

EDO

EQUIPPED TO DISCIPLE OTHERS



Series 2

Foundations of the Faith

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

Colossians 2:6-7

January 2020

Welcome

Jesus offers to all mankind an amazing gift – the gift of eternal life.

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

John 3:16

Booklet 1 of this series: *Essentials for New Believers*, lays out the basic provisions of God for the believer to live a Christ-centered life. We trust that you have decided to entrust your eternal destiny to the Person and Work of Jesus Christ. If you have not already completed Series 1, we highly recommend you consider going through that series first.

Series 2 helps you continue the journey of following Jesus; the aim of this material is to equip you as a “fisher of men.” Throughout this study you will explore the foundational doctrines of the Christian faith. Our focus will not be church tradition or the writings of theologians, but rather we will study the text of Scripture (hundreds of verses).

We recommend you take this journey with two or three other people. Commit together to study through each section individually and then meet to discuss your observations. You will be surprised to discover the additional insights you will gain as you meet together.

I thank BJ Walbert for his editing support. It is our prayer that God will use this tool to strengthen your walk with Jesus. Once you are finished, it is also our hope that you will be equipped and eager to use this tool (or one like it) to help others on this same journey of following Jesus.

May the Lord bless your study as you follow Him.

Ray Cardwell
Teaching pastor

Disciples Who Make Disciples

Introduction

Discipleship is one of the most common words used in churches, yet many of us have not found a way to make it real in our lives. This booklet is the **second tool** in a four-part series that every believer can use to help other believers to become disciple makers. Discipleship is a lifelong pursuit. The key to this series is that it is **transferable** and **repeatable**. It is not overwhelming. It is intended to support your life long journey of helping other people find and follow Jesus Christ.

The Plan: Work through each section on your own, looking up the Bible passages and making observations. Then meet with your group to discuss your observations. As you meet, do not try to read all the verses, that will kill your momentum. Be sure to complete the “disciple making assignment” each week.

General Goals

For You: To build a solid foundation of your faith which will support future spiritual growth.

For Others: You can take what you have learned and use this series to help build up others in understanding the foundations of our faith.

Series 2

The topics in this series are designed to establish the believer in the **Foundations of the Faith**, specifically: God, man, sin, and salvation.

Companion Resources for this Series

The book *Sin, the Savior, and Salvation* by Robert Lightner is a great addition to your study. Additional books are recommended in Appendix B.

Also available are audio messages for each section on EquippedToDisciple.org. Listen to the message after you have completed your study. (TBD, some are available)

Series 2 Outline

Introduction	Just to be Sure	The Gospel The Foundation
Section 1	The Character of God	The Nature of God The Attributes of God
Section 2	The Relationships of God	The Trinity The Sovereignty of God
Section 3	The Nature of Man	Competing Worldviews Our Identity
Section 4	Sin	The Fall of Man The Extent of Sin The Barrier
Section 5	The Person of Christ	The Deity of Christ The Humanity of Christ
Sections 6-8	The Work of Salvation	(3 weeks) Redemption Regeneration Justification Propitiation Reconciliation What Next?
Section 9	The Resurrection	The Significance
Appendix A	Additional Notes	Answers to blanks
Appendix B	Additional Resources	

The Plan for Each Week

We encourage you to walk through this series with two or three other people. When discipleship meetings are one on one, it usually creates a “Bible Answer Man” relationship. The one being discipled (Timothy) tends to look to the one who is leading (Paul) for all the answers. However, when you meet in a small group of three to five people, the focus can be turned to the Lord and Scripture. “We are meeting together to seek the Lord and learn from His Word.”

The Role of Paul

A “Paul” initiates the discipleship process. The first phase is to form the group.

1. Pray for who should be part of the group. (all night) Luke 6:12-13
2. Invite each person to be part of the process. Matt 4:18-22
3. Clarify the expectations for each Timothy. For example:
 - We will meet each _____
 - You are expected to have completed the section before we meet
 - Each week, you will have a Disciple Making (DM) Assignment
 - We will hold each other accountable for the DM Assignment
 - We will consistently pray for one another, etc. etc.

When you meet, “Paul” facilitates the flow of your time together.

Model what Disciple Making (DM) looks like. The “Timothy’s” in the group should be able to imitate you.

Commitment & Accountability

This is not just another Bible study group.

This is focused training to follow Jesus and become a Fisher of Men.

Any Transfer of Knowledge must be followed by Obedience. Every skill in life is gained by knowledge and practice. Consider how we learn to ride a bike, drive a car, to cook, become a plumber, or doctor, or engineer.

There is classroom training and then there is some venue for doing – for practicing the skills under the watchful eye of the teacher. So it is with becoming a disciple maker, a fisher of men.

“Paul” is responsible for instilling some aspect of accountability into the group to ensure there exists opportunities for living out disciple making skills.

Recommended Format of Each Meeting

Each time you gather together, we recommend you look three directions.

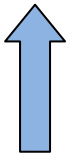


Look Back

Encouragement, Celebration, Accountability, (about 20 minutes)

Look back on what God has done, and is doing. Lovingly hold everyone accountable to report on their progress. Make course corrections, offer suggestions. Follow up on the "I WILL" statement and the Disciple Making assignment from the prior meeting.

Be sure to remember, this is spiritual work. Our role is to be faithful to speak the word. The results are in God's hands!



Look Up

New Insight from the Word of God, (about 60 minutes)

Look up and seek a better understanding of the Lord, and His will for our lives. Be careful to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Our ability to understand spiritual truth depends on the teaching ministry of the Spirit in our lives. The source document is the Bible. What is God saying to us through His Word?



Look Forward

Response and Application, (about 20 minutes)

Look forward and address the next steps that need to be taken to incorporate God's truths, and instructions into your life. Write down a tangible step to be taken in response to God's word. It is often helpful to identify the next step in the form of an I WILL _____ statement. It should be specific and measurable.

The following meeting, each person will be held accountable regarding their I WILL statement.

Acknowledgement: The Timothy Initiative (TTI) Trainers Guide

Reviewing the Starting Point

What is the Gospel?

What must I do to be Saved?

The Gospel

The Gospel is the Good News of Jesus Christ. It is the starting point for the Christian faith. Paul gives us a concise summary of the Gospel:

1 Cor 15:1,3-4

Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which you also received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved,

if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received:

that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and

that He rose again the third day, according to the Scriptures,...

Creation: *The Background*

God _____ heaven and earth.

Gen 1:1

God _____ us.

Rom 5:8

God wants a _____ with us.

2 Peter 3:9

We were created to be in relationship with God.

However a love relationship requires the freedom to choose.

Fall: *The Need*

All have _____ and fall short of the glory of God.

Rom 3:23

The penalty of sin is _____.

Rom 6:23

As a consequence of rejecting God's design for life, we are all spiritually dead, separated from God.

Rom 5:12

Redemption: The Good News

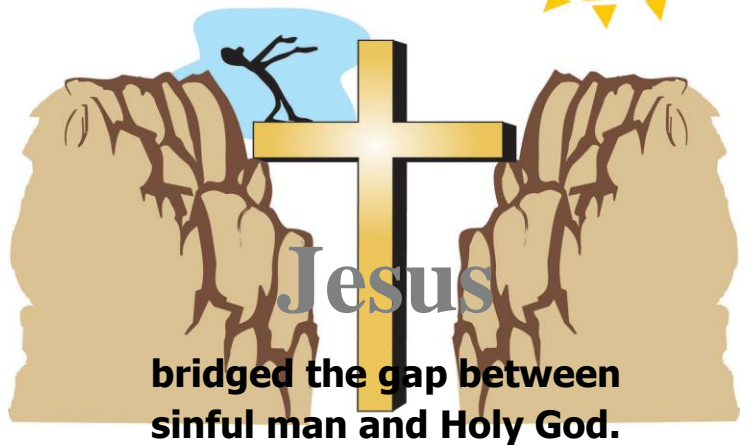
Jesus Christ _____ for our sins,
and was _____ on the 3rd day.
Christ died in our place. He paid the full penalty.

