily,
Its center is the star
That appeared to the shepherds
And led them from afar.*

*The Christmas poinsettia
Etched on the other side
Reminds us of His birthday,
Our Happy Christmastide.*

*Now break the center open
And here you will release
The five white doves awaiting
To spread Goodwill and Peace.*

*This simple little symbol,
Christ left for you and me
To help us spread His Gospel
Through all eternity.*



Notes:

D stands for DIRECTION and DISCIPLINE.

1. Children need DIRECTION

READ AND WRITE

Proverbs 3:5,6

Psalm 27:11

Psalm 139: 9,10

Psalm 139:24

Isaiah 42:16

Isaiah 48:17

Psalm 31:3

Matthew 6:13



Luke 11:3

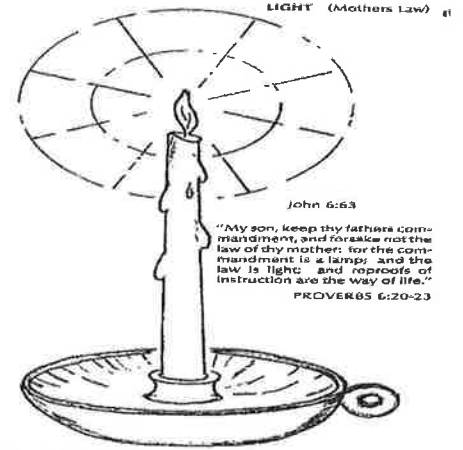
Proverbs is a book of direction that teaches the right paths in which to walk.

READ AND WRITE

Proverbs 6:22,23

This passage compares the commandments of the Father to a LAMP and the law of the Mother to a LIGHT.

Explain this meaning.



John 6:63
"My son, keep thy fathers commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: for the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light: and reproofs of instruction are the way of life."
PROVERBS 6:20-23

2. A Child needs **DISCIPLINE**.

The purpose of discipline is to bring the **WILL** into submission to the parents. It is either the **CHILD'S WILL** be brought into subjection, or it is the **PARENTS' HEARTS** that **WILL BE BROKEN**.

God is the model parent. He disciplined His children Adam and Eve. His order was:

1. He provided for their needs.
2. He gave them clear instructions.
3. He disciplined them.

We should follow His pattern.

READ AND WRITE

Hebrews 12:8

Study this Scriptural admonition in relation to the discipline of children. The children can be taught from this Scripture that this is a command of God to the parents. God will hold the parents responsible for obeying His command.

This passage teaches the discipline of the Lord. In explanation:

"Rebuke" means to speak, correct, persuade.

"Chasten" means to punish, restrict, limit privileges.

"Scourgeth" means to use the rod.



Notes:

READ AND EXPLAIN

Hebrews 12:12, 13

Ephesians 2:3 says, "we were by nature the children of wrath." Discipline is necessary because of the carnality of every human being. While disciplining, it is very important to first use instruction because it is this reasoning that leads into right relationships.

READ

II Timothy 3:16

According to this Scripture, "The Word of God is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

Our children are to be nouthetically counseled, (to bring about personality and behavioral changes by utilizing the Word of God). Parents are to teach their children spiritual beliefs, reprove them, correct them, and instruct them so that they are thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

READ DISCIPLINE SCRIPTURES:

Proverbs 13:24 Proverbs 19:18
Proverbs 22:15 Proverbs 23:13,14
Proverbs 29:15,17

Consider what these verses mean. Re-write them in your own words.

READ

Proverbs 13:30
Proverbs 19:18

These verses urge parents to begin to discipline their children at an early age. Parents should not wait to administer punishment.

Ecclesiastes 8:11,
"because sentence against an evil work is not executed _____
therefore the hearts of the sons of men is fully set in them to do
_____".

Discipline must be administered in love. The purpose of discipline is to correct the child's old nature that is bent to sin.

There is a direct correlation of early childhood discipline and the ability to learn spiritual truths later in life. The training received from disciplining children in the home is the best preparation for those children to be spiritual leaders in the church. Unbelieving and unruly children disqualify a father from the office of deacon.



Mary

*Oh, Mary, did you weep for your children
 When the younger ones went astray?
 Was it hard to know all the answers
 When Jesus had known the right way?
 Did you do the wash and wonder
 How it was you'd lost your touch?
 Why did they demand and grumble
 After God had given them so much?*

*Did you lie in bed and ponder
 Just how they could act so bad?
 When you had loved them just as much
 And given them all that you had?*

*Did they turn their backs on Jesus
 And say, "We've heard quite enough!
 Send Him to the temple now, Mom,
 He's making our social life tough."*

*"He always acts so perfect
 He's no fun to be around.
 He never does what the crowd does-
 He doesn't really fit in this town."*

*Was it hard not to compare Him
 To the other children you had?
 Did you hold his
 ways as a standard?
 Could you remember they had different Dads?*

*Did your teardrops rush to the pillow
 When night shadows ushered them out?
 Did your prayers follow their footsteps?
 Could your faith fight the fears and doubts?*

*Did the song you sang at His coming
 Sooth the rejection you felt?
 Did you see the love they would someday share
 When together at His cross they knelt?*

*If we could glimpse the future
 And see our training take hold,
 Would we remember God's promise
 To redeem them before they'd grown old?*

*Oh, Mary, did you weep for your children
 When the younger ones went astray?
 Did you turn to your eldest son, Jesus,
 Like me, and patiently pray?"*

Janey O. Lamphron

Notes:

*"Lo, children are
 a heritage from the
 Lord..."*

Psalm 127:3 KJV

Lesson 7

CHILDREN OF CHARACTER

Part 2, Stages of Life



Heritage Home Ministries



Notes:

*"Lo, children are
a heritage from the
Lord..."*

Psalm 127:3 KJV

As learned in the *Instructions for Basic Youth Conflicts*, there are seven basic stages of the life of a child from birth to death. Psalm 19: 7-10 explains the **FOCUS** of each stage.

Psalm 19:7

"The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul." Age: birth to age 6

Psalm 19:7 *"The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple."*
Age: 6-12 years

Psalm 19:8 *"The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart."*
Age: 12-20 years

Psalm 19:8 *"The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes."*
Age: 20-30 years

Psalm 19:9 *"The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever."*
Age: 30-50 years

Psalm 19:9 *"The ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether."*
Age: 50-death

Psalm 19:10 *"More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold,
sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb."*

Using the analogy of an apple we see an illustration of how a child grows. When we plant an apple seed and it begins to grow, the first sign we see is the apple blossom. From the blossom the apple then develops into a tiny fruit. But we all know it takes time for it to become a mature apple that we would all enjoy. So it is with children.

Using Psalms 19:7-10 we begin to expand and explain what we mean by the "Stages of Life." Watch for the following words in each stage: **Place, Principle, Age, Focus, and Application.**

1. FOUNDATION STAGE

Psalm 19:7: "The law of the Lord is perfect, CONVERTING THE SOUL."

PLACE: Home

PRIORITY PRINCIPLE: Salvation

AGE: Birth to 6 years

FOCUS: Discipline in the home.

APPLICATION: Attentiveness, thankfulness, faith, truthfulness, neatness, reverence

SCRIPTURE FOR ATTENTIVENESS: *"Now, therefore, hearken unto me, O ye children; for blessed are they who keep my ways."* Proverbs 8:32 KJV

"Awesome power of being there"—Infant bonding

A child's first and most important relationship is bonding. This occurs when parents meet physical needs such as rocking, cuddling, feeding, and bathing.

EMOTIONAL attachment is developed with the child through eye contact, hugging, and tone of voice. This affirms to the child, "I am here and you are worthwhile." A crucial sense of security is established and is often carried into adulthood.

2. TRAINING STAGE

Psalms 19:7b: "The TESTIMONY of the Lord is sure, MAKING WISE THE SIMPLE."

PLACE: Home/School

PARENT PRINCIPLE: Teaching AUTHORITY in the home, school, or by home-schooling.

AGE: 6-12 years

FOCUS: INFORMATION. This is life's greatest learning period.

APPLICATION: Alert, joyful, dependence, dependability, responsibility, virtue

SCRIPTURE FOR ALERT: "...Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath." James 1:19 KJV

VIRTUE: Sex education should be taught in the home, not in school. This teaching should be done during the Training Stage between the ages of 6 and 12 years.

"Most sex education is sex invitation." Zig Zigler

Romans 16:19: "Be wise concerning GOOD, simple concerning EVIL."

In a book entitled, *Teaching Your Children Values* by Linda and Richard Eyre, one mother gave the following illustration regarding sex education:

"THE AGE EIGHT DISCUSSION"

When our son, Josh, turned eight, we took him on his special "Mommy-Daddy Date" to tell him about the most wonderful thing on earth...just as we had with each of his two older sisters when they were eight. We had to go early one evening because there was a Cub Scout and Parents' dinner later that evening. The girls had responded very quietly to our talks with them. They understood. They were very interested, and they have viewed sex very positively and openly ever since. Josh's reaction was far more dramatic. Perhaps partly because of his acute interest in nature and science, he was enthralled by what we told him. "WOW!", he kept saying. "That is amazing!". We were amused by his reaction and his questions, which might have been difficult or embarrassing, except they were so candid and spontaneous. "How do chickens do it, Dad?", "How do those little sperms swim that far when they are so little?", and "Was that what those two cats were doing at the park?" The most dangerous part of the evening was the Cub Scout dinner. We were so rushed to get there that our talk never got to the part about privacy and only talking about these things in our own home. To Josh, the earlier discussion was far more interesting than the Cub Scout dinner. We spent the whole evening trying to change the subject as Josh kept bringing up things that we hoped the other people at the table didn't understand: "How long before a baby cat is ready to come out?" "You'd think the chicken would fall off the other one. How does he keep his balance?" It was a long evening!

"Strange: before teaching them the multiplication tables, we are giving them condoms. Ridiculous!"—Dr. James Dobson



Notes:

*"Lo, children are
a heritage from the
Lord..."*

Psalm 127:3 KJV



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of approximately 20 horizontal lines.

READ

Numbers 8:24,

"This is it that belongeth unto the Levites: from twenty and five years old and upward they shall go in to wait upon the SERVICE of the tabernacle of the congregation." KJV

APPLICATION: Boldness, hospitable, availability, persuasiveness, resourcefulness, and gentleness.

SCRIPTURE FOR BOLDNESS: *"And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and they spoke the Word of God with boldness."* Acts 4:31

5. MINISTRY STAGE

Psalm 19:9

"The fear of the Lord is CLEAN, ENDURING FOREVER." (moral purity)

PLACE: In the world but not of the world

POTENTIAL PRINCIPLE

READ

Isaiah 54:2

"Lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes"

AGE: 30-50 years. Burnout may be experienced if one is put into public service too soon.

FOCUS: ENLARGEMENT

READ

Numbers 4:3

"From thirty years old and upward even until fifty years old, all that enter into the host, to do the WORK in the tabernacle of the congregation." KJV

6. COUNSEL STAGE

Psalm 19:9

"The ordinances of the Lord are TRUE AND RIGHTEOUS ALTOGETHER." KJV

PLACE: Church

PAYMENT PRINCIPLE

AGE: 50 to the end of life

FOCUS: GUIDANCE

READ

I Chronicles 4:10,

"And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh, that thou wouldst bless me indeed, and enlarge my border, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldst keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested." KJV

Jabez is an example of enrichment, enlargement, enablement, and environment.



Notes:

Handwritten notes area with horizontal lines.

7. HERITAGE STAGE

Psalm 19:10

"More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold..."

EVERLASTING PRINCIPLE

FOCUS: LIVING EPISTLES WRITTEN ON THE HEART

READ

II Peter 1:15

"Moreover, I will endeavor that ye may be able, after my decease, to have these things always in remembrance." KJV

The admonitions of parents are brought back to remembrance by the Holy Spirit.

Time for school to begin - Secular School

Teachers ask you many questions when you begin so I want to get you prepared for school by asking you a few questions.

Who has been your favorite teacher in school? _____

Why did you like her or him? _____

Would you like for them to be your teacher every year? _____ For the rest of your schooling? _____

I want to tell you about my Teacher. He is the greatest. He knows everything. There is no one quite like Him.

Come with me into the School of Eternal Life where you will have the **same teacher** year after year. He loves you, cares about you, teaches you, and leads you to know everything you need to know to experience the Abundant Life that Jesus wanted you to have. (John 10:10)

Only one teacher - The Holy Spirit

John 14:26,

"But the Comforter, who is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said unto you."

John 16:13-15

13 Nevertheless, when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself; but whatever he shall hear, that shall he speak; and he will show you things to come.

14 He shall glorify me; for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you.

15 All things that the Father hath are mine; therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you.

Luke 12:12

"For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say."