1 Cor 15:3-4

2 Cor 5:21

The GOSPEL

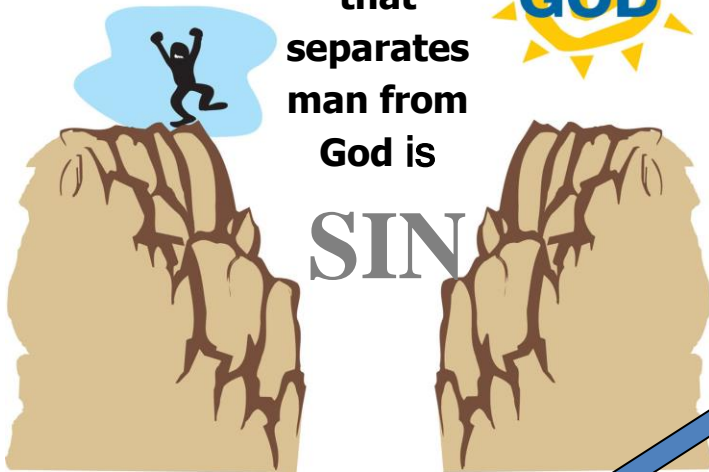
is that Christ died on the cross
for our sins and rose again
from the dead.



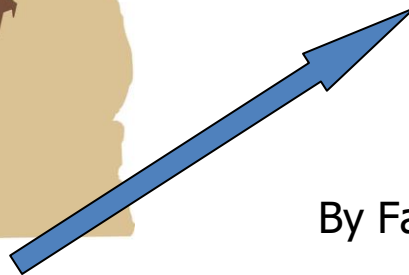
The Barrier
that
separates
man from
God is



SIN



Now we are **Alive** in Christ
Eph 2:4-6



By Faith

We were **Dead** in our Sins
Eph 2:1-3

The Required Response

He who _____ has eternal life. John 6:47

The required response to the gospel can be summarized in one word:

"believe."

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved... Acts 16:31

What does it mean to believe in Christ?

- 1) Intellectual Agreement: I understand and confess I am a sinner and that God is righteous. I understand that Jesus bore the penalty of my sin. He rose from the dead as historical proof He is who He claimed to be. Because of His completed work on the cross on my behalf, He is offering to me the gift of eternal life.
- 2) Personal Application: This applies to me. I need to change my mind by confessing my sin and my need for a Savior who is Jesus Christ alone. The Bible calls this change of mind "*repentance*."
I must choose to respond, to accept or reject the invitation of Christ.
- 3) A Decision: I consciously decide to entrust my eternal destiny to Christ and what He did for me on the cross. This decision is typically made by a prayer to God expressing faith in Christ and a need for God's salvation. The Bible refers to this decision as "calling on the name of the Lord."

For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes in Him will not be disappointed." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call upon Him; for "Whoever will call upon the Name of the Lord will be saved."

Romans 10:11-13

To believe in Jesus, means to entrust ourselves
to Him alone for our salvation.

Faith alone, in Christ alone.

The Spiritual Growth Process

Spiritual growth requires an intentional process that takes place over time. The typical believer will move through different phases of spiritual growth, similar to the physical growth we experience from infancy to adulthood.

Characteristics of Each Phase

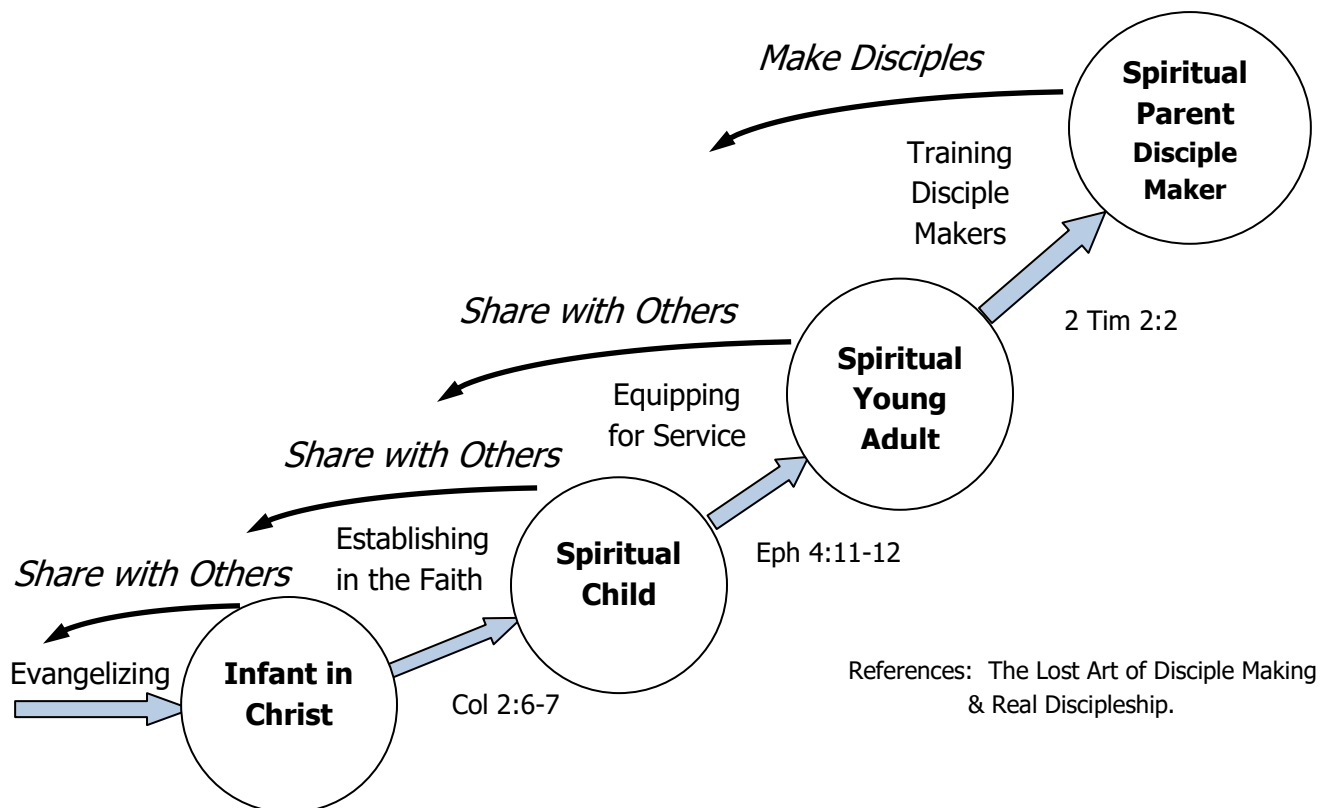
Infants are totally dependent. They need constant care and nourishment.

Children are often selfish. They tend to focus on their own needs: "I want." They need training and life experiences in order to become mature.

Young Adults are learning to focus on others. They need encouragement, guidance, balance, and discernment.

Spiritual Parents are spiritually mature, equipped with the Word. They have a servant's heart and understand God's plan for making disciples. They need to initiate the discipleship process with those within their sphere of influence.

Making Disciples of Others



Through spiritual growth, as we become more like Jesus, we become better equipped to make disciples of others.

Building a House

One of the word pictures Jesus used for our lives is that of a person building a house. At the beginning of His public ministry, Jesus presented in Matthew 5-7 what is called the Sermon on the Mount. Basically Jesus taught the principles of Kingdom Living. He started with the Beatitudes, character qualities that God values for every kingdom citizen.

Jesus concluded the Sermon on the Mount addressing their response to His teaching. He compared their responses to two men building a house. Read through the passage and make observations.

Matthew 7:24-29

vs 24 What conditions make for a wise man?

vs 25 What happened to the wise man's house? Why?

vs 26 What conditions make for a foolish man?

vs 27 What happened to the foolish man's house? Why?

Both men heard the words taught by Jesus.

What is the only difference between the wise man and the foolish man?

With this simple story of two men building a house, one on solid rock, and the other on sand, Jesus presents a profound warning and a promise. The trials of life will come; they are inevitable. The question is: What foundation and building materials are we using to build our lives? The following passage extends the building analogy. Record your observations:

1 Cor 3:9-16



Sound Doctrine

The focus of this series of studies is the *Foundations of the Faith*, the fundamental doctrines that support our understanding of spiritual truth. These are not doctrines meant only for seminary students to study and theologians to debate. They are truths that provide a solid foundation for every believer. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians was writing to “normal people” not seminary students. He talked about the role of believers with communication gifts.

Eph 4:11-16

vs 12-13 What is the goal of their teaching?

vs 14 What is one measure of a mature believer?

Paul also wrote letters to two young pastors, Timothy and Titus. What does Paul say about sound doctrine (teaching) in these letters?

2 Tim 4:1-5

1 Tim 1:5-11

Titus 1:9

Titus 2:1

As you proceed through this series,

May you be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God... Col 1:9-10

Section 1: The Character of God

How does God describe Himself?

Memorize Jer 9:23-24

God Has Revealed Himself

God is infinite, He is invisible.

Job 11:7-9

Is 40:18

1 Cor 2:10-11

Can we really know God?

YES!

We can know God because He has chosen to reveal Himself to us.

The following passages refer to three ways God has revealed Himself.

What are they? Record your observations:

Ps 19:1-4; Rom 1:18-32

Ps 19:7-14; Ps 119

Heb 1:1-2; John 1:1,14; 14:7-11

What is the difference between knowing someone and knowing about someone?

Think through the fact that God has taken the initiative to reveal Himself to us.

What does that say about God?

What does that say about us?

The Perfections of God

The perfections of God are the overall characteristics of God. Every aspect of God is perfect. Each perfection describes His total being.

God has chosen to use **words** to reveal and describe Himself to us.

Nature of God:

Answers for blanks are in App A

_____	<p><u>John 4:24;</u> God is immaterial, essentially imperceptible to physical senses. <i>Invisible</i> Col 1:15; 1 Tim 1:17 Does not live in temples Acts 17:24</p>
_____	<p><u>Ps 145:3; Job 11:7-9; Is 40:28</u> God transcends all limitation of time and space. <i>Absolute Perfection</i> Deut 32:4 <i>Eternal</i> Ex 15:18; <u>Ps 90:2</u>; 102:27; John 8:58 <i>Omnipresent</i> <u>Ps 139:7-10</u>; Jer 23:23-24 All things possible with God Matt 19:26</p>
_____	<p>God is personal, He is an individual being with self-consciousness, will, capable of feeling, choosing, and having a relationship with other personal beings. He loves John 3:16 He grieves, Gen 6:6 He hates Prov 6:16-19 He provides Matt 7:7-11 He cares 1 Peter 5:6-7</p>
_____	<p><u>Jer 10:10; John 5:26; 14:6; 1 Thess 1:9</u> God is alive, characterized by life, the source of life. God breathed life into Adam Gen 2:7 God offers life John 10:10; 1 John 5:11-12</p>
_____	<p><u>Deut 6:4;</u> <i>Self Existent</i> Ex 3:14; Only one God Ps 18:31; Is 44:6-8; 45:5-7; 1 Cor 8:4</p>

Know therefore today, and take it to your heart, that the Lord, He is God in heaven above and on earth below; there is no other. So you shall keep His statutes and His commandments which I am giving you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may live long on the land which the Lord your God is giving you for all time. Deut 4:39-40

Attributes of God

Is 6:3; Rev 4:8

God is distinct from everything outside His essence and is morally separate from sin.

We are to be holy Lev 11:44-45; 1 Pet 1:15-16

God's Holiness can be understood as a combination of *Righteousness* and *Justice*. Ps 89:14; 97:2; 119:137

Deut 32:3-4; Ps 145:17; 11:7; 33:5; 48:10; 50:6; 111:3

Many many verses declaring God as righteous!

Prayers of Confession Ezra 9:15; Dan 9:7,14

God rejects human righteousness Is 64:6; Titus 3:5

Ps 9:4; Zeph 3:5

Justice is God's official righteousness, His requirement that other moral beings adhere to His standards.

Ps 35:24; Ps 19:9; 50:6

Future judgement Acts 17:30-31; 2 Tim 4:8

1 John 4:8-10; Rom 5:6-8; 8:32 loved so much by God

Ps 32:10; 103:11; Jer 31:3; 2 Cor 13:11

Will not be removed Is 54:10

Even in grief, lovingkindness Lam 3:32-33

Love of God poured into our heart Rom 5:5

Cannot be separated Rom 8:35-39

Disciplined in love Heb 12:5-6

Mark 10:18; Ps 25:8; 86:5; 106:1; 107:1

God is absolutely good, and gives perfect blessings to His creatures. Trust and discover He is good, Ps 34:8; Ex 34:6-7

Grace – from God's goodness flows His grace. Ps 86:15

God shows goodness to those who cannot merit it.

Mercy – God shows compassion on those in distress. Deut 4:31

Ps 33:4; John 14:6, 17:3; Titus 1:1-2

God is perfectly reliable in His revelation, and knows all things as they really are.

True in His Ways, Ps 25:10; 86:15

True in His Word, 2 Sam 7:28; Ps 119:142; John 17:17

_____ Ps 147:4-5; 1 Sam 2:3; Ps 139:1-6; Heb 4:13
 God knows all things, His knowledge is not dependent on time.
 He also knows things that do not become reality.
Wisdom, God's perfect knowledge to act so that He will
 accomplish His goal – to glorify Himself. Rom 11:33
Foreknowledge – God's perfect knowledge of everyone in
 His redemptive plan before they begin in time and space.

_____ Jer 32:17-18; Job 42:2; Ps 93:1; Is 40:26
 God is all powerful, unlimited in strength and ability. He is able to
 do anything consistent with His character.
 God cannot lie, deny Himself 2 Tim 2:13, be tempted, Jam 1:13
 Demonstrated in creation Is 44:24

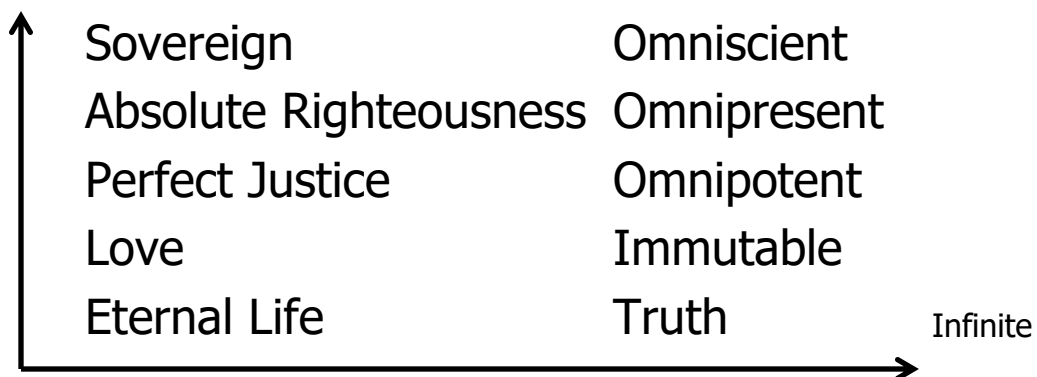
_____ Ps 102:25-27; Mal 3:6; James 1:17
 He is unchanging and unchangeable in His being
 Therefore: God is *faithful* Lam 3:23
 His Word is faithful Ps 119:89; Is 40:8
 His promises do not fail 2 Tim 2:13
 His work remains Eccl 3:14

Our Life Focus; a Passion to Know God

Jer 9:23-24; Boast not in:

_____, _____, or _____
 but that he _____ and _____ God,
 who exercises Lovingkindness, Justice and Righteousness on earth.

A Memory Aid for the Character of God



When You Meet Together

Looking Up:

Share your observations from your study of God's Character.

How should knowledge of God affect your prayer life?

Your ability to Trust & Praise God?

Give examples of applying the character of God to a situation in life.

Do you have a heart that seeks to know God? Heb 11:6 What is the evidence?

Looking Forward:

As a result of this study, I Will _____

The nature of our study throughout this series is focused on who God is and what God has done, and less about instructions regarding how we should live.

Therefore, arriving at the "I WILL" may require a more careful listen to discern how God would have you respond.

Additional Notes or Questions

Assignment for Upcoming Week

Bible Reading *(Write down something for each day.)*

Follow through with your Bible Reading Plan. If you do not have one, use the plan that is in the Appendix.

Prayer Follow through with your dedicated time of prayer.

Preparation for Section 2

Complete Section 2, The Relationships of God

Memorize: *Ps 135:6*

Option for further study: Read *Now That I'm a Christian*, Patton, chaps 1,3

Disciple Maker Assignment

Where has Jesus sent you? What is your area of influence?

Who are the lost people in your life who need Jesus?

People I know who need Jesus:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Section 2: The Relationships of God

The Trinity

Memorize Ps 135:6

Understanding the Sovereignty of God

Last week, we studied the nature and attributes of God. Our focus this week is how God relates to Himself and to His creation. At the very core of God is His relational nature. There is only one God, but He exists in three persons.

The Trinity

Without question, this is one of the most debated and misunderstood aspects of God. The Bible states categorically there is only one God. However in the unity of God, there eternally exists three persons, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Each person is fully God. God is absolutely and eternally one essence in three distinct personal existences, without division, and without replication of essence.

The Unity of One God

Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one!

What do these verses say about God?