Only one way to gain entrance to this school and have this teacher- Receive and believe.



John 1:12

“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

It is as simple as this:

Acknowledge - all have sinned

Believe (Commit)

Confess - Romans 10:9-10

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Have you enrolled in school this year?

Only one book - The Bible

The Bible contains history, poetry, science, math, psychology, contracting work (Tabernacle, Walls, Temple), economics (Give and it shall be given to you.), home-making (Submission for women, courage like Daniel) military (Joshua), prophecy (Newspaper of coming events), novels (Joseph), secretarial work (How to write a letter or a poem.)

The curriculum begins with teaching you that Wisdom begins with the Fear of the Lord - Proverbs 1:7

(Use your concordance to look up other Scriptures that tells you the benefits of the Fear of the Lord.)

Other curriculum (not exhaustive) Use your concordance:

- Faith - Romans 10:17
- Forgiveness - Lifestyle- Matthew 6:15
- Fishers of men - Soul winning - Matthew 4:19
- Flesh/Spirit - Galatians 5:17

Many teaching opportunities

Jesus taught from the following locations:

- A mountain - Matthew 5, 6, 7
- A boat - Luke 5:3
- The Upper Room - John 13 - 18

Jesus taught until the very last moment - Acts 1:2, Revelation 1:9

We need to be sensitive to teaching opportunities for they should and can be any place and any time.

Deut. 6:7,

“And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou riseth up.”

Matt 28:19 & 20,

“Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age.”

Notes:



Report Card

Do you remember the report card that you brought home to your parents for their signature? _____

Likewise you will also be getting a Spiritual Report Card in this School of Eternal Life which will be signed by God.

Notes:

Handwritten notes area with horizontal lines.

SPIRITUAL REPORT CARD

ROMANS 14:12

KEY WD - Well Done A - Excellent B - Good C - Medium D - Poor (Read and Write all of the Scripture references listed on a separate piece of paper)	S E P T E M B E R	O C T O B E R	N O V E M B E R	D E C E M B E R	J A N U A R Y	F E B R U A R Y	M A R C H	A P R I L	M A Y	J U N E	J U L Y	A U G U S T
ATTENDANCE Heb. 10:25 Worship												
ABIDING 2 Pet. 1:5-7 Prayer												
ADDITION 2 Peter 1:5-7 Math												
APPROPRIATE 1 Tim. 4:13-15 History												
ATTRIBUTES Gal. 5:22-23 Economics												
*ACTIVITIES Acts 1:8 Physical Education (acts of the Holy Spirit												
*Choir - Eph. 5:19 GAME OF LIFE - Eph. 6:10-18 ART - Ecc. 3:11a PRAY READ BIBLE WITNESS STEWARDSHIP FORGIVENESS												
_____ Signature of God (Jer. 17:10)												

Kindly accept this report card as a personal preview of Romans 14:12, "So, then, every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Everyone of us want to hear "...well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Matt. 25:21

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

MONDAY

1. Thank You, Father, that as I speak Your Word over my children today, Your angelic warriors are hearkening to the sound of my voice to perform that which I speak. (**Psalm 103:20**)
2. Thank You, Father, that You have put Your words in my mouth, and You are alert and active, watching over Your Word to **PERFORM** it. (**Jeremiah 1:9,12**)
3. Thank You, Father, that as I speak Your Word over my children, it is cleansing and pruning them; and, as a result, they are bearing fruit of more excellent quality and greater quantity. (**John 15:2,3**)
4. Thank You, Father, that the words of wisdom which You give me to speak over my children are as prodding goads (urging them to **ACTION**), firmly fixed in their minds like nails. (**Ecclesiastes 12:11**)
5. Thank You, Father, that **ALL** of my children are disciples, taught of You and **OBEDIENT TO YOUR WILL; GREAT** is their **PEACE** and **UNDISTURBED COMPOSURE**. They are establishing themselves on righteousness. They are far even from the **THOUGHT** of **OPPRESSION** or **DESTRUCTION**. They **DO NOT FEAR**. They are far from terror, for it does **NOT** come near them. He who stirs up strife against them is falling away **FROM** them. **NO** weapon that is formed against them is prospering. **EVERY** tongue that rises against them in judgment is showing to be in the wrong. (**Isaiah 54:13-15,17**)
6. Thank You, Father, that because of our faith, our children are prepared for You, **PURE** and **CLEAN**. You are blotting out their transgressions for Your own sake, and You **DO NOT** remember their sins. (**I Corinthians 7:14; Isaiah 43:25**)
7. Thank You, Father, that I am a **JOYFUL MOTHER** of children, and because I fear You, I am like a fruitful vine in the innermost parts of my house and my children are like olive plants round about my table and I shall see my children's children. (**Psalms 113:9; Psalm 128:3,4**)
8. Thank You, Father, that You are changing my family's impure language and giving to us a clear and pure speech from pure lips; therefore, we are **ALL** calling upon Your Name, serving You with **ONE UNANIMOUS CONSENT** and **ONE UNITED SHOULDER**, bearing the yoke of the Lord. As for **ME** and **MY** house, we **ARE** serving **YOU**, Lord. (**Zephaniah 3:9; Joshua 24:15**)
9. Thank You, Father, that my children are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation; Your own purchased, special people. Therefore, they are setting forth Your wonderful deeds and displaying Your virtues and perfections, for You have called them out of darkness into Your marvelous light. Because they are precious and honored in Your sight, and You **LOVE** them, You are giving men in return for them, and peoples in exchange for their lives. (**I Peter 2:9; Isaiah 43:4**)
10. Thank You, Father, that **YOU**, the God of Peace, are strengthening, completing, perfecting, and making my children what they ought to be. **YOU** are equipping them with everything good that they may **CARRY OUT YOUR WILL**; while **YOU** Yourself work **IN** them and accomplish that which is pleasing in Your sight. (**Hebrews 13:20,21**)



Notes:

“Lo, children are a heritage from the Lord...”

Psalm 127:3 KJV

Lesson 8

PART 1 FIREPLACE OF FAITH



Heritage Home Ministries

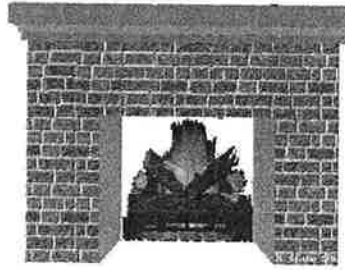


Notes:

Handwriting practice lines for notes.

"Faith comes by hearing"

Romans 10:17 KJV



How many times have you heard the Scripture, "the just shall live by faith"? It is written in the Bible four times. It is important to learn this truth.

If we are to live, truly experience life as it was planned by God, what is faith?

FAITH IS AN ATTITUDE OF ABSOLUTE COMPLETE DEPENDENCE UPON GOD.

READ

Romans 12:3

Complete: "God hath dealt _____."
What does this reveal about faith? _____

The essence of faith is **believing and receiving** what God has revealed. It is defined as trust in the God of the Scriptures and in Jesus Christ, and obedience to His will.

READ AND WRITE

Proverbs 3: 5,6

Handwriting practice lines for reading and writing.

These verses are often quoted, but do we really live by them? Do we practice them? Explain the meaning of these verses.

Handwriting practice lines for explaining the meaning of the verses.

List some recent situations in which you had to trust Him.

Handwriting practice lines for listing situations.

When every situation is related to Him and every solution comes from Him... who gets the praise? **HE DOES!**

I Thessalonians 5:24, "Faithful is He that calleth you, WHO ALSO WILL DO IT."
Colossians 2:6, "As ye have, therefore, received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk you in Him."

How did you receive Jesus? By faith.
How are you going to walk? By faith.

Jesus is called the Author and Finisher of our faith.

Perhaps you began your walk of faith as you believed John 3:16 and were saved. Believe all the remainder of His wonderful Word and you will begin to experience the God-designed **FAITH WALK**. This is **EXCITING!**

We pray, talk, walk, believe, and fight **BY FAITH**.

Think of faith as:

Forsaking
All
I
Take Trust Thank
Him

Ian Thomas has said that the entire Christian life is just saying, "Thank You."

READ AND WRITE

Colossians 1:27

Galatians 2:20

How are we to live?

By whose faith? _____

Faith is a **FIGHTING WORD**...a war word...this is the **VICTORY THAT OVERCOMES THE WORLD**...even our faith. See I John 5:4.

READ

I Timothy 6:12
II Timothy 4:7
I Peter 1:7

READ AND WRITE

I Peter 5:8, 9

When faith is not exercised, it is **SIN!**

READ

Romans 14:23
"for whatever is not of faith is sin."



Notes:

"Faith comes by hearing"

Romans 10:17 KJV



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

God gave us a perfect definition of faith in Hebrews 11:1

"Now faith is the SUBSTANCE of things hoped for"...Faith is substance; something to stand on.

READ

Romans 14:4

"God is able to make us stand."

Faith is the title deed of things hoped for, the evidence of things which can't be seen...Yet! Hope means to joyfully expect.

Faith is **UNDERSTANDING**

READ AND WRITE

Hebrews 11:3

Psalm 19:1-3 tells us that there is a language of faith in creation: *"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard."*

We cannot say that we must understand to believe. In believing, there is understanding.

READ AND WRITE

Genesis 1:1

If you believe this verse, you can then believe the remainder of the Bible.

READ AND WRITE

John 6:29

What is the work of God? (Phil. 2:13) _____

GOD IS AT WORK EVERY DAY TO CAUSE US TO BELIEVE THE TRUTH OF HIS WORD.

READ

Isaiah 55: 8,9

Secular faith is setting the clock and believing that it will sound an alarm in the morning. Name some other secular things in which we trust.



Notes:

READ AND WRITE

Romans 10:17

From where does faith come? _____

Another spiritual characteristic of faith is **PEACE**.

READ AND WRITE

Romans 5:1

Phillipians 4:6,7 - The "peace that passes understanding" is a result of faith. This peace is the Christian's referee in life.

READ

Colossians 3:15

Faith is only as valid as the object of faith. Who is the object of your faith? Can He be trusted? Is He faithful?

READ

Romans 4:13-25.

There are some situations in life that sometimes look **DEAD**. The measurement of faith can be seen in how these situations are comprehended. This is the New Testament commentary regarding this passage. Faith was **SUBSTANCE** in the life of a son to be called Isaac. By faith, he **UNDERSTOOD** because the object of his faith was **JEHOVAH GOD**. He was fully persuaded that what God had promised, He was able to perform. He had **PEACE**. Abraham believed in resurrection power. Do you?

Underline in your Bible the important words or statements from this passage and list them below.

READ

Genesis 15:6

Name a situation in your life or in the life of your family that looks dead. Consider situations such as:

A need for salvation. Do you earnestly believe this person will be saved?

A marriage that looks dead. Do you believe God can resurrect that marriage?

A prodigal who is totally rebellious? Do you believe that God loves the prodigal more than you do and wants him saved? _____



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

Think of and list other situations...health? wealth?

It is possible to believe that Jesus died for our sins while not believing that He arose to give us resurrection power. Are we plugged in to His power? Creation is. Look at the dead leaves of winter and the bulbs that lie dormant during the winter.

Deadness in any life is where He begins...the seed plot where God works.

READ

Hebrews 11

This is a roll call of some of the heroes of faith. This chapter has been called "God's Hall of Fame." It has been given to encourage us to have faith and to believe that God can resurrect any dead life, relationship, church, or business.

Using this chapter, complete the following:

By faith, Noah

By faith, Abraham

By faith, Sarah

By faith, Moses

By faith, Rahab

Consider verses 17-19 again. Abraham was **STRONG** in faith. Are you?

JESUS IS LOOKING FOR FAITH. He said in Luke 18:8, "*When the Son of Man cometh, SHALL HE FIND FAITH on the earth?*"

READ

Mark 2:5

Luke 7:9

Luke 7:50

Matthew 15:28

According to Hebrews 3:12, when we don't have faith, our heart is an **EVIL HEART OF UNBELIEF.**

The ones who have faith look into the future and begin to see how God will use a particular situation for His glory. Their need is related to a God who is able to handle their problems. Their faith is based on God's Word, because they know that God cannot lie. In order to strengthen our faith, God will give a rhema for a certain need or problem.



READ AND WRITE

I Peter 5:7

Do you have any problems that you want to cast on Him? Jesus said, "All things are possible to Him that believeth."

YOUR FAITH IS IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND OBEDIENCE TO THE WORD OF GOD.

READ AND WRITE

Hebrews 11:6

In order to please Him, faith must be increased. How can this be done?

An increase in faith comes from the study of the Word of God.

READ

II Peter 1: 5-7

WRITE

those things which are to be added to faith. Notice the last thing he mentions.