Gen 1:1

Is 44:6-7, 45:5, 18, 21-22

1 Cor 8:4-6; James 2:19

The Persons of the Godhead

God exists in three persons; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Record your observations:

Gen 1:26; 3:22; 11:17 "*let Us*"

Ps 110:1; Is 6:8 references to the Son

Ps 104:30; Is 48:16 references to the Holy Spirit

Matt 3:16-17 baptism of Jesus

Matt 28:19 the Great Commission

John 14:16-17, 26 sending of Holy Spirit

1 Pet 1:2 roles of each Person

Each Person is God

Each person within the Trinity is equally God.

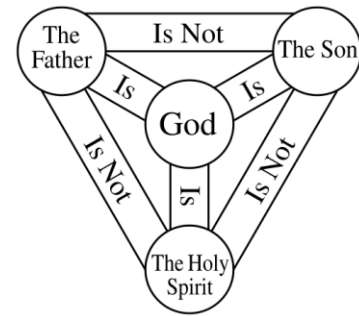
Rom 1:7; 1 Pet 1:2

Titus 2:12-13

Acts 5:3-4

While God is one, He exists in three distinct persons.

These persons are equal, have the same attributes, and are worthy of adoration and worship. Yet Scripture makes it clear they are not three separate gods; there is one God.



The Trinity cannot be explained as one God manifesting Himself in three ways. There are not three modes of existence. Each person of the Godhead is distinct and eternal. From the Trinity comes the fundamental truth that God is **Personal** and **Relational**.

Roles Within the Trinity

Related to Salvation:

The Father John 3:16; 17:5, 18

The Son John 10:17-18; 1:29

The Holy Spirit John 16:7-11

Roles of the Father:

Eph 1:4-5

1 Pet 1:2 (all three)

James 1:17

Roles of the Son:

Eph 1:7-8

Mk 8:31; 1 Pet 1:18-19

Heb 1:3

Roles of the Holy Spirit:

Titus 3:5

Acts 1:8

Gal 5:22-23

Applying the Trinity to Life

The Trinity is not an obscure doctrine relegated to seminary debates. From the Trinity flows the relational nature of God which He built into creation. There are principles of life that have their basis in the Trinity.

The Image of God

Man was created in the image of God, giving man the ability to have a relationship with God and with others.

Gen 1:26-27

Gen 2:18

The Love of God

It is God's desire for the believer to experience the love that exists within the Godhead.

John 17:24-26

The Expression of Authority & Submission

Within the Trinity, there is voluntary submission. While each Person is equal, Jesus submitted Himself to the authority of the Father.

John 6:38; 14:28; 17:1-4

Submission within the Godhead, illustrates the proper relationship between a husband and a wife; equal in standing, yet distinct in roles.

1 Cor 11:3; Eph 5:22-33

The Prayers of Believers

Each Person of the Trinity has a specific role in our prayers

Directed to the Father, Eph 5:20; Matt 6:9

In the Name of the Son, John 14:13-14; 15:16

As the Spirit directs, Eph 6:18; Rom 8:26-27

The Sovereignty of God

The Sovereignty of God speaks to how God relates to all of creation, which He has made. Sovereignty means supremacy of authority to rule, royal rank, total independence. One who is sovereign has the total freedom and authority to act in accordance with his desire.

Psalm 135:6 summarizes the sovereignty of God:

Whatever the Lord pleases, He does, in heaven and in earth.

What do the following passages say about the sovereignty of God?

Ps 47; Ps 93

Matt 10:28-31

1 Chron 29:10-13

2 Chron 20:5-6

Dan 4:34-35

Jer 29:11

“God’s providence is His constant care for, and His absolute rule over all His creation for His own glory and the good of His people.”

(Trusting God Even When Life Hurts, Bridges pg 25)

Think it Through

What do these verses say about the events of human history?

What do these verses say about the circumstances in our lives?

What is the relationship between God’s sovereignty and our ability to trust God? Is 46:8-10

What has God promised believers? (see pg 8-6)

Principles from the Sovereignty of God

The sovereignty of God extends throughout all of creation. From this come numerous principles of life. For each set of verses, write out a summary principle.

Ps 147:8-9; Matt 6:25-32; Acts 17:24-28

Summary Principle:

Ps 115:3; Is 14:27; 43:10-13; 46:8-11

Summary Principle:

Prov 16:9; 19:21; James 4:13-16

Life of Joseph: Gen 37:18, 28; 39:20-21; 40:14, 23; 41:1; 50:20

Summary Principle:

Ezra 1:1, 5; 6:22; Prov 21:1; Deut 2:30; Josh 11:18-20

Summary Principle:

Ps 33:13-22; Is 40:21-25; Is 10:5-6, 12, 15

Summary Principle:

Job 37:10-13; Jer 10:12-13; 14:22; Amos 4:6-9; John 9:1-3

Summary Principle:

If God is not sovereign ----- then ----- everything is random.

The Exercise of God's Sovereignty

As we seek to comprehend the sovereignty of God, we must be careful to maintain balance. God in His sovereignty is free to do as He pleases. It is easy to conclude that God "*controls*" everything, but that is not what Scripture teaches. Distinct from God's sovereign right is how God has chosen to **exercise** His sovereignty. God has chosen not to control everything, but rather, He created both angels and mankind with a free will. God has granted both realms the opportunity to exercise their wills, and then holds them accountable for their decisions.

The Three Wills

Under God's sovereignty, there exists in the universe three wills:

The will of **Angels**, including the will of Satan and his demons. Satan and his demons have rejected the authority of God, and are now operating in rebellion against God. (We will look at this more in Series 4.)

The will of **Man**. God has created man with a free will, capable of fulfilling the task of stewardship over the earth. Gen 1-3; Ps 8:5-8 After the Fall, there are now two states of the will of man:

- 1) The natural, unsaved man is a slave to his sinful nature, selfish desires
- 2) The believer in Christ is a new creation, capable of choosing to walk in newness of life, in a manner pleasing to God. (more in Series 3)

The will of **God**. God reveals His will to man through the Scriptures, and the leading of the Holy Spirit. All of history is moving to the ultimate will of God:

... at the name of Jesus, every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Phil 2:9-11

Until that day, God under His sovereignty, is allowing the free will decisions of angels and mankind to play out. The sovereignty of God does not mean that God "*controls*" everything. Yet in the midst of billions of free will decisions, the ultimate will of God will come to pass, just as He has planned.

When You Meet Together

Looking Back:

Pray for the people you listed in the DM Assignment last week. pg 1-6

Tell of any opportunities where you applied the character of God to a situation.

Looking Up:

Share your observations and questions from your study this week.

From the Trinity flows the relational nature of God which He built into creation.

Discuss how the roles within the Trinity help us to understand God's plan for our relationships in life. (marriage, at work, in the church)

How does the exercise of God's sovereignty apply to our ability to withstand suffering?

Practice reciting from memory: Ps 135:6

Looking Forward:

As a result of this study, I Will _____

Additional Notes or Questions

Assignment for Upcoming Week

Bible Reading *(Write down something for each day.)*

Follow through with your Bible Reading Plan. If you do not have one, use the plan that is in the Appendix.

Prayer Follow through with your dedicated time of prayer.

Preparation for Section 3

Complete Section 3, The Nature of Man

Memorize: *Gen 1:26*

Further Study: *Sin, the Savior, and Salvation*, Lightner, Section 1 - Sin

Disciple Maker Assignment

Continue to pray for the people you listed on page 1-6.

Practice presenting the Gospel as clearly as you can.

What are some good questions that may start a spiritual conversation?

Section 3: The Nature of Man

What is man?

How do I define my Identity?

Where did we come from?

Why are we here?

Memorize
Gen 1:26

One could argue these are the most fundamental questions in life. There is profound confusion in our culture regarding our identity. Who am I really? How do I define myself? The answers to these questions will be shaped by the underlying worldview that a person has endorsed. The centerpiece of any worldview is our understanding of **origins**.

Competing Worldviews

The common worldview taught and endorsed in our culture is *Evolution*. The theory of evolution claims to explain origins through random, natural processes. There is no god. Matter and energy are eternal. Random processes acting over billions and billions of years have resulted in everything we experience today. The fundamental claim is that if you give something enough time, anything can happen. (AKA Darwinism, Naturalism, Materialism)

The result of **Evolutionary Thinking** is vast, all encompassing. For example:

- 1) There is no absolute truth. There is no objective standard of what is right or wrong. Therefore any claim of absolute truth is unfounded and must be rejected. Morality's only basis is social norms and expectations.
- 2) There is no God who will hold people accountable for right and wrong. "Survival of the Fittest" provides justification to do what I think is best for me and my tribe.
- 3) Human life, though more highly evolved, has the same intrinsic value as all other forms of life.
- 4) There is no basis of human dignity and value. A human embryo is nothing more than a mass of tissue and can be discarded if not wanted.
- 6) As a product of random processes, I am free to define my own identity, and my own sexual behavior.