READ

Galatians 5:6

This verse tells us how faith works.

The more **JESUS is LOVED**, the more important it becomes to please Him by obeying Him. This increases our faith. Our faith will increase as love for others is "shed abroad in your heart by the power of the Holy Spirit." To **LOVE OTHERS** increases faith.

Before Adam and Eve sinned, they were **BODY, SOUL, and SPIRIT**. What did God tell them would happen if they ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?

Did they die? _____

How? _____

Notes:



READ AND WRITE
I Corinthians 15:22

This verse supports the statement by Jesus in John 3:7, "*Ye MUST BE BORN AGAIN.*" He was saying, "*You must be born again by God's Spirit for you to be the man I purposed you to be.*"

READ AND WRITE
I Thessalonians 5:23

In this prayer that Paul prayed for the Thessalonians. Note the references to **SPIRIT, SOUL, and BODY.**

Notes:



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of approximately 20 horizontal lines.

SPIRIT

SPIRITUAL PERCEPTIONS

**INTUITION
CONSCIENCE
COMMUNION**



SOUL

**KNOWING DECISIONS-ACTIONS
EMOTIONS-FEELINGS
WILL-CHOOSING**

BODY

PHYSICAL PERCEPTIONS

**TOUCH
TASTE
HEAR
SEE
SMELL**





Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of approximately 20 horizontal lines.

READ AND WRITE

John 14:30

Two horizontal lines for writing.

Who is the prince of the world? _____.

Satan's characteristics include:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Father of lies | Proud |
| Opponent of God | Powerful |
| Perversion of the Scriptures | Wicked |
| Hindrance of the Gospel | Subtle |
| Appears as an angel of light | Deceitful |
| Fierce | Cruel |

Satan has organized his world of unbelieving mankind upon the principles of force, greed, selfishness, ambition, and pleasure.

READ AND WRITE

Romans 12:2

Two horizontal lines for writing.

We **ARE NOT** to be **CONFORMED** to this **WORLD**.
We **ARE** to be **TRANSFORMED**. How?

How does the transformation of the mind take place? By reciting the Bible. It is preparation for receiving revelation. Look at the drawing and see where the world is pictured. Most of our impressions and influences come through what we touch, taste, hear, see, and smell. Looking at television, listening to the radio, reading magazines, and newspapers, and hearing talk at work affect decisions and influence perspectives on issues that pertain to life.

We **MUST** feed our Spirit on the Word of God to combat these wrong influences received from the world. Our decisions and actions are motivated **EITHER** from our intake from the world **OR** from the Word of God.

READ AND WRITE

John 15:3

Two horizontal lines for writing.

The Word of God cleanses the soul from outside worldly influences.

God is building a network of Christians whose lives are grounded on the Word of God. It is the responsibility of the Christian to cut off as much of the world as possible and devote that time to the study of the Word. He told us to **STUDY**...not just **READ** His Word.



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

READ AND WRITE
II Timothy 2:15

In studying the Bible use the following system of study: Survey, Condense, Expand, and Dissect.

Explanation of terms:

- SURVEY: Read through the book two or three times. You are reading for the impression of the book...
CONDENSE: Think. Express in brief words what you read...
EXPAND: Work. See principle sentences, underlying truths...
DISSECT: Sweat. Microscope, scalpel needed. It is rightly dividing the Word of truth...

I have used Isaiah 43: 1-13 as an example of this method of Bible study.

- SURVEY: Who is speaking? The Lord
To whom? Israel (You)
What is He saying? You do not need to fear. In trials of life I will be with you.
Why trials? (v.2) When you go through the waters, they shall not overflow you...
CONDENSE: A fact: (vv.10-13) There is no other God, no other Savior.
A command: Do not fear.
A promise: I will be with you.



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of approximately 20 horizontal lines.

- V4 THERE IS A PERFECTED WORK GOD HAS IN MIND. Patience! Waiting is necessary for maturing us and for development of character.
- V5 GOD NEVER UPBRAIDS OUR ASKING FOR WISDOM NO MATTER HOW SIMPLE OR INSIGNIFICANT IT MAY SEEM TO US.
- V6 DONT LET YOUR FAITH WAIVER. Hebrews 10:23 "Hold fast your profession of faith."
- V7 WE WONT RECEIVE ANYTHING IF OUR FAITH WAIVERS.
- V8 DOUBLE MINDEDNESS IS INSTABILITY.
- V9 THERE IS A BLESSING IF WE ENDURE TRIALS.

DISSECT: SEE THE "LET" IN THESE VERSES
 Let patience have her perfect work.
 Let him ask of God.
 Let him ask in faith.
 Let not that man think he shall receive anything.
 Let the brother of low degree rejoice.
 Let no man say when he is tempted.

KEY WORDS: Joy- verses 1& 9 Faith- verses 3 & 5 Lack- verses 4 & 5
 Patience - verses 3 & 4

PRINCIPLE TO PRACTICE v2 Praise God in everything
PROMISE TO CLAIM v5 If you lack wisdom, ask of God
PROSPECT V12 There will be a day of rewarding

FACT OF TRIALS Count on them
FORMS OF TRIALS It (whatever - you name it)
FORCE OF TRIALS All, none left out
FACING OF TRIALS Joy (remember the cross)
FRUIT OF TRIALS Patience, wisdom, faith, stability, understanding
CROWN OF LIFE

Romans 8:28 and Psalms 91:10 complement the above.
 Enjoyment, Enlargement, Endurance, Enrichment

This week apply the four words we have used for your individual study of any portion of Scripture that you choose. Bring your completed work to class next week.

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

II Timothy 3:16 "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine (basis for beliefs), for reproof, (exposes false philosophies), for correction (resets the direction of our lives), for instruction in righteousness (shows right way to live)."



Find Us Faithful

We're pilgrims on the journey
Of the narrow road
And those who've gone before us line the way
Cheering on the faithful, encouraging the weary
Their lives a stirring testament to God's sustaining grace

Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses
Let us run the race not only for the prize
But as those who've gone before us
Let us leave to those behind us
The heritage of faithfulness passed on through godly lives

Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful
May the fire of our devotion light their way
May the footprints that we leave
Lead them to believe
And the lives we live inspire them to obey
Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful

After all our hopes and dreams have come and gone
And our children sift through all we've left behind
May the clues that they discover and the memories they uncover
Become the light that leads them to the road we each must find

Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful
May the fire of our devotion light their way
May the footprints that we leave
Lead them to believe
And the lives we live inspire them to obey
Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful
Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful

Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful
May the fire of our devotion light their way
May the footprints that we leave
Lead them to believe
And the lives we live inspire them to obey
Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful
Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful

© Birdwing Music/ Jonathan Mark Music
Steve Green
Find Us Faithful
1998 The Sparrow Corporation
Used by permission

Notes:

Lined area for handwritten notes.

Lesson 8

PART 2 DEN OF DELIGHT



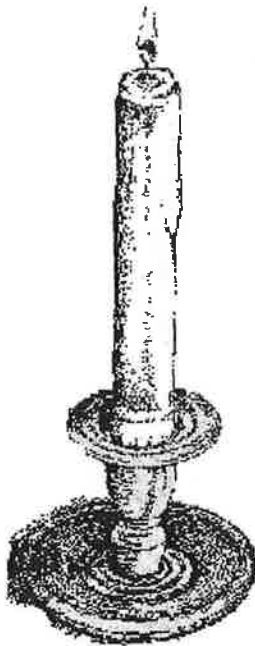
Heritage Home Ministries



Notes:

"Faith comes by hearing"

Romans 10:17 KJV



Psalm 119:130: *"The entrance of thy words giveth light, it giveth understanding to the simple."*

A den is supposed to be a den of LIGHT. The entrance of God's Word giveth LIGHT...and a DELIGHT! Delight denotes a high degree of pleasure. It is a more permanent pleasure than joy because it is not dependent on sudden excitement. Delight means satisfaction of mind, or enjoyment.

What gives you pleasure? Consider some passages that speak of those whose delight is in the Lord and in His law. List the blessings received as you read these passages.

Psalm 1:1-3

Joshua 1:8

Do you desire these blessings in your life? _____

What do you do in your den?

The den can be used for reading, relaxing, working, witnessing, and worshipping. This list supports the fact that the den is a place of decision.

Usually, a mother determines the atmosphere in the home...the den.

READ AND WRITE

Isaiah 32:18

Does this describe your home? _____

Jesus said, "My house shall be called an house of prayer, **BUT** you have **MADE IT A DEN OF THIEVES.**" What does a thief do? He steals your valuables. Apply this thief to the television (thief-vision) in our dens. List some valuables that television has stolen in the den.

When we delight (a high degree of pleasure) in His Word, it remains in our memory and is brought to our mind throughout the day and night.

READ

Read through Psalm 119. Find the eight scriptures that contain the word, "delight". Summarize these scriptures.

READ AND WRITE

Jeremiah 9:23,24

What DELIGHTS the Lord? Do you understand and know the Lord? How do you get to know someone? How do you understand someone?

READ AND WRITE

John 1:14

Jesus was called "The Word." The more the Word is known and obeyed, the more Jesus can be known as a personal friend and His glory (His character) can be perceived. Spending time in the Word promotes the desire to know Him. This desire will grow to encompass every area of life.

READ AND WRITE

Amos 8:11

This Scripture tells us there will come a day when there will be a famine in the land. What kind of famine will this be?

This is a warning to recognize that which is our most precious possession. It is possible that it could be taken away. We must treasure His Word and hide it in our hearts.

READ AND WRITE

Psalm 112:1,2

This can be considered another Be-attitude. What one blessing was bestowed upon this man?



Notes:

"Faith comes by hearing"

Romans 10:17 KJV



Notes:

"Faith comes by hearing"

Romans 10:17 KJV

Jesus said that as long as He was in the world, He was the **LIGHT** of the world. But, after He went to Heaven, He said, "**You are the LIGHT of the world.**" Go and shine for Him!

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matthew 5:16

Lesson 9

KITCHEN OF KINDNESS



Heritage Home Ministries



Notes:

*"Give us this day
our daily bread."*

Matthew 6:11 KJV

*"The fruit of the Holy Spirit is found in God's Holy Word-
Come along with me and you shall see,
Where He called them each one by name-
There is love, and there is joy, and there is peace,
There is goodness and kindness,
Longsuffering, faith, and meekness, too
And the fruit of self control.
They say if you live in the Spirit,
Your life will bear all these fruit...
Abide in the vine, bear fruit to His name,
And His joy will be yours evermore."*

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self control; against such there is no law." Galatians 5:22, 23

There is no place where we need to be filled with the Spirit more than in the kitchen...the kitchen of kindness. Why do you think this statement is true?

Kindness means "love in little things." The kitchen is where we put on our apron, take on our servant role, and express our love in physical ways.

Name some of the special dishes your family enjoys. These could include meats, casseroles, salads, breads, and desserts.

Why should grocery shopping be an enjoyable?

There are many situations in the Bible where Jesus serves food.

READ

John 6: 5-14.

How many people were fed? _____

What truth is confirmed with this miracle?

READ

Matthew 15:32-38

How many people were fed? _____

Included in the Lord's prayer is the petition . . .

"give _____"

READ AND WRITE

John 6:33

This sixth chapter of John stresses that Jesus is the Bread of God.



READ

John 6: 22-59

Note the statements which support this truth that Jesus is the Bread of Life.

WRITE

John 6:48

John 6:51

Explain Jesus' meaning when He said, "*Except you eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink His blood, you have no life in you.*"

The Lord's Supper is recorded in each of the gospels.

READ

Matthew 26:20-24

Mark 14:12-21

Luke 22:7-13

John 13:18-30

Consider these passages concerning the Lord's Supper. Write any thoughts and insights gained from this reading.



Notes:

*"Give us this day
our daily bread."*

Matthew 6:11 KJV



Notes:

READ

I Corinthians 11:23-33

Why is self-examination important before partaking of the Lord's Supper?

Eating unworthily has consequences. This act, as with all others, should be done for His glory.

READ AND WRITE

I Corinthians 10:31

READ

John 21:5-14

Answer the following questions:

Where was Jesus? _____

What miracle did He perform? _____

How many fish were caught? _____

What invitation did Jesus extend to His disciples? _____

READ

Luke 22:30

What amazing statement did Jesus make to His disciples?

READ AND WRITE

Revelation 3:20

This verse is an invitation to salvation. Jesus is standing at the door of our heart. What does He promise to do if we hear His voice and open the door?

READ AND WRITE

Revelation 2:7

These are John's encouraging words to the church at Ephesus.



Notes:

READ
Luke 10:38-42

Are you a Mary or a Martha? _____

READ AND WRITE
John 12:1,2

It was a joy for Jesus to visit with his friends, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus.

READ AND WRITE
Matthew 5:6

READ
Revelation 19:7-10

This passage describes the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. According to these verses, what does “fine linen” represent?

From Genesis through Revelation, there are many references made to eating and drinking. However, the desire for righteousness should be the object of our spiritual hunger.

Have you ever heard anyone say, “I want to be a servant when I grow up”?

READ AND WRITE
Mark 10:43,44

According to Jesus, who will be the greatest in the kingdom of God?

Serving is listed among the spiritual gifts. Also, the word “deacon” (diakonos) denotes a “servant”. Where are you serving in the body of Christ?

READ
Isaiah 65:8 -15



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

List below the blessings which will be given to servants.

Four horizontal lines for listing blessings.

READ

Proverbs 31

The virtuous woman described in this chapter was a servant.

List some of the qualities of her character.

Four horizontal lines for listing qualities.

List her accomplishments as a servant.

Four horizontal lines for listing accomplishments.

There are five statements regarding the physical body to be studied in the Kitchen of Kindness. These conditions and results begin in Genesis and conclude in Revelation. Each statement will be detailed in the following sections.

- SIN ENTERS THE BODY
- STEWARDS OF THE BODY
- SICKNESS IN THE BODY
- SANCTIFIED FAST
- SPIRITUAL FRUIT

1. SIN ENTERS THE BODY

READ

Genesis 2:8,9

The tree of life and the tree of good and evil are described.

READ

Genesis 2:15-17

This is God's sentence. Eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil brings death.

READ

Genesis 25:27-34

Esau lost his _____ for a mess of _____.

READ

Matthew 4:1-4

Satan's first temptation for Jesus in the wilderness was _____.



Notes:

Handwritten notes area with horizontal lines.

2. STEWARDS OF THE BODY

READ

I Corinthians 6:19

List the three truths found in this Scripture.

- 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Our bodies are on loan to us. They are a sacred trust and we have been given a responsibility regarding them. We are to be the custodians and caretakers of our bodies.

Psalm 139 states that the body is intricately made and fashioned. Name some of the body parts which are engaged in eating.

Handwritten notes lines.

3. SICKNESS IN THE BODY

READ

Exodus 15:26

Being good stewards of our bodies is complicated by the following problems:

- Refined and processed foods
Removal of nutrients from foods
Overindulgence of sugar (This results in removing good nutrients and promoting teeth problems.)
Refined flour (28 vital nutrients are stripped from the flour used in making white bread.)
Women working outside the home. Explain how this has changed the eating habits of the family.

Handwritten notes lines.

Dr. S. I. McMillen states in his book, None of These Diseases, "Peace does not come in capsules. This is regrettable because medical science recognizes that emotions such as fear, sorrow, envy, resentment, and hatred are responsible for the majority of our sicknesses." Emotional problems, arthritis, gastrointestinal ulcers, cardiovascular problems, diverticulitis, and many other illnesses are included. Dr. McMillen uses scripture to validate his findings on sound physical and mental health by first showing that it begins with a healthy spiritual state following God's counsel.

READ

Ecclesiastes 5:18-20
Ecclesiastes 6:1,2

What is the meaning of these verses?

Handwritten notes lines.



A letter from Mary's daughter

Dear Mama,

"The lips of the righteous feed many..."

Proverbs 10:21

Notes:

*"Give us this day
our daily bread."*

Matthew 6:11 KJV

When I read this verse I immediately thought of you and all the people you've fed. I love to brag on my Mama's cooking. In fact, when I was younger, my body was a walking advertisement to the quality of your cooking and the quantity I ate. Most children like to think of their Mama's cooking—well, it used to be that way. Now, the closest thing to a home-cooked meal for most of my friends' kids would be Swanson's, Uncle Ben, or Sara Lee. I had the grand delight of smelling bacon in the morning and simmering roast or yeast rolls rising at night. In fact, in our house, mealttime was a sit-down affair where a blessing was given over a circle of hands and bowed heads, and the day's activities and concerns were shared, problems aired, and suggestions given. Sometimes, after a recitation of the day's injustices no advice was needed...just the hot air being let out of an agitated soul who primarily needed to talk, knowing others would sympathize and help "bear our burden." We knew those three people loved us and would be honest with us and would always be on our side. That site of family communication was every bit as important as a conference table is to a corporation. Your attention to mealttime, the table setting, and the food was the cloth that brought us all together. We could put our problems on the table—so to speak—and then wash the leftovers away of the things we could not change.

But this verse in Proverbs really speaks to the wisdom you have that feeds our family and hundreds of others. Your cookbook is the Bible, and it contains marvelous recipes for those with spiritual appetites. *"Blessed are they who do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled."* (Matthew 5:6) You made us hungry for God. *"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good"* came alive in your kitchen. You are the Julia Child of Spiritual Cooking. Like the virtuous woman I have so often compared you with- *"...She bringeth her food from afar. She riseth also while it is yet night and giveth food to her household, and a portion to her maidens."* (Proverbs 31:14,15 KJV) I know you have often done that very thing—gotten up in the night to prepare spiritual food for our family and for your faithful women friends. Thank you for this high calling of both physical cooking and spiritual offerings. I would rather break bread with you than anyone else in the world.

Happy Mother's Day,
Janey Oates Lamphron

Lesson 10

LIBRARY OF LUCRE



Heritage Home Ministries



Notes:

"Godliness with contentment is great gain."

II Timothy 6:6 KJV

"The Grace of Giving - The Cure for Covetousness"

This section will be devoted to the experiences of the **59 YEARS** of **MY** married life. Having lived in 13 different cities, and having moved 18 times in the first 10 years of my married life, I **learned** in whatever state I was in to be content. I have learned some of the principles of being abased and now of abounding.

Personally, I enjoy making cream puffs for people. I remember when we made \$90.00 per month and paid \$50.00 for rent. This gave us \$40.00 a month for living expenses. Our entertainment was to go to the bakery and buy one cream puff for \$.15. We cut it in half and enjoyed it! Our alternative entertainment was to go to a restaurant across the street and buy \$.15 worth of French fries and share them. I remember buying three \$2.97 J. C. Penney dresses a year for the first three years of marriage.

These were days of trial and testing for a doctor's daughter who had lived with the proverbial "silver spoon" in my mouth. However, these days were a foundation for learning the value of true riches. As a result, my husband retired at 62 years of age, and our lifestyle did not change.

- Statistics have shown that only 2% of the population can retire at 62.
- 45% must depend upon family
- 23% seek another job
- 30% depend on charity
- 11 out of 12 women become widows by the age of 52.
- Therefore, it is imperative that women learn to be good money managers.

What does the Bible have to say regarding money?
Consult a Young's or Strong's Concordance to determine how many Biblical references are made to money.

READ AND WRITE
Joshua 1:8

God wants us to be prosperous and to have good success. Believe this verse!

I. Everything belongs to God.

READ AND WRITE
I Chronicles 29:11, 14

Psalms 24:1



Deuteronomy 8:18

II. Our Example of Giving - Jesus

John 3:16

Romans 8:32

II Corinthians 8:9

III. Our Examination.

READ AND WRITE

Romans 14:12

Luke 16:11

Our EXAMINATION

It is the responsibility of the Christian to be accountable to God for the money entrusted to him.

STUDY

Malachi 3:7-14

Relate this Scripture to your individual life and to the life of our nation. Has God been robbed? What blessings follow tithing?

READ

The book of Haggai...

Mark the word "consider" and the phrase "consider your ways". List the verses which contain these words. _____

Give special attention to **Haggai 1:4-11 and 2:17,18**. What message from these passages would apply to today's view regarding money? _____

Psalms 67:5, 6

A promise for farmers ... Praise before productivity!

Notes:

"Godliness with contentment is great gain."

II Timothy 6:6 KJV



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of approximately 20 horizontal lines.

THE GRACE OF GIVING

“Grace” is used seven times in II Corinthians 8 and 9. Find these repetitive words. Giving is a grace.

In Chapter 8: Find the words ENTREATY, EARNESTNESS, EXPEDIENCY, AND EQUALITY. There are two verses which call attention to EXHORTATION and EVIDENCE. WRITE the verse number:

In Chapter 9: Find the words ENRICHED and EXCEEDING. Three verses contain the words EFFECTS, EDIFICATION, and EXALTATION.

WRITE the verse number: _____

LIST

Some COMPENSATIONS gained by giving in Chapter 9.

When Christians tithe, God blesses them, their church, and their nation.

Please allow me to go back to the year 1945.

The scene is the campus of Purdue University. I am meditating, and with my meditation, there are tears streaming down my face for my beloved America. I could see down the corridor of time and realized where the road America was traveling was leading her. The war, World War II, was over, and America had not experienced the horror of atomic bombs devastating our land, our houses, or our stately halls of learning, but a more destructive after-math was taking place... the destruction of our families. Women had gone to work outside of the home so that the men could fight the war, but so many of them never returned to their homes as mothers and homemakers.

READ AND WRITE

Titus 2:3-5

Notice the phrase, **KEEPERS AT HOME**. In the Greek, the word is **OIKON** (home), **ERGOUS** (work); therefore, **HOMEWORKING**, guardian of the home.

Use the following space to express what this Scripture means to you.



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of approximately 20 horizontal lines.

In illustration, read the story of "The Three Monkeys"

Three monkeys sat in a coconut tree,
Discussing things that are said to be.
Said one to the other, "Now listen you two,
There's a certain rumor that can't be true...
That man descended from our noble race,
Why, the very idea is a disgrace!
No monkey ever deserted his wife,
Starved her babies, ruined her life.
And you've never known a mother monk
To leave her babies with others to bunk,
Or pass them on from one to the other,
Until they scarcely know who is their mother.
Here's another thing a monk won't do...
Go out at night and get in a stew,
Or use a gun, a club, or a knife
To take some other monkey's life,
Yes, man descended, that ornery cuss,
But brother, he didn't descend from us!

Author Unknown

The biggest mistake most Christians are falling prey to is a consumptive lifestyle...spending more than they can afford to spend. These people also make the mistake of having no budget. My husband had his own business and piloted his own plane and often said, "Plan a good flight, and fly a good plan." This is good counsel!

Apply this statement to your own budget.

READ

Nehemiah 1:5-11; 2-8

If you desire to stay at home, turn to the book of Nehemiah and apply the way he approached his authority to help you in appealing to your authority. Find the verses where he prayed, expressed loyalty, presented the facts, was asked to set a time, was submissive, and gave reasons for what he wanted to do.

Tell your children of your intention to stay home and lead them to accept the responsibility for helping you to uphold your decision. Too many parents are allowing their children to rule them in the area of money management. When those parents regain this control, it will **affect** and **infect** every decision of their home.

Study the chart on the following page and calculate your own income, your total expense, and your taxes. Determine how much you actually make each week, month, and year. Apply these figures to your lifestyle.



Notes:

MYTH OF THE WORKING MOTHER

Cost Per Week For Working Mothers	\$7.50 per hour	PERSONAL
Tithe	\$30.00	_____
Federal Income Tax (15% Minimum)	45.00	_____
State Income Tax (3% Mississippi)	9.00	_____
Social Security Tax (7.15%)	28.00	_____
*Transportation (100 Miles per Week)	30.00	_____
Lunch and Coffee Breaks	20.00	_____
Restaurants - Carry Outs	20.00	_____
Extra Clothes	20.00	_____
Forfeited Savings On Purchases	15.00	_____
Hair Dresser (Perm, cut, set)	15.00	_____
"I OWE IT TO MYSELF" Expenses	10.00	_____
Socials, Gifts, Contributions	5.00	_____
Employee Insurance	5.00	_____
Child Care (one child)	45.00	_____
TOTAL EXPENSES	297.00	_____
GROSS INCOME PER WEEK (40 hrs.)	300.00	_____
COST TO HUSBAND (gain/loss)	+3.00	_____

*Transportation includes insurance, gas, car payment, depreciation and maintenance.

Begin to cut out newspaper and magazine articles regarding the debt of the American people. Note categories such as spending, salaries, credit card debt, bankruptcies, and people who are being brought to trial because of dishonest dealings regarding to money. Also, read books by Larry Burkett, Ron Blue, or a 1997 book by Andy Dappen entitled, *Shattering the Two Income Myth*.



Notes:

Testimony

Dorothy Taylor

My husband, Roy, and I began our journey out of debt and into financial freedom in January, 1986, when I was convicted by the Holy Spirit to become debt-free. At this time our son was a junior and our daughter was a sophomore in high school. We were facing the daily expenses that come with two teenagers and anticipating future college needs, but I knew God wanted me to pursue freedom in this area of my life.