Our Worldview Matters. It has Consequences!

The Biblical Worldview

Scripture presents a very different worldview. It begins with origins.

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1

God is eternal. God created matter and energy. God pre-existed the universe, and is totally distinct and separate from all He created. Record your observations:

Gen 1:1-5

(If God can speak light into existence...)

Read through the entire chapter. Describe the structure of the narrative for each day. What is common to the description of each day?

Who am I? Gen 1:26-28

Write down your summary observations.

vs 26

Image - an object very similar to the original, but distinct from it

Likeness - a genuine similarity of form, shape or pattern

The words are used together for emphasis.

vs 27 God created man in His _____, in the _____ of God He created him; _____ and _____ He created them.

Man is patterned after God. This is what sets man apart from all other creatures. This is the basis of man's *Dignity* and *Value*.

Why is it that search and rescue teams risk their lives in an attempt to save people? This high value of human life comes directly out of Genesis 1.

Man is an image bearer of God. Human life is set apart. Because of this, what do the following passages say?

Gen 9:6-7

James 3:8-10

1 Cor 11:7

The core of our Identity is: *Image Bearer of God*

God has established our identity. We are not free to redefine it.

Why am I Here? Gen 1:26-28

We all draw meaning and happiness in life from our **relationships** and our **activities**.

As we studied in section 2, God is relational. As image bearers of God, we are also created to be relational. We are created to have a relationship with God and with each other.

The origin of man is not random. God created us for a reason and for a purpose. All of us long for purpose. God wired us that way.

Can you recall an example where you were tasked to do "busy work," work that from your perspective had no meaningful purpose? How did that make you feel?

Our need for purpose can be traced back to Genesis 1. God created us with a job to do. How is that job described?

Gen 1:26-28

Gen 2:15

God created man with **dominion responsibility** over His Creation. This requires mankind to have intelligence, creative ability and freedom of decision, all of which give mankind the ability to fulfill his assigned task.

Stewardship

Where am I Headed?

The Fall of Man has caused great damage to God's Creation. (More on that in the next section.) As God's plan moves forward, what do the following verses say about the ultimate goals for every believer?

Rom 8:29

2 Cor 3:18

Col 3:10

1 Cor 15:49

How do these verses contribute to our view of the nature of man?

Terms Related to the Make-up of Man

Man is both material and immaterial. The three most common words used to describe the makeup of man are Body, Spirit & Soul.

Our Physical Body

God created Adam's body from the dust of the ground, it is physical. It provides man the ability to operate and communicate in the physical world. Record what the following passages say about our bodies.

2 Cor 4:16

2 Pet 1:14; 2 Cor 5:6

Though our bodies are decaying and temporary, they are an amazing gift from God and are to be valued and cared for. Our bodies are "holy."

1 Cor 6:12-20 (note vs 19)

Rom 12:1

The future of our physical bodies:

1 Cor 15:42-44, 49, 53-54

Phil 3:21; Rom 8:23

Our Spirit

God breathed into Adam's body the breath of life, Gen 2:7. God is spirit. The spirit of man is the means by which man is able to operate and communicate with God. The spirit enables man to have a relationship with God. Record what the following say about the spirit of man.

Job 27:3-4, James 2:26

Ps 78:8, Rom 1:9

Rom 8:16

What do these passages say about the "condition" of our spirit?

Ps 34:18, Ps 51:17

Our Soul Body + Spirit = Soul

You have a body. You have a spirit. You are a soul. The term soul identifies man in his totality, a living soul, a living person. God breathed into the body of Adam, and he became a living soul. The total essence of a man, his soul, is what is savable.

Acts 2:41

Heb 13:17

1 Pet 1:9; 2:25

James 1:21

The terms spirit and soul both include the immaterial part of man and are closely related. For example, both terms are used in relation to sorrow, (Mark 8:12, John 12:27). But they are also distinguished as separate:

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely, and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thess 5:23

The Inner Person

Within the immaterial self, every person possesses *Mind, Will & Emotion*.

Mind – Human consciousness manifested in thought and reason. The believer is to conform their mind to the thoughts of God.

Rom 12:2; Eph 4:17, 23-24; 2 Cor 10:3-5

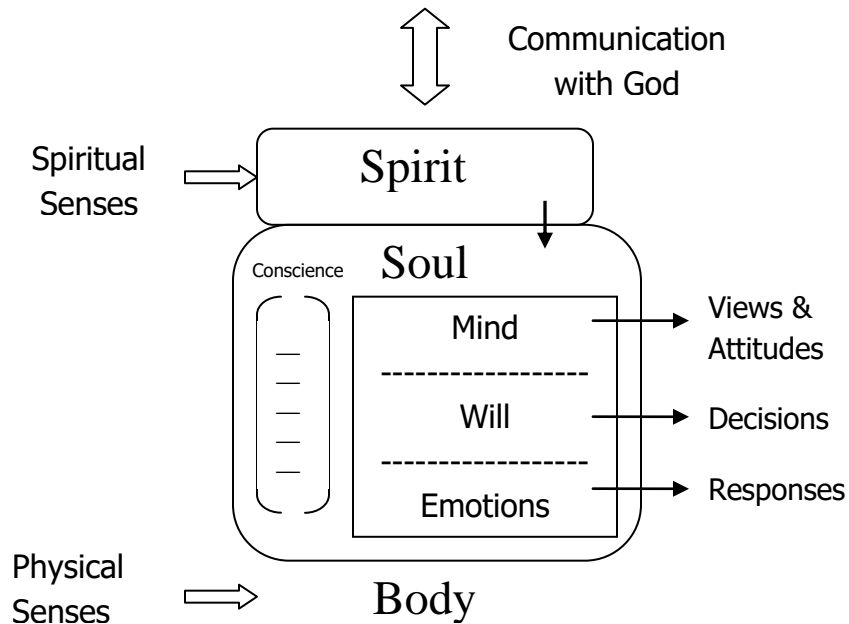
Will – The faculty of self expression where one chooses a course of action. Scripture is FULL of verses appealing to our will to choose God's will.

Josh 24:15; Eph 4:1

Emotion – The part of consciousness that involves feelings or sensibility. There is a full range of emotion expressed in Scripture; joy, grief, anger, love...

A Summary

Man has been created by God. Man’s creation was intentional and purposeful. Man was created in the image of God, with both a physical body that interacts with God’s physical creation and an immaterial spirit and soul that are capable of a relationship with God.



The Christian View of Man

Man has _____ because we are created in the image of God.

Man was created to have a _____ with God.

There is both a material and immaterial part to man.

Man is answerable, _____ to his creator, God.

Man has been given a job, a responsibility, to _____ the earth.

When You Meet Together

Looking Back:

Continue to pray for the people you listed in the DM Assignment on pg 1-6

Have someone practice presenting the Gospel.

What questions can you ask to begin a spiritual conversation?

Looking Up:

Discuss your insights from this week.

How has this study influenced your self-image and life purpose?

God gave Adam a job to do. What does that say about the nature of work?

What is your future destiny?

Looking Forward:

As a result of this study, I Will _____

Additional Notes & Questions

Assignment for Upcoming Week

Bible Reading *(Write down something for each day.)*

Follow through with your Bible Reading Plan. If you do not have one, use the plan that is in the Appendix.

Prayer Follow through with your dedicated time of prayer.

Preparation for Section 4

Complete Section 4: Sin

Memorize: *Rom 5:12*

Further Study: *Sin, the Savior, and Salvation*, Lightner, Section 1 - Sin

Disciple Maker Assignment

How would you explain to someone, Why they need a Savior?

Make an effort to begin a spiritual conversation this week by asking a good question. Check out the Sample Questions in the Appendix.

Practice presenting the Gospel as clearly as you can.

Section 4: Sin

Sin - It all goes back to the Fall

What are the consequences of the Fall?

<p>Memorize Rom 5:12</p>

Everywhere we look, we see the evidence of *Brokenness*. We all have an inner sense that things are not the way they should be. Broken relationships, hatred, racism, slavery, persecution, wars, the list goes on.

The Bible reveals it was not always this way. At the end of the sixth day of creation, we see God's assessment of all He had created.