Putting aside my pride, I made an appointment to see Mary Oates for counseling. I was ashamed to confess to her that I did not know how to handle money, but I am thankful to God that He led me to go to her for help. As I sat with Mary and showed her a year's worth of bills and bank statements, she asked me two important questions. She wanted to know first if we tithed, but I could only say that we tithed at times. She also wondered if I could do anything to earn extra income without going to work outside my home. As I considered this question, I realized that my ability to sew could provide additional income for our budget, but I wasn't sure how this could work. The Lord gave me a scripture for sewing in Isaiah 23:18.

"And here merchandise and here hire shall be holiness to the Lord: it shall be for those who dwell before the Lord, to eat sufficiently and for durable clothing."

Next, Mary gave me ledger sheets to use as a check record and told me not to spend any money that was not accounted for in one of the categories we had placed on the sheets. We also had a quarterly balance sheet. She worked with me over the next several months as an accountability partner as I became more adept at this system of budgeting.

My sewing enterprise began when I made detachable collars which were fashionable at the time. I was searching for an outlet where I could sell them when my daughter, Tammy, told me about a woman at our church who had a dress shop. She encouraged me to go see her with some samples of my work. Although I wasn't used to being a saleswoman, I took my daughter's counsel, asked the Lord for His leading, and went to the shop. My little stash of samples was in a Red Wing Boot box! I was surprised when the owner bought exactly the number of collars totaling the amount of money that we needed at that time. She became a good customer in the months ahead.

I also have a distinct memory of a trip with Mary to an exclusive dress shop to display some decorative cummerbunds to the owner. There were about fourteen different samples in different fabrics all wrapped in tissue paper in my special "boot box." The owner selected one after another until she had chosen twelve different fabric designs of the item. I was already pleased until she said she wanted a dozen of each one! I walked out of the shop with an order of over \$900. Mary and I could barely keep our composure until we got to my car where there was much praising that afternoon.

Sometimes I would go to the grocery store and pray before entering. "Lord, I only have \$27 for two weeks' worth of groceries. Help!" When I got to the checkout, my groceries would be exactly \$27. I have seen God take what I had and make it exceedingly more abundant.

continued on next page

Our daughter wanted to go to college at Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, Mississippi . She needed to score a 27 on her ACT in order to qualify for a scholarship, but after two tries had only made a 26. We prayed earnestly that if God's will was for her to go to this school, He would enable her to achieve a score of 27. You can imagine our rejoicing when she made a 27 on her third try. Tammy was nervous through the interviews for a scholarship, but I told her the battle was not hers but the Lord's. I encouraged her to do her best and leave the rest to Him. Tammy received a \$10,000 four year scholarship and did not have a loan to pay when she graduated. We prayed and sewed her through. She would call and say, "Mother, I need \$600 to pay some of my tuition." I would ask God for what we needed. It seemed that almost immediately the phone would ring with a sewing order which would cover the expense.

I have applied these spiritual principles taught in Heritage Home as God has laid out for us in His scripture. I have seen them work time after time. I have watched His plan come to pass in amazing ways in my life. I know that God wants us to be good stewards of what He has given to us. I believe that we will one day give an account of what we have done with all that He has entrusted to our care on this earth. I must encourage each of you to escape from the bondage of debt and then remain debt-free to the praise, honor, and glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



Notes:

"Godliness with contentment is great gain."

II Timothy 6:6 KJV

Lesson 11

ROOF OF RELINQUISHMENT



Heritage Home Ministries



WHAT does it mean when we say the word, "relinquish"?
It means to **abandon, to renounce, to let go of something.**

Is there anything in your life that you need to relinquish...to let go, so that you can be free?

Jesus said, "And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

READ AND WRITE

Isaiah 61:1-3

Write the many things that Jesus was **SENT TO DO** so we could be free. Give special thought to the fact that **He came to proclaim liberty to captives and to open the prison to those that are bound.**

MATCH

Below the positive things that Jesus **CAME TO GIVE** us as an exchange for our lives.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Mourn | comfort |
| Ashes | beauty |
| Mourning | garment of praise |
| Spirit of heaviness | oil of joy |

Using this passage in Isaiah, determine which of these areas describe your life.

One of the greatest bondages that sin, selfishness, and Satan promote is the **BONDAGE OF UNFORGIVENESS.**

UNFORGIVENESS IS A CONSTRICTION ON OUR LIVES.

We have all been treated unjustly, without cause, lied about, crushed deeply, and betrayed. We do not have the power or desire for forgiveness within ourselves. Something may have taken place recently or years ago, but the Holy Spirit brings it back to our remembrance. This bondage of unforgiveness must be confronted in order to be replaced with freedom.

It is God's will for us to be free. Jesus said in John 8:32, "and you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." Are you free? Are you entangled with a yoke of bondage?

ForGIFTness is FREEDOM.

Notes:

*"Forgiving
one another..."*

Ephesians 4:32b KJV

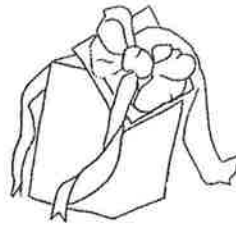
READ AND WRITE

Galatians 5:1

“Let go and let God have His wonderful way,
Let go and let God have His way.
Your troubles will vanish, your night turned to day
Let go and let God have His way.”

ForGIFTness is **CONFERRED...a GIFT**

When Jesus went to the cross 2000 years ago,
He said, "Father, forgive them, for they know
not what they do." At the cross Jesus paid the
price for our sins: past, present, and future. It
was the **GREATEST GIFT** of our lives.



The extent of this GIFT is expressed in the song "We Are the Reason".

“We are the reason that He **GAVE** His life,
We are the reason He suffered and died,
To a world that was lost,
He **GAVE** all He could **GIVE**,
To **GIVE** us the reason to live.”

In the words of another song,

“Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe,
SIN had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.”



Notes:

*“Forgiving
one another...”*

Ephesians 4:32b KJV



Notes:

Sin

I hate sin and what it does
 I hate its deathly smell
 I hate the way it lures the pure
 into a living hell
 I hate the way it calls you
 and makes you want to taste
 The very thing a day ago
 seemed repulsive and unchaste
 I hate the way it grabs you
 and pulls you down again
 into the murky waters
 of lies that have no end.
 I hate the way it makes you feel
 all sick and dark within
 Just when you think you've mastered it
 It drags you to its den
 I hate the way it masquerades itself
 as fun and life at best
 It spins you in a frenzied dance
 and never lets you rest
 You do not hear its deathly dirge
 The clock chimes time you've lost
 The days and nights quick spent in sin
 Bought with no thought of cost
 Someone once prayed for me to see
 and taught me sin's false tune
 That lures most men like Piper's mice
 to traps that shut too soon
 Sin can't be seen with human eyes
 It takes the eyes of God
 He give eternal vision
 to know the path we trod
 You can see the gates of Heaven
 when you stand at the door of Hell
 The journey out of darkest night
 is guided by those who'll tell.

Janey O. Lamphron



FORGIVENESS IS COSTLY

The great thing for which Christ died was to purchase and procure the forgiveness of sins.

Jesus had His Gethsemane. We have ours.

Notes:

READ AND WRITE

Romans 5:8

II Corinthians 5:21

Hebrews 4:16

Jesus was cursed, ridiculed, beaten, and crucified. He was called illegitimate and considered a failure. He understands our hurt caused by others. He is our great high priest and is touched by the **FEELINGS** of our infirmities. When we were His **enemies**, He loved us enough to die for us.

Jesus was rejected. Name some of those who rejected Him.

List situations in which you have suffered rejection.

Jesus was betrayed. Name some of those who betrayed Him.

Have you been betrayed?

If Christ prayed for such enemies as those who nailed Him to the cross, what enemies could we have that we can never forgive?



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

What is forgiveness?

FORGIVENESS IS A MIRACLE OF GRACE WHEREBY THE OFFENSE NO LONGER SEPARATES US AND IS NO LONGER AN ISSUE. THE POWER OF LOVE IS GREATER THAN THE POWER OF THE OFFENSE THAT SEPARATES US. IT IS THE LOVING VOLUNTARY CANCELLATION OF A DEBT.

Forgiveness is a two-sided coin: Side 1, Forgiveness each of us needs from God
Side 2, Forgiveness each of us owes to others

When we realized we were sinners and received Jesus into our hearts, **JESUS FORGAVE US** and we were saved.

WRITE

Your salvation experience.

Lined area for writing about your salvation experience.

Are you thankful for His continual forgiveness of your sins? Tell Jesus.

Jesus' goal for us is unconditional agape love. Unconditional love is when the initiative to forgive begins with us without waiting for the other person to ask for our forgiveness. It is **not** natural. It is **supernatural!**

FORGIVENESS IS CONDITIONAL TO THE CHRISTIAN.

READ

Matthew 6:9-13

This passage records the Lord's Prayer.

*"OUR FATHER, WHICH ART IN HEAVEN,
HALLOWED BE THY NAME,
THY KINGDOM COME,
THY WILL BE DONE
IN EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.
GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD
AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS
AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS."*

Notice that the first prayer is "GIVE", and then, "FORGIVE."

To forgive is conditional:

"Forgive us our trespasses AS WE FORGIVE those who trespass against us."

What does this say to your heart?

Lined area for reflecting on the text.

READ AND WRITE

Matthew 6:14,15

Jesus felt compelled to emphasize that forgiveness is conditional.

“LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL.”

To what temptation and evil do you think he is referring?

READ AND WRITE

Mark 11:25,26

This passage reinforces conditional forgiveness.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF UNFORGIVENESS

READ AND WRITE

Matthew 18:18

Binding is defined as “hanging on to the judgment of another.” Forgiving means we withhold the judgment and binding of another person.

Is there anyone you are binding by a spirit of judgment?

Many are shipwrecked on the rocks of bitterness with hurt feelings, injured pride, and torn friendships. They are captured in the tidal pool of self-pity surrounded by the rocks of unforgiveness. I pray that they will be able to see this marvelous way of escape on the raft of God's forgiveness.

Janey O. Lamphron



Notes:



Notes:

READ

Matthew 18:23-35

This is the parable of the two servants.

To whom does this parable refer? _____

What were the consequences of unforgiveness in the servant? _____

This parable is a comment on the fifth petition of the Lord's Prayer, "Forgive us our trespasses..."

Remember, every sin we commit is a debt to God. The debt of sin is great (some more by reason of sin than others). The debt is so great, we are not able to pay. Romans 14:12 tells us that we are called to account for sin. "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

READ AND WRITE

Matthew 18:35

READ AND WRITE

Luke 13:12

How long had Satan bound the woman? _____

Can this be applied to your life or to the life of someone you know?

PHYSICAL CONSEQUENCES OF UNFORGIVENESS

Physical consequences of unforgiveness do exist. Can you name some of these consequences?

Unforgiveness can also have emotional, mental, and spiritual consequences. Think about these and list them below.

The Lord's Prayer begins with "Thy will be done on earth as it is done in Heaven." It is God's will for us to forgive.



Understanding and practicing this aspect of God's will is one of the keys of the Kingdom that Jesus gave to us. We need to use it.



Notes:

What forgiveness IS NOT:

It is **NOT FORGETTING**.

It is **NOT PRETENDING**.

The hurt, disappointment, or offense is real. However, it is no longer an issue. Forgiving does not erase the hurt, but provides an opportunity for the grieving process to begin in order for those hurts to heal. Jesus grieved while in Gethsemane and bore the scars of purchasing our forgiveness. Our scars from past hurts indicate that we have practiced forgiveness.

Phil 3:10 *"That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death."*

READ AND WRITE

Proverbs 16:7

We can have peace with our enemies. What conditions must be met in order to have that peace? The bond of friendship goes beyond the offense.

THE CONTAGION OF UNFORGIVENESS...BITTERNESS

READ AND WRITE

Hebrews 12:13,15

Bitterness is a strange thing. After weeding a garden, the rows are nice and clean. When you return in a few days, you find the garden is full of weeds again. It requires constant upkeep. Forgiveness is the same way. In order to control the "weeds" of bitterness, we must practice a **LIFESTYLE** of forgiveness.

Drs. Minrith-Meier state that 95% of counseling consists in asking, "Who are you bitter toward, and who have you not forgiven?"

Bitterness toward:

World—Jesus

John 3:16

Luke 23:33-34, 43

Family —Joseph

Genesis 50:20

Brother in Church

II Corinthians 2:7-10

Father to his Son

Luke 15:11-32

Stephen to Religious Leaders

Acts 7:60

Hosea to Wife

Hosea 3:1-3, 14:4-9



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

We must forgive ALL who have injured us whether it is our parents, family members, employees, friends, or enemies. Not to forgive is unforgiveable! We are never to bear a grudge or take revenge for Romans 12:19 states "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord."

THE CURE FOR UNFORGIVENESS

READ
Ephesians 4:31,32

Fill in the blanks.