God saw all that He had made, and behold it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Gen 1:31

Everything was very good, it was a "perfect environment." There was no death, decay, or suffering. All of the universe was in perfect order and balance.

Before the Fall

Before the Fall, Adam and Eve enjoyed perfect *unbroken fellowship* with God. God had entrusted stewardship responsibility over His creation to Adam and Eve giving them the capabilities needed to carry out the task.

Gen 1:26-27; 2:15, 19-20

Entrusted Responsibility

Adam named the animals! Consider the intellect required to observe, categorize and name 1,000's of animals. Adam was brilliant.

Gen 1:28-30; 2:16

Direct Communication with God

Gen 2:21-25

Marriage Relationship with Eve

Gen 2:16

Free to Enjoy the Garden

Why do we long for a better day?

How is it that we sense things are broken?

It is because we were created to live in a perfect environment, with unbroken fellowship with God. Man's relationship with God was shattered by the Fall.

The Fall of Man

Man was created to fulfill God's creation mandate and to enjoy a relationship with God. A genuine love relationship requires the freedom to choose. God did not create a robot. God created man to bear His image, including the ability to make decisions.

There was one part of God's creation that was "off limits" to Adam. What was the restriction, and what were the consequences?

Gen 2:17

This verse introduces a fascinating principle regarding knowledge. Not all knowledge is beneficial. Decisions made contrary to the principles of God's design lead to terrible consequences. God created both the angelic realm and mankind with the ability to choose, but also holds His creatures accountable for those choices. The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil was the ultimate test of whether man chose to depend on God and live by His principles or chose to live outside of God's design. Sadly, Adam chose the latter.

The Temptation

What observations can you make about the strategy of the serpent?

Gen 3:1-5

How did Eve rationalize the decision?

Gen 3:6

1 John 2:16

What are the parallels between these two passages?

The Immediate Consequences

Gen 3:7-13

vs 7-8 What happened to their relationship with God?

vs 9, 11 What did God do?

vs 10, 12 What did Adam do?

Vs 13 What did Eve do?

Consequences throughout History

What are the consequences on Satan?

Gen 3:14-15

What are the consequences on Eve and women?

Gen 3:16

What are the consequences on Adam and work?

Gen 3:17-19

Results of the Fall

Guilt/Shame: We all share in Adam's sin

Rom 5:12-14, 19

Physical Impact: Death and decay in the world

Rom 8:18-22

Ultimate Judgement: Great White Throne Judgment

Rev 20:11-15

The Fall explains the origin of suffering, decay, and death.
These all resulted from a broken relationship with God, our Creator.

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned. Rom 5:12

However, these tragic events actually set up the revelation of God's marvelous **grace**. God still loves us unconditionally, even when we do not deserve His love. The rest of the Bible describes the unfolding of His gracious love, and a relationship God offers mankind that is secure in Christ.

The Extent of Sin

Sin is any thought, word or action that is contrary to the standards of God's perfect character. It is disobedience to God. Scripture uses several terms to describe sin: missing the mark, rebellion, iniquity, going astray, wickedness, ungodliness, lawlessness, trespasses, transgressions.

God hates what sin does to His perfect creation. Record what the following say about sin:

1 John 3:4

Rom 3:23

Ps 51:4

Rom 3:9, Gal 3:22

Theologians commonly refer to three aspects of sin.

Imputed Sin Rom 5:12-21 A financial term: to attribute to someone. The sin of Adam is credited to all mankind. Condemnation and death reign over all because of the sin of Adam. We all sinned "in him."

Inherited Sin Ps 51:5, Eph 2:1-3 Every child of Adam is born with Adam's sinful nature, a nature always prone to sin. The sin nature is passed down to each generation through the man.

Personal Sin Rom 3:9-18 Includes every aspect of our life which fails to conform to God's perfect standards.

Mental attitude sin Matt 5:27-28

Sins of the tongue Prov 6:16-19

Overt sins Gal 5:19-21

The Bible clearly states the devastating effects of sin upon mankind. Left to ourselves, we are in a hopeless state. We cannot solve our sin problem.

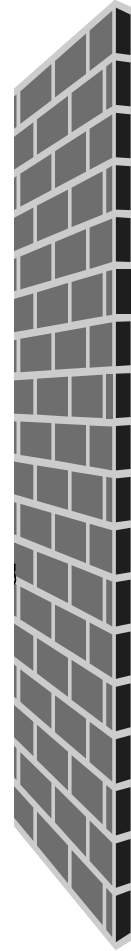
But God loves us and sent Jesus to save us from our sin! Matt 1:21

The Barrier Between God and Man

As a consequence of the Fall, there is a barrier between God and man. The barrier makes it impossible for man to save himself. The barrier can be described as a wall made of six blocks.

Sin	The human race is born into the slave market of sin. John 8:31-34; Rom 7:14
Penalty of Sin	Spiritual death, separation from God. Rom 6:23
Spiritual Death	Man is born physically alive but spiritually dead. Gen 2:17, Eph 2:1
Righteousness of Man	Relative righteousness, does not meet God's absolute righteousness. Rom 3:10-11, 23; Is 64:6
Position in Adam	In Adam all die and are without eternal life. 1 Cor 15:22
Character of God	God cannot compromise His perfect character. 1 Tim 6:16

(Ref: Bob Theme's Basic Series)



Fortunately, there is Good News!
 God has taken the initiative to remove the barrier.
 This will be our study over the next few weeks.

The Effects of the Fall

This is for additional study. All of the references are from Genesis, unless otherwise indicated

Before	After
Perfect Environment Food, no killing 1:30 Good, 1:31 No disease, death,... No violent storms 2:5-6	Ground cursed 3:17-18, Rom 8:19-23 Thorns, thistles Pain in child birth
Fellowship / Communication with God 1:28-30, 2:16	Hid from God 3:8 Enemies Rom 5:10 Alienated Col 1:21
Responsibility – To be a Steward 1:26,28, 2:15, 19-20 Ps 8:4-8 Be fruitful and multiply	Everything is more difficult Ground resists 3:19 Creation no longer subject to man Heb 2:8-9
Privileges God's Blessing 1:28 Freely eat 2:16-17	Driven out of the garden 3:23-24 Some blessings removed, God's wrath
Life God is the source of life 2:7	Death Spiritual 2:17 Rom 6:23 Physical 3:19
Innocence / No guilt They were not ashamed 2:25	Sin / Guilty James 2:10

God's assessment of the natural, or unsaved man

John 3:18-20 <i>condemned,</i>	Lk 19:10 <i>lost</i>
John 8:44 <i>of the devil,</i>	Mark 7:21-23 <i>heart is evil, defiled</i>
Rom 1:29-32 <i>worthy of death,</i>	Col 1:13 <i>under power of darkness</i>
Rom 3:10-18 <i>none righteous,</i>	Gal 5:19-21 <i>works of the flesh</i>
Jer 17:9 <i>wicked heart,</i>	Eccl 7:20 <i>not a just man upon the earth</i>
John 3:36 <i>worthy of wrath</i>	

When You Meet Together

Looking Back:

Follow up on the Disciple Maker assignment for this week on pg 3-8

Have someone share "Their Story."

My Life Before Christ

What Brought Me to Christ

My Life After I Trusted in Christ

Looking Up:

Share your insights from this week.

What strategy did Satan use to lure Eve? How does he do that today?

Talk through how the Fall explains why we see so much suffering today?

Looking Forward:

As a result of this study, I Will _____

Additional Notes & Questions

Assignment for Upcoming Week

Bible Reading *(Write down something for each day.)*

Follow through with your Bible Reading Plan. If you do not have one, use the plan that is in the Appendix.

Prayer Follow through with your dedicated time of prayer.

Preparation for Section 5

Complete Section 5: The Person of Jesus Christ

Memorize: *Col 1:15-17*

Further Study: *Sin, the Savior, and Salvation* Section II, Part One
The Person of the Savior

Disciple Maker Assignment

Continue to pray for the people in your life who need Jesus.

Make an effort to begin a spiritual conversation by asking a good question.

Check out the Sample Questions in the Appendix.

Practice telling "Your Story."

My Life Before Christ:

"There was a time in my life when..."

What Brought Me to Christ:

"Then someone showed me..."

My Life After I Trusted in Christ:

"Jesus changed Me, and now..."

*He then answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know;
one thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."*

John 9:25

Section 5: The Person of Jesus Christ

Why should I follow Jesus?

Why should I encourage others to follow Jesus?