"Let ALL _____, and _____, and _____, and _____, and evil _____, BE PUT AWAY FROM YOU with ALL _____, AND be ye _____ One to another, _____, FORGIVING one another, EVEN as God, for Christ's sake, HATH FORGIVEN you."

A wonderful illustration of forgiveness in the Bible may be found in the story of Joseph.

THE CHARACTER OF JOSEPH

The story of Joseph is one of forgiveness toward the brothers who had put him in a pit and sold him into slavery in Egypt. Years later, those same brothers come to Egypt for bread due to a severe famine in their homeland. After their father, Jacob, died, the brothers were afraid that Joseph would hold them accountable for all the evil they had done to him.

READ
Genesis 50:15-21

What was Joseph's response to his brothers?

Blank lines for writing the answer to the question above.

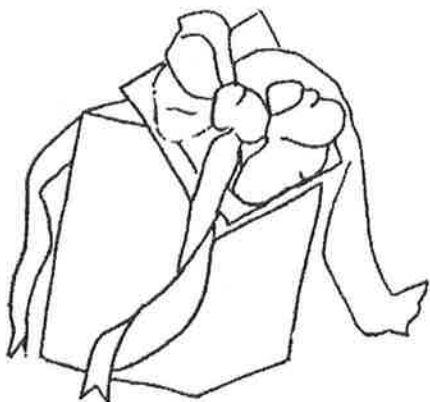
God allowed the injustices of life to come to Joseph, but Joseph saw the bigger picture (household salvation). "To save many people alive".

MEMORIZE
Genesis 50:20

This is called the "50/20 Principle". It can also be used along with Romans 8:28,29. Remember these verses in times of mistreatment and injustice.

Gen 50:20 "But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive."

Rom 8:28& 29 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."



God's gift of forgiveness

Our gift of forgiveness to others

Jesus suffered in order to forgive our debt of sin. His willingness puts our pain and complaints into the proper perspective. The greatest gift you've ever been given is forgiveness! The greatest gift you'll ever give is forgiveness!

CONSTRUCTION OF OUR CARPENTER JESUS FOR BREAKING THE BARRIERS OF UNFORGIVENESS

Play a game of "Pretend." If you have ever been to the shop of a carpenter, you can easily remember the neat rows of tools, boards, nails, bolts, and screws. Each one has a specific purpose and meets a specific need.

You will now be led on a trip through the **SPIRITUAL CARPENTER SHOP**. You will learn how to practice forgiveness, a **GIFT** you **GIVE** to others. **You will never be more like Jesus than when you practice giving this gift.**

1. THE BOARD OF LISTENING

Listen with your heart and notice if your enemy is hurting. There is no peace to the wicked. The unsaved have never known that great gift of peace. When dealing with a carnal Christian, remember Galatians 6:1 and "*restore them in a spirit of meekness.*"

2. THE BOARD OF PRAYER

Pray for your enemies, those who despitefully use you, and even those who persecute you. Jesus said in Matthew 5:11, "*Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and say all manner of evil against you falsely. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad...*" In this situation, that amazing grace provided by Jesus Christ must be practiced.

READ

Matthew 5:44

Luke 6:28



Notes:



Notes:

Lined area for notes.

Roof of Relinquishment

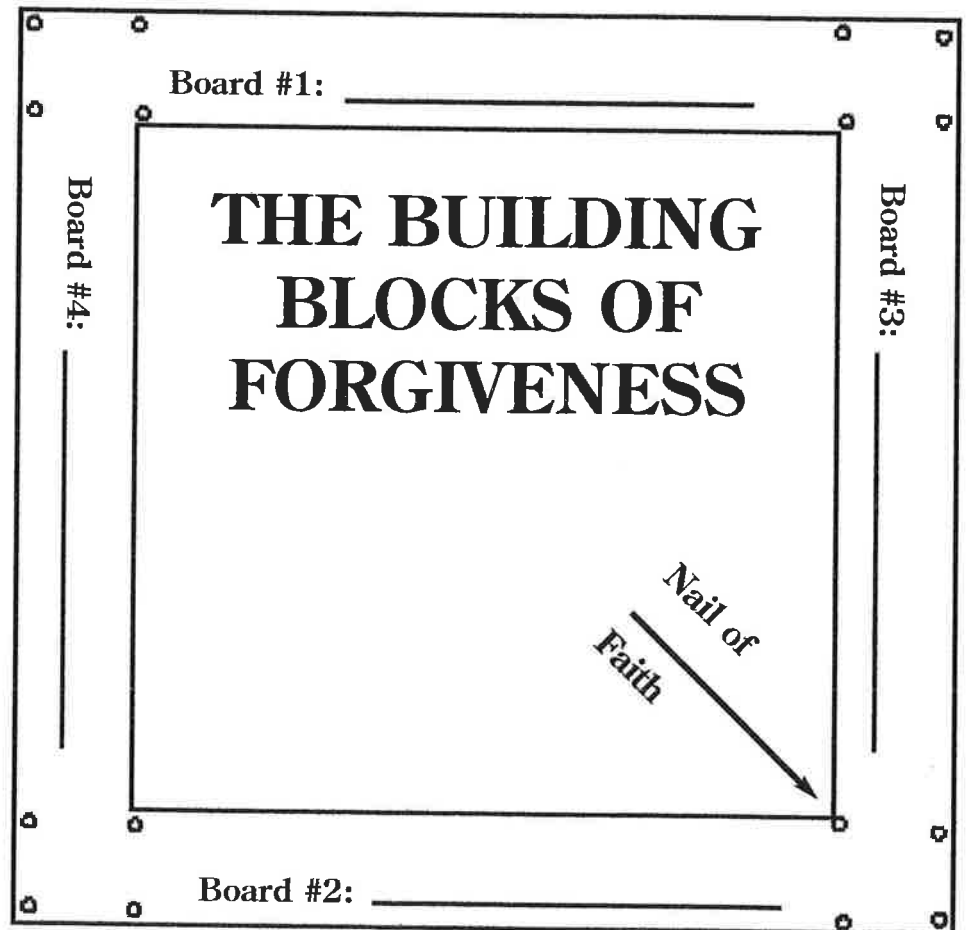
Lesson 11, Page 11

3. THE BOARD OF THOUGHTFUL DEEDS

Romans 12:21 states, "Be not overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." The result of good deeds is the breaking of uneasiness and the restoration of faith between believers. "Overcoming evil with good" helps to reinforce spiritual roots and promote growth in Jesus.

4. THE BOARD OF A KIND COMMENT

"Christian Cancellation" is a game that should be played more often by those who know Jesus as Savior. A positive response to a negative comment "cancels out" that comment, and thereby puts a positive tone to the conversation.





Notes:

Horizontal lines for taking notes.

"Forgiving one another..."

Ephesians 4:32b KJV

Horizontal lines for taking notes.

excellent and that I would learn to be sincere until the day of Christ. No more pretending! I would go into a crowd of ladies like this, and would put on a smile. By the time I got home, my jaws would be sore. I think a lot of others may experience that. He also told me in II Timothy 1:7 that He did not give me the spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind. I learned to claim His promises, and I was completely relieved of all my fears. I was beginning to be in awe of my wonderful Counselor and Lord.

After about a year, the Lord gave me a difficult truth. He said, "Becky, I died for your dad. I love your dad, and I want you to love him, too." My reply was that I couldn't because he had hurt me. Jesus said, "You hurt Me, but I love you. I died for you and I died for your dad. I want you to love your dad." When I knew that the Lord had answers to all my excuses, I understood what I had to do. I was to love my dad as Jesus loved him. After all, I had been praying all along, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." I had not forgiven my dad, and I had not loved him the way Jesus loves him. I had to admit that I couldn't do it. I was still bitter and unforgiving toward him, and I didn't love him. In fact, I hated him. I was still laboring under this burden and many other sins that I had accumulated along the way. Matthew 11:28 says, "Come unto Me, all ye who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." I did not have rest. I was really laboring. I realized the only way that I could love Dad was to love him through Jesus. As His Word says, "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me."

I think the Lord gives us different ways to do things. He had given me a thought that the best thing to do was to write a letter to Dad. It was best for me because we lived 250 miles apart, and I was good at expressing my thoughts on paper. After I wrote everything down about how I knew God loves him and how I should love him, too, I told him that the only way I could love him was through Jesus. I ended the letter with "I Love You in Jesus." It's neat how God can give you a way, even though you don't have the feelings. It seemed to me to be a pretty good letter. Then, I began to have second thoughts. Was I just thinking crazy thoughts? What would my family say? Would they think I was doing something stupid? They all knew how Dad was. He was an alcoholic and had done all these things to each one of us. Even after I had prayed over this letter, it was very difficult to let it go. But once I did, I had a wonderful feeling of peace and freedom. We have a long driveway at our house, and I took the letter and put it in the mailbox. I felt wonderful, knowing that I had obeyed the Lord. It really didn't matter what my family thought, or even what might happen. I just felt free.

When Dad received the letter, he called me. What I had written to him made a great deal of difference. He had truly accepted the fact that I loved him in Jesus, and this was enough. After that, we shared letters, telephone conversations, and eventually, short visits. One very poignant telephone conversation resulted in Dad coming to the saving grace of Jesus. He told me that he knew how he had hurt me. He then asked me to forgive him. By this time, he was sick with cirrhosis of the liver and beginning to face his own death. By that time, I could truly say, "I Love You, Dad!" because Jesus had worked it in me. I told him I had already forgiven him. I also asked him to forgive me. He said, "Becky, you haven't done anything." Yet, I knew that I was guilty of having an unforgiving spirit for more than 17 years. I knew that he had come to understand his own sin. He died the next year at peace, knowing his Lord and Savior, Jesus.

Someday, I will get to see him in Heaven. I will see him just as God meant...as my father, without the alcohol and in the likeness of Jesus. And guess what? I can't wait!!

Lesson 12

WAITING ROOM



Heritage Home Ministries



Notes:

*"Wait, I say,
on the Lord"*

Psalm 27:14 KJV

"And therefore the Lord earnestly waits, expectant, looking and longing to be gracious to you, and therefore He lifts Himself up that He may have mercy on you and show lovingkindness to you; for the Lord is a God of justice.

Blessed, happy, fortunate to be envied are all those who earnestly wait for Him, who expect and look and long for Him, for His victory, His favor, His love, His peace, His joy, and His matchless, unbroken companionship." Isaiah 30:18, Amplified

WAITING is God's method of maturing the Christian.

On a scale of 1 to 10, how patient are you during your waiting times?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Think of some problems you are facing. Is your patience wearing thin?

Waiting is not easy. It forces us into a position of trust where God wants us to be.

READ
Psalm 40:1-3

WRITE
Psalm 40:1

This verse describes a mature believer. **WRITE** the benefits one can receive by patiently waiting.

Note that the believer does one thing. God does the rest!

READ AND WRITE
Hebrews 10:36

What is the need that is spoken of in this verse? _____

What is the result of this need? _____

Is there a promise that you have claimed that God has seemingly ignored?

Is He developing the virtue of patience within you? _____



Look at this picture.

WRITE your thoughts concerning waiting for a child to be born:

Pregnancy demands patience. This is one time that waiting is accomplished in the will. We **will** wait for nine months before our faith becomes the substance of things we hoped for and the evidence of things not seen.

It is worth the wait, isn't it! Who does the work? Apply this principle to every situation in life where waiting is imperative.

READ AND WRITE

Philippians 2:13

"To wait" is a blood covenant phrase. In the original language it means two things:

- 1. To joyfully expect
- 2. To braid together

We are strands of weakness; He is a strand of strength.

READ AND STUDY

Isaiah 40:28-31

Interpret this verse in the light of the above statements.

MEMORIZE

Isaiah 40:31

"But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

What you memorize you utilize!

The law of weakness must be learned to live a life of faith.

What are some situations in which you are waiting for God to work?



Notes:

*"Wait, I say,
on the Lord"*

Psalm 27:14 KJV



Notes:

Waiting Room

Lesson 12, Page 3

Christians experience many attitudes and emotions while waiting to see God work. Have you encountered any of the following attitudes during your waiting times?

- Rest
- Hope
- Gratitude
- Contentment
- Restlessness
- Fear
- Gripping
- Complaining
- Growth
- Anticipation
- Belief
- Excitement
- Groaning
- Anxiety
- Doubt
- Nervousness

Why is it so difficult to wait?

READ AND WRITE

Acts 1:4

What were Jesus' instructions to the disciples?

READ AND WRITE

Galatians 5:5



Notes:

Series of horizontal lines for taking notes.

Your Way

Okay, here's the way I see it, God
I am miffed.

I am disappointed.

I don't like not getting what I wanted.