Memorize
Col 1:15-17

Christianity is not a religion, (a system of dos and don'ts to gain God's approval). Christianity is a restored relationship with God made possible by Jesus Christ. Christianity stands or falls based on the Person and Work of Jesus Christ. Jesus is who He claims to be, or He is the biggest fraud in human history. Jesus Christ claims to be fully God (undiminished deity) AND fully human, a man without sin, or a sin nature.

In this section, we examine the Person of Christ. In the remaining sections, we will look at the Work of Christ to provide salvation.

The Deity of Jesus Christ

What does the writer of Hebrews, John, and Paul say about Jesus Christ?

Heb 1:1-12

vs 1-2 Through whom He _____ the _____

vs 3 The exact _____ of His nature

vs 4-7 Superior to _____

vs 8-9 Your throne _____ is _____

vs 10-12 In the beginning, You laid the _____ of the earth

John 1:1-5, 14

Col 1:15-20

What did Jesus claim about Himself?

John 5:17-18

John 10:29-33

The Authentication of His Claims

The Gospel accounts are full of the demonstration of His person through tangible, visible, supernatural acts. What did Jesus do in the following accounts? (There are parallel accounts in Luke 4:31-6:11)

Matt 8:1-4

Matt 8:5-13

Matt 8:14-17

Matt 8:23-27

Matt 8:28-34

Matt 9:1-8

Matt 9:18-26

Matt 9:27-31

Matt 9:32-36

Matt 12:22-28

Mark 2:1-12

John 11, the raising of Lazarus

What is the claim of Peter?

2 Pet 1:16-18

To what specific event is Peter referring?

Matt 17:1-8

The Humanity of Jesus Christ

Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God.” Luke 1:34-35

How is the humanity of Jesus seen in the following?

John 4:6-7

John 11:35

Matt 4:1-4

What is unique about the humanity of Christ?

Heb 4:15; 1 John 3:5

Putting it All Together

Jesus is the most unique person of the universe! He is both God and man. The theological term is “hypostatic union.” This qualifies Jesus to be:

1 Tim 2:5 Our _____

1 Pet 1:18 Our _____

Heb 4:15-16 Our _____

The only appropriate response to Jesus is submissive worship. Consider the following examples in Scripture.

Matt 14:22-33 In the boat

Rev 5:1-14 In heaven

Phil 2:9-11 In the future

Going Deeper, For Reference

The deity of Christ is central to who Christ is. His deity is declared throughout Scripture by direct statements, His claims, and His actions:

Col 1:15 *"And He is the image of the invisible God, the first born of all creation."*

image - a precise reproduction in every respect

first born - expresses His priority to, and preeminence over.

Col 2:9 *"For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form"*

1. Evidences of His deity while on Earth:

Birth was supernatural	Is 7:14; Lk 1:30-31; 2:10-11
He led a sinless life	Heb 4:15
Power over nature	Matt 8:23-27
" " evil spirits	Lk 4:31-36; Mk 5:11-15
" " sickness and disease	Lk 4:38-40
" " death	Lk 7:11-16; John 11:38-44 (Lazarus)

2. Jesus carries out the roles of God.

Creates	John 1:3 2:7-9 Col 1:16
Forgives Sin	Mk 2:5-7
Has authority over life	John 5:21; 10:17-18
Judges the world	Acts 17:31

3. Jesus claimed to be God. Matt 26:63-65; John 5:17-18; 10:30-39

Claimed divine attributes:

Eternal	John 8:58, 17:5
Omnipresent	Matt 18:20; 28:20
Omnipotent	Matt 28:18

4. Jesus accepted worship John 9:38; 20:28; Matt 14:33 (no rebuke)

Note the reaction of apostles to receiving worship Acts 14:11-15
or the reaction of angels Rev 19:10

(Jesus was either who He said He was, God, or a blasphemer.
The first commandment says to worship only the Lord God.)

5. Jesus is given the title of God in scripture. John 1:1-14; Titus 2:13

Heb 1:8-10; 2 Pet 1:1; 1 John 5:20; Rev 1:8

6. Old Testament passages quoted with Jesus substituted for Jehovah

Ps 68:18	Eph 4:8-10
Ps 102:24-27	Heb 1:10-12
Is 45:23	Phil 2:10
Mal 3:1	Lk 1:76

When You Meet Together

Looking Back:

Follow up on the disciple maker assignment for this week, pg 4-8.

Practice telling "Your Story."

My life before Christ

What brought me to Christ

My life after I trusted in Christ

Looking Up:

Share your insights from this week.

How does the deity of Christ affect your relationship with Him?

How does the humanity of Christ affect your relationship with Him?

Looking Forward:

As a result of this study, I Will _____

Additional Notes & Questions

Assignment for Upcoming Week

Bible Reading *(Write down something for each day.)*

Follow through with your Bible Reading Plan. If you do not have one, use the plan that is in the Appendix.

Prayer Follow through with your dedicated time of prayer.

Preparation for Section 6

Complete Section 6: The Work of Jesus Christ

Memorize: *John 1:29*

Further Study: *Sin, the Savior, and Salvation* Section II, Part Two
The Work of the Savior

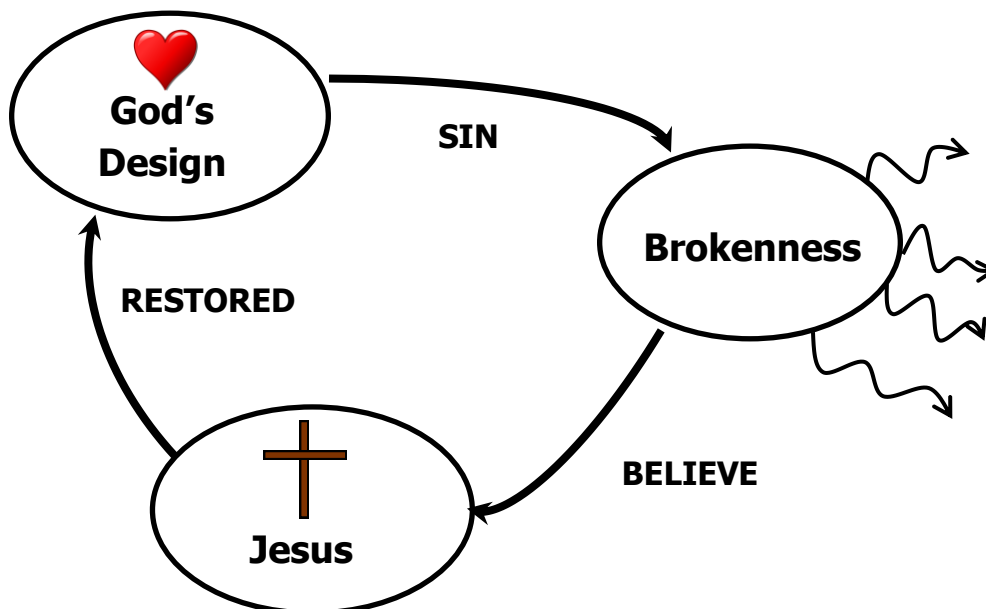
Disciple Maker Assignment

Continue to pray for the people in your life who need Jesus.

Practice presenting the Gospel as clearly as you can.

Try using the 3 Circles Diagram.

The 3 Circles Diagram



Acknowledgement: The 3 Circles Life Conversation Guide
from *Life on Mission*

Section 6: The Work of Jesus Christ

What Did Jesus Christ Accomplish on the Cross?

Why did Jesus have to die?

Memorize
John 1:29

As a consequence of the Fall of man, Adam’s sin and our personal sins, there is a barrier between God and man. The barrier can be described as a wall of six blocks:

Sin	Born into the slave market of sin.	John 8:31-34
Penalty of Sin	Spiritual Death, Separation from God.	Rom 6:23
Spiritual Death	Man is born physically alive but spiritually dead.	Eph 2:1
Righteousness	Only relative, not perfect like God	Is 64:6
Position in Adam	In Adam all die and are without eternal life.	1 Cor 15:22
Character of God	God cannot compromise His perfect character.	1 Tim 6:16

(Ref: Bob Theme’s Basic Series)

Fortunately, there is Good News!

Jesus Christ has done all the work to remove the barrier.

Our focus over the next few weeks is to examine how Jesus has removed each block of the barrier.

Why did Jesus Become a Man and Come to Earth?