You know I don't ask for much -

Just my health, enough to eat ... okay, a McDonalds now and then, a new car every three or four years (just for the safety features) some clothes (that don't pre-date me) good government that votes on low taxes and keeps the streets up decent kids that don't embarrass me, long life and the pursuit of happiness - which brings me back to where I started ... happiness

I mean You know what I wanted better than anybody

Now I ask you was that too much to ask God?

It looked so right,

So good for me -

Even good for us.

I was going to make sure You got all the credit.

If You had just participated like I expected.

But now the entire thing looks like

You're late again.

I'm not a kid anymore, Lord.

I don't beg for frills

and I don't think this waiting thing

is too good for my health or my witness

It makes me frustrated and ill tempered even grouchy -

And You know grouch doesn't look good on a Christian.

If You don't hurry up, I could just possibly be too old to

Enjoy this blessing I'm sure You want for me ...

You had better quit this pokey stuff

Now I had it all figured out -

I even saw Your hand in it.

Like it would be good for me, but where were You?

Like You've heard said, "The train's fixing to leave."

The way I see it You could just say yes and then get on

With someone else's business.

I'd be out of Your way - done deal.

What's that you say?

You could give me "my request, but send leanness to my soul."

Hmmm, that means if I get it, I won't even be able to enjoy it, right?

And, "The blessing the Lord, it maketh rich and He addeth no sorrow with it."

Hmmm, that means my want would come with some bad attached, right?

And, "No good thing will He withhold from them that walk upright."

Hmmm, that means the attainment of this, in the way I've pictured, is not good for me, right?

So, You're saying Your will has to be done on earth

as it is in Heaven if I'm going to have it Your way.

Do I have this straight?

Do you mean there are things being worked on up there that require a little more time or a little change of attitude in me, or a little more perfecting to get it right?

Well, in that case, Lord,

I'll have it Your way.



Notes:

Lined area for handwritten notes.

I Corinthians 2:9,10

Explain the meaning of these Scriptures in your own words.

While enduring the waiting times, it is essential to have a rhema. Refer to the "Law of Generations" in order to review the rhema.

The promises, the rhemas of God, provide peace during the times of waiting.

READ AND WRITE

Habakkuk 2:2,3

What is the instruction of this passage?

Be obedient and commit to do this.

My daughter pointed out that the defining aspect of Christmas is that of **waiting**. The Israelites **waited** for the Messiah to be born. Elisabeth and Zacharias **waited** for their child, John the Baptist, who was to be the chosen announcer of the deity of Jesus. Mary and Joseph **waited** to know each other until after the birth of Jesus. In Bethlehem, Mary and Joseph probably waited in the registration lines required by Caesar Augustus. They **waited** eight days for Jesus to be circumcised, and an additional 33 days before they presented Him to the Lord. Afterwards, they had to flee to Egypt and **wait** until Herod died to save Christ from the terrible decree to kill all males under two years of age.

There are many Bible characters who did not wait. **READ** through this list and think of the consequences of their actions:

- Abraham and Hagar
- David and Bathsheba
- Moses and the Egyptian



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of approximately 20 horizontal lines.

READ

I Thessalonians 5:16-22

This passage tells some helpful things to do while waiting. WRITE them below and remember them in the waiting times.

Two sets of three horizontal lines for writing answers.

READ AND WRITE

Isaiah 50:10,11

Two sets of three horizontal lines for writing answers.

What is the end result if we don't wait and take matters into our own hands?

REMEMBER these verses and **REHEARSE** them.

READ

Psalm 106:13-47

WRITE

Psalm 106:13

Two horizontal lines for writing answers.

Psalm 106:43

Two horizontal lines for writing answers.

In the Scriptures above, find the verses which tell that:

- The land was despised _____
- A loathsome disease overtook them _____
- The land was polluted with blood _____
- He sent leanness to their soul _____
- They believed not His Word _____
- They sacrificed their sons and daughters to demons _____
- Their enemies oppressed them _____
- They overthrew their seed among the nations _____
- They learned a lesson when love remembered His covenant _____



Notes:

Lined area for handwritten notes.

There are physical, material, and spiritual benefits from waiting:

PHYSICAL: Isaiah 40:31
Psalm 130:5,6
Psalm 107:20

MATERIAL: Psalm 37:9
Psalm 145:14,15

SPIRITUAL: Psalm 25:4,5

God's Power: Acts 1:4,8

READ AND WRITE

Psalm 27:13

Psalm 130:5 ,6

Meditate on these Scriptures.

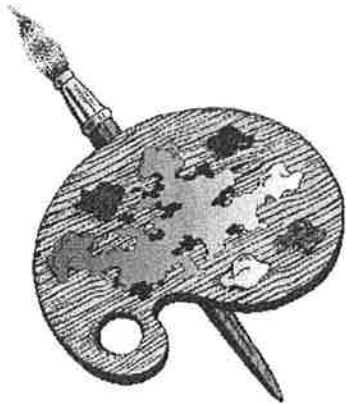
In order to capitalize on your waiting times, **stay in His Word, claim its promises, and discover your rhema.** It will then be possible to enter into **HIS** rest.

Hebrews 4:1. *"Let us, therefore, fear lest, a promise being left us of entering into His rest any of you should seem to come short of it."*

Mt. 11:28-30 *"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will GIVE YOU REST. Take my yoke upon you, and LEARN OF ME; for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall FIND REST unto your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."*

If you are currently in the midst of a waiting time, make a return to rest. Go about your daily activities, and in the meantime, tell God you trust Him to work out **all** the details of your problem. Settle into loving Him, obeying Him, and believing that His promises are for you, His child. He has promised, "the Lord will deal bountifully with you..."

We are waiting for the glorious return of Christ, aren't we? It will be worth the wait!!!



"The Brush"

*Life started out like a canvas
 And God started painting on me.
 But I took the paintbrush from Jesus
 And painted what I wished to see;
 The colors I painted kept running
 And the objects were out of size.
 I had made a mess of my painting,
 My way now seemed so unwise.
 So I brought my painting to Jesus-
 All the colors, all the pieces, so wrong,
 In the markets of earth it was worthless,
 But His blood made my painting belong.
 He worked with no condemnation,
 Never mentioning the mess I had made.
 Then He dipped His brush in the rainbow,
 And He signed it,
 "The price has been paid."
 When I gave the brush back to Jesus,
 When I gave the brush back to Him,
 He started all over, life's canvas to fill,
 When I gave to Jesus
 The brush of my will.*

Chuck Millhuff, Ben Speer Music, 1975

Notes:



Notes:

Handwriting practice lines consisting of horizontal lines with a dashed midline, intended for taking notes.

*"Wait, I say,
on the Lord"*

Psalm 27:14 KJV



"The Broken Fruit Basket"
by
Mary Oates

Once, I learned such a beautiful lesson about waiting. Someone I love deeply gave me a lovely ceramic bowl of fruit. It was a dear treasure to me. I put it on an end table in my den for everyone to see. Several years later, my first grandchild, Melissa, was visiting our home. She was taking her first halting steps through the house. She went by the basket and reached out to touch its gleaming, life-like fruit. Losing her balance, she accidentally pulled it to the floor as she fell. Of course, I was as shattered as the glass, but because of my love for Melissa, I picked her up and reassured her that everything was fine. My husband came into the room and saw what had happened. He knew just what the ceramic treasure meant to me. He saw the hundreds of shattered pieces on the hardwood floor. Silently, he went into the kitchen for a paper bag and painstakingly placed each minute piece into the bag. He turned and watched a tear tracing its way down my cheek, and then quietly said, "Honey, I'll put it back together."

I didn't understand how he could possibly put all those fragments together. Sherman said, "I'm going to take it out to my shop. Don't ever ask me about it, but one day I'll bring it back to you." I couldn't begin to imagine any way he could fulfill this promise, but I had often called him the "fix-it man." He was now undertaking the most difficult job I would see him complete. I was submissive, and I never asked him about the bowl. One day almost eight months later, he came in the back door and brought it to me. There is only one very tiny hair-like place on the handle that shows that it was once broken. He had taken every piece, glued them together, and then painted them. It was once again a thing of beauty and a treasure forever. This basket is twice mine, and my love for my husband increased an hundredfold! Of course, I still have it in my den, high on the top shelf of my bookcase. I am taking no chances of it being broken again.

The One who is the master of fixing everything in the life of a Christian is our Lord, Jesus Christ. If you have broken pieces of your life, give them to God. Believe that He can put those fragments together again. One day, you will be praising Him, thanking Him, and loving Him as you see the masterpiece He has made out of your broken pieces.

If I had tried to put that broken basket together myself, or if I had nagged my husband to hurry up or to show me his work, I doubt that he would have ever finished it. I was told to give him time, and to trust him. I rested in his promise to put the basket back together. This special act of patience was a gift from my husband that made our love even stronger.

Apply this principle of waiting to your life. During this time of waiting remember : *"And therefore will the Lord wait, that He may be gracious unto you, and therefore will He be exalted, that He may have mercy upon you; for the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all they that wait for Him."* Isaiah 30:18

Bonus Lesson

PSALM 23



Heritage Home Ministries



Notes:

Psalm 23

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside the still waters.*

*He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths
of righteousness for his name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff
they comfort me.*

*Thou preparest a table before me in the presence
Of mine enemies; thou anointest my head
with oil; my cup runneth over.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life;
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.*

THE NAMES OF GOD AS ILLUSTRATED IN PSALM 23:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <i>"The Lord is my SHEPHERD</i> | Jehovah Raah |
| <i>I shall not WANT
Genesis 22:13,14</i> | Jehovah Jireh... "The Lord will provide" |
| <i>He maketh me to lie down in green pastures</i> | Jehovah Shalom... "The Lord our peace"
Judges 6:24 |
| <i>He restoreth my soul</i> | Jehovah Rapha... "The Lord who heals"
Exodus 15:25 |
| <i>He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake</i> | Jehovah Tsidkenu... "The Lord our righteousness"
Jeremiah 23:6 |
| <i>Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me</i> | Jehovah Shammah... "The Lord ever present"
Ezekiel 48:35 |
| <i>Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies</i> | Jehovah Nissi... "The Lord our banner" |
| <i>Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."</i> | |

PSALM 23 PERSONALIZED FOR PARENTS

Here are some examples of shepherds in the Bible.

READ

- Luke 1**
- Luke 15**
- Ezekiel 34**
- I Peter 2**
- Psalm 23**

We remember hearing the 23rd Psalm as a child, memorizing it as a teenager, but as adults we are learning to personalize it as we lean on the Shepherd and love Him. We want to pass this heritage on to our children.



Notes:



Notes:

Why did Jesus compare us to sheep?

READ AND WRITE

Isaiah 53:6

Explain this verse.

READ

John 10:3, 4, 11, 27

What does a good shepherd **DO** for his sheep?

What are the sheep to **DO**?

READ

John 10:28

What does a good shepherd **GIVE** to His sheep?

READ

John 10:12, 13

What does the hireling **DO**?

List some Biblical people who were shepherds.

The first half of Psalm 23 speaks **ABOUT** the shepherd. ("He")
The second half of Psalm 23 speaks **TO** the shepherd. ("Thou")

READ AND WRITE
Hebrews 12:2

II Corinthians 3:18

These scriptures support the PREMISE of "WHAT YOU LOOK AT YOU BECOME LIKE."

How do you think these verses relate to Psalm 23?

The outline on the following page explains each phrase of Psalm 23 and how that phrase relates to parents. Each of these phrases will be studied in detail.



Notes:



Notes:

Lined area for writing notes.

Table with 2 columns: Verse text and Key concept. Rows include 'The Lord', 'Is my Shepherd', 'I shall not want', etc.

'The LORD is MY Shepherd'.....CONVERSION

Do your children know of YOUR conversion experience?
Do YOUR CHILDREN know the Lord as their Shepherd?

'The LORD is my Shepherd'.....COMMITMENT

Is He the LORD of your life? Does He have control?

'The LORD is my Shepherd'.....COMPANION

Jesus calls us 'friends' in John 15. Do you walk and talk with Him? Does He assure you that you are His own?

Do the places you go, the books you read, the television programs you watch, the beverages you drink, and the amusements you attend indicate that He is your constant Companion?



Notes:

“I SHALL NOT WANT”.....CONTENTMENT

Contentment is the hallmark of those who have put their trust in the Good Shepherd. His reputation is at stake.

READ AND WRITE

Philippians 4:19

He will supply **ALL** our **NEEDS**!

READ AND WRITE

II Peter 1:3

He has **GIVEN** us **ALL** things

READ AND WRITE

II Corinthians 8:9

What are some of the things which you possess that would not have been available to Jesus during His earthly life? “Count your many blessings, name them one by one. It will surprise you what the Lord has done!”

READ AND WRITE

II Corinthians 9:8

Underline the word **ALL**.

Have you found that your children are discontent? Examine your own contentment. Remember: **WHAT A CHILD LOOKS AT HE BECOMES LIKE.**

Paul said, “I have *LEARNED* in whatever state I am, therewith to be content.”
Philippians 4:11

If contentment was a graded course, what grade would you give yourself?

A () B () C () D ()

“HE MAKETH ME TO LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES”.....CONTROL

He controls our downittings and our uprisings.

READ AND WRITE

Isaiah 30:15



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

“Green pastures” for our children should be home ground. Green is always symbolic of growth and development. The preparation of “green pastures” requires tremendous time, labor, and skill from the shepherd. The same effort is required of parents. The home should be a quiet place of rest from all the stresses of school, work, and church activities. *It is crucial that we turn the rush of the commonplace into the hush of communion.*

Before sheep will lie down, they must be **FREE** from friction, fear, and hunger. Is your home free from these hindrances? Is your home a quiet resting place for growth and development? This is the desire of our Shepherd. He supports it in His Word.

Resting can sometimes prove to be a difficult lesson. Have you ever noticed that it is almost impossible to prevent some people from constantly doing things while others have to be pushed forward in order to complete tasks?

“You must **come apart** or you will **come apart!**” Vance Havner

“HE LEADETH ME BESIDE STILL WATERS”.....CALMNESS

READ AND WRITE

Psalm 46:10

Water is symbolic of the Word of God.

“Still waters” Sheep will not drink from rushing streams or noisy bubbling water. Can you draw a comparison to the home?

“Still waters” Do you have a quiet time with the Lord? Can your children imitate your pattern of Bible study?

Water determines the strength, vigor, and vitality of sheep. The Word of God determines our strength, vigor, and vitality.

It is the responsibility of the parents to help their children learn to study God’s Word. Dr. Adrian Rogers gives this self-help guide for studying Psalms:

- Find: a sin to avoid
- a command to obey
- a promise to claim
- a blessing to receive
- a victory to win
- a new thought to carry with you

Jeremiah warned, *“For My people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.”* Jeremiah 2:13 KJV

How does this apply to the pattern being set forth by parents?



Notes:

“HE RESTORETH MY SOUL”.....COUNSELOR

The word “restores” can sometimes be translated as “converts”. The soul is made up of the mind, the will, and the emotions. Are you, as a parent, preparing times of precious communication with each of your children? Do you share those times when just the two of you relate your innermost thoughts and feelings? Children have hectic weeks and need someone to listen to their hearts and hurts, and their joys, and celebrations.

Susannah Wesley had 19 children. She made time each week to have one hour devoted to listening to each child.

READ
Psalm 42 and Psalm 43.

Note the words “**cast down**”.

When a sheep is “**cast down**”, it lies on its back and is unable to get up. The sheep must have someone to put it on its feet again.

Do you remember a time when you were “**cast down**”? Did you have someone to help you up? You are the shepherd of your children. You must be there to help them when they are “**cast down**.”

Sheep also have a reversible coat. They have sheep skin to keep them cool by day and wool to keep them warm at night. Shepherds wear clothing to make them look like their sheep. Do you wear the kind of clothes you want your children to wear? What are your guidelines concerning the types of clothes your children are allowed to wear?

“HE LEADETH ME IN THE PATHS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR HIS NAME’S SAKE”....CHARACTER

WRITE
Some of the words to the song “He Leadeth Me”.

Sheep are stubborn creatures. So are we. As a parent, are you a good follower of the Chief Shepherd?

- Do you desire to:
- DO His will
 - GO His way
 - LISTEN to His voice
 - BE LED by His Spirit

COMPLETE the following words of Jesus:

- “My sheep _____ My voice”
- “My sheep _____ Me”
- “My sheep _____ Me”



Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

READ AND WRITE
John 16:13

What better promise is there than to be led in paths that are right?

READ AND WRITE
Psalm 139:10, 24

Isaiah 48:17

“YEA, THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, I WILL FEAR NO EVIL, FOR THOU ART WITH ME”CONFIDENCE

READ AND WRITE
Isaiah 43:1, 2

Note the words **“I WILL”**. This speaks of the awesome power of “being there” as a parent when your children face crises in their lives. **JUST BE THERE!**

Do you remember times of difficulty when you experienced the nearness of your Shepherd? **PRAISE HIM** for His deliverance and for His promised presence.

“THY ROD”.....CORRECTS

This speaks of the rod of discipline. The Lord chastens us and that chastening brings forth the fruit of righteousness. In a like manner, we are to discipline our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Try to recall the discipline scriptures studied in previous sections.

“THY STAFF, THEY COMFORT ME”.....COMFORT

READ
II Corinthians 1:3-11

This Scripture assures us of God’s comfort. We comfort our children just as He has comforted us. We bear their burden with them, share their disappointments and their hurts, and pray with and for them in their hours of need.

We **TEACH** our children.

The Holy Spirit **TRAINS** them.

READ

John 14:16

Jesus says that He will send a Promised Comforter. Who is this? _____

READ

John 14:18

This is one of my favorite verses because He has been faithful to this promise. Remember the times He has comforted you.

“THOU PREPAREST A TABLE BEFORE ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MINE ENEMIES”.....CONQUEROR

Just as you prepare physical food to feed your family, to nourish, strengthen and sustain them; so God has prepared a Spiritual Table of Food (the Word of God) to nourish us. *“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect (mature), thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”* II Tim. 3:16

Jesus feeds the Word of God to us in order for us to be equipped to defeat our enemies. As we feed on the Word of God and digest it, it becomes a part of us.

We experience battles in our lives. Our children will do the same. Have your children been nourished (fed) on the Scriptures in order to obtain victory over every enemy and circumstance in their lives?

READ

John 15:5c

Do your children know that without Jesus they can do no-thing?

READ

Matthew 19:26

Do they understand that with Him ALL things are possible?

Begin to teach your children that Jesus has won the battles of life. They **MUST BELIEVE**, “for with God **NOTHING** is impossible.”

READ AND WRITE

Mark 9:23

What is the correct response of the Christian during times of trouble?



Notes:



Notes:

Lined area for handwritten notes.

READ

Romans 8:28, 29
II Corinthians 2:14
I John 5:4

CLAIM THESE PROMISES!

“THOU ANOINTEST MY HEAD WITH OIL, MY CUP RUNNETH OVER”...CONSECRATION

His anointing gives us victory over the flesh, creates character, inspires prayer, helps our infirmities, and comforts and cleanses us.

READ

I John 1:27

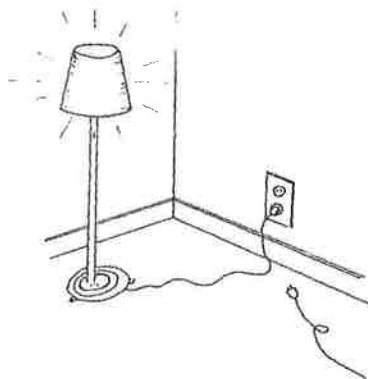
All Christians have been anointed with the Holy Spirit.

READ AND WRITE

Acts 1:8

Horizontal line for writing.

Jesus Christ is our power source. Are you plugged into the power? Have you been unplugged and lost His power that once surged through you?



*You've got to Plug into the Power
To know the grace of God
You've got to Plug into the Power
To receive life from above
For He has said,
You shall receive
Power from above
Power, God's Power,
It is the gift of His love*

Mary Oates

Have you been anointed? Is His power evident in your life? Are you serving Him in the power of the Holy Spirit?

READ

Galatians 5:19 - 23



Compare and list below the works done in the flesh and those done in the Spirit.

Works of the flesh	Fruit of the Spirit

Notes:

“SURELY GOODNESS AND MERCY SHALL FOLLOW ME ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE”.....CONCLUSION

He provides: Goodness for our steps
 Mercy for our stumbles

“AND I WILL DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD FOREVER.”.....CLIMAX

ANTICIPATION: The best is yet to come

READ
John 14:1,2

ASSURANCE: No doubt about it!
 I WILL live in the house of the Lord FOREVER.

Read the words of the song, “Blessed Assurance”. Read them, sing them, and believe them!

As a child we can say: “Lord I want to see You face to face. I want to sit on Your lap and hug You. You are a Good Shepherd.”

As a parent we want to hear: “Well done, thou good and faithful parent. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.”



Hold High The Torch

Hold high the torch!

You did not light its glow —
It was given you by other hands, you know.
It is yours to keep it burning bright,
Yours to pass on when you no more need light;
For there are other feet that we must guide,
And other forms go marching by our side;
Their eyes are watching every smile and tear
And efforts which we think are not worthwhile,
Are sometimes the very helps they need,
Actions to which their souls would give most heed;
So that in turn they'll hold it high
And say, "I watched someone else
carry it just this way."

If brighter paths should beckon you to choose,
Would your small gain compare ...
with all you'd lose?

Hold high the torch!

You did not light its glow —
It was given you by other hands, you know.
I think it started down its pathway bright,
The day the Maker said, "Let there be light."
And He, once said, who hung on Calvary's tree —
"Ye are the light of the world."

Go! Shine — for me.

Cynthia Maus

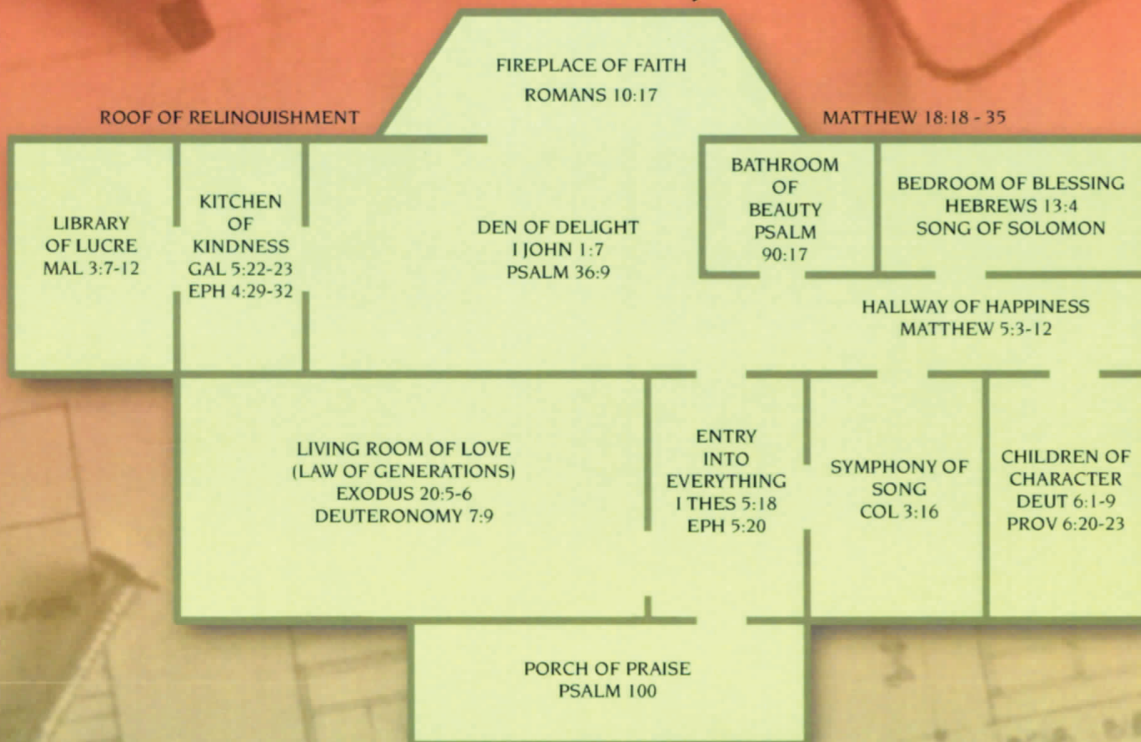
© '96

HERITAGE HOME

LEARN TO BUILD A HOME USING THE TOOLS OF THE MASTER CARPENTER

The Heritage Home Study Material is designed to give you a total perspective on your lifelong joy of being a Godly wife and mother. As you look at the blueprint, you see that there are specific principles that God has given in His Word to be applied to the home. Mary Oates wants to implant a vision of this home in your heart. These principles should be integrated into the daily routines of your life so that your home will become a place of prayer, peace, praise, and purpose.

HOUSE OF PRAYER - JOHN 17



"Through skillful and godly wisdom is a house, (a life, a home, a family) built, and by understanding it is established (on a sound and a good foundation). And by knowledge shall the rooms be filled with all precious and pleasant riches." --Proverbs 24:3-4 AMP



HERITAGE HOME • P.O. Box 645 • CORINTH, MS 38834

WWW.THEHERITAGEHOME.COM