- John 1:18, 14:7-9 To _____ God the Father to us
- Matt 1:21; 1 Tim 1:15 To _____ His people from _____
- Mk 10:45; Heb 10:11-14 To offer one perfect _____ for sin
- Lk 1:31-33; 2 Sam 7:8-16 To fulfill the _____ to King David
- 1 John 3:8; Gen 3:15 To _____ the works of the _____

This is how Jesus answered the question:

For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost. Lk 19:10

Old Testament Background, The Tabernacle

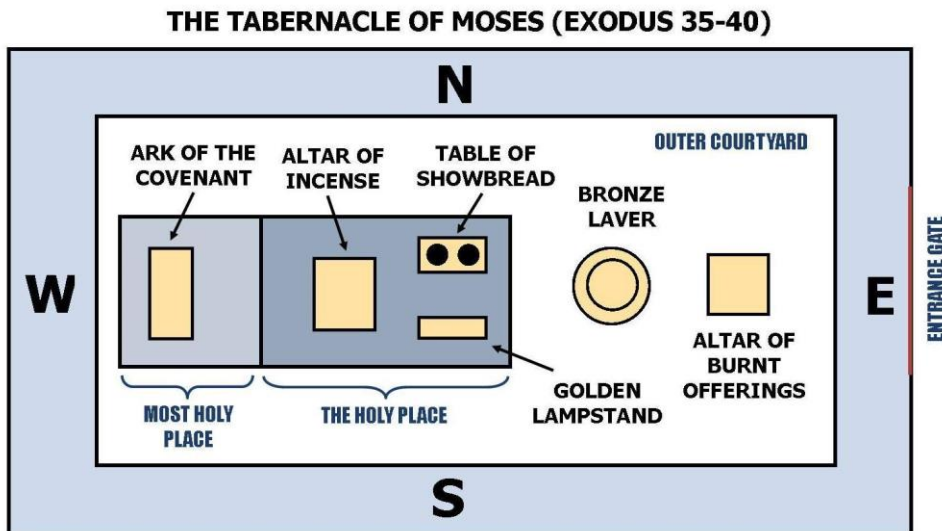
As the nation of Israel traveled to the land God had promised, God manifested His presence with them through the Tabernacle. The various parts of the Tabernacle provide a picture of both the Person of Jesus Christ and His work on the Cross as the substitute for our sins.

The articles of the Tabernacle, and their construction are described in Ex 25-28 and Ex 34-40.

Atonement

One of the most sacred worship events was the annual sacrifice made on the Day of Atonement. To atone means "to cover." On the Day of Atonement, the blood of the goat poured over the Mercy Seat acted to cover the sins of the people until the perfect sacrifice of Christ was offered on the cross.

Lev 16:15-19



In the Tabernacle, and later the Temple, there was a daily reminder of the need for a sacrifice to be offered as a substitute for the consequences of their sins.

Heb 10:1-10

Redemption, the Removal of Sin

The first block in the barrier is **Sin**. We are all born into the slave market of sin.

John 8:31-34

Rom 7:14

The solution provided by God is **Redemption**. Redemption is the work of Christ on the cross in purchasing our freedom from the slave market of Sin.

Eph 1:7

Col 1:14

Heb 9:11-14

Meaning of the Words

There are two basic words used to express the concept of redemption:

Agorazo ἀγοραζω "to make a payment" or to pay a ransom

2 Pet 2:1

Rev 5:9

The compound form of the word adds the emphasis to buy out from the market.

Gal 3:13; 4:5

Eph 5:16

Col 4:5

Lutroo λυτροω "to free by making a payment" A Roman citizen could buy a slave, then grant the slave freedom.

Titus 2:14

1 Pet 1:18

The Kinsman-Redeemer

The Law contained a provision for a “kinsman-redeemer.” (Lev 25:25-28, 47-49)
A relative could set one free from slavery. There were four requirements:

1. He must have the right, be a near kinsman. Lev 25:48-49; Ruth 3:12
According to Heb 2:14-15, Christ became a man.
2. He must be able. He must have the power or the means to redeem. Lev 25:52; Ruth 4:4-6 Christ is able because of His resurrection and ascension. Heb 4:14; 9:11-12; Acts 20:28
3. He must be willing, Lev 25:25; Ruth 4:8-10 Jesus Christ died voluntarily.
4. He must be a free man. Ruth 4:1-2
Christ was without sin. Heb 4:14; 1 Peter 2:22-24; Because of the virgin birth, Jesus Christ was the only man born outside of the slave market of sin. Thus, He alone is qualified to purchase the freedom of others.

The story of Ruth and Boaz (Ruth 2-4) is a perfect illustration of the kinsman-redeemer. The most powerful example of redemption was the Exodus, Israel’s deliverance from slavery in Egypt. (Ex 12, Deut 9:26) In this case, the emphasis is on deliverance, liberation from bondage. The payment price, in the background, was the Passover lamb they had to sacrifice.

Jesus paid the ransom, the redemption price, which was His death on the Cross.

1 Pet 1:18-19

The Benefits of Redemption

The purchase price has been paid. When a person chooses to receive the gift of freedom offered by Christ, the believer receives these blessings from God:

1 Cor 6:19-20	We _____ to Christ, He purchased us
Gal 4:4-7	We are _____ into God’s family
Eph 1:13-14	We will receive an _____
Heb 9:13-14	The capacity to _____ God, who is Holy
Rev 5:9-10; 14:3-5	The basis for _____ in eternity

Redemption Applied – Life Change

The Believer has been redeemed from the marketplace and slavery of sin by the payment of a price, the blood of Christ, and has been transferred to a state of freedom to serve God.

Jesus Christ has given us the ultimate example of serving others.

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many. Mark 10:45

What are we to do with our freedom?

Gal 5:13; Heb 9:11-14

What should our attitude be toward our lives?

1 Pet 1:17-19

We have been bought with a price. How should that affect our lives?

1 Cor 6:19-20

How should the reality of our Redeemer affect our view of suffering?

Job 19:25-26

Paul used the concept of redemption, and related it to the use of our time. We are to “buy up” the time that we have. We are to make full use of every opportunity to honor God with our lives.

Eph 5:16

Col 4:5

*For you have been bought with a price;
therefore glorify God in your body.*

1 Cor 6:20

Substitutionary Death, the Removal of the Penalty

The second block in the barrier is the **Penalty of Sin**.

We are separated from God. Rom 6:23

The solution provided by God is the **Spiritual Death of Jesus Christ**.

Expiation - to make amends for a wrong which one has done, the removing of guilt by suffering punishment. Christ was judged for our sins. He took on the penalty and punishment of our sins. (Substitutionary death)

For three hours on the cross, Jesus literally bore the penalty of spiritual death. He was separated from God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. To help us understand what was happening, Jesus quoted Ps 22. Read through **Ps 22**.

Matt 27:45-46; Mk 15:33-34

Having completed bearing our penalty, Jesus declared, "It is Finished!"

John 19:28-30

2 Cor 5:21

1 Pet 2:24

What do the following verses say about what Christ did on the Cross?

Is 53:6; John 1:29

Rom 5:6-8

1 Cor 15:3

2 Cor 5:14-15

Gal 1:4

Col 2:13-14

Heb 2:9

The barrier of **Sin** and the **Penalty of Sin** have been removed by Christ on the cross. 2 Cor 5:18-19 *"namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them..."*

The Gospel is Good News! Jesus Christ died for our sins. 1 Cor 15:1 - 4

When You Meet Together

Looking Back:

Follow up on the DM Assignment on pg 5-6

Have someone share "Their Story."

Practice presenting the Gospel using the 3 Circles

Looking Up:

Discuss your insights from this week.

How should the reality of Redemption influence our view and pursuits of life?

"For you have been bought with a price..."

Looking Forward:

As a result of this study, I Will _____

Additional Notes & Questions

Assignment for Upcoming Week

Bible Reading *(Write down something for each day.)*

Follow through with your Bible Reading Plan. If you do not have one, use the plan that is in the Appendix.

Prayer Follow through with your dedicated time of prayer.

Preparation for Section 7

Complete Section 7: The Work of Salvation, Pt 2

Memorize: *John 3:3*

Further Study: *Sin, the Savior, and Salvation* Section II, Part Two
The Work of the Savior

Disciple Maker Assignment

Continue to pray for the people in your life who need Jesus.

Who may be ready to hear Your Story this week? Pray for an opportunity.

Practice presenting the Gospel as clearly as you can.

Who are the next two people you can disciple using this booklet?

Section 7: The Work of Salvation, Part 2

What happens when we believe in Christ?

What does it mean to be "born again"?

Memorize John 3:3

In the last section, we studied how Jesus removed the first two blocks of the barrier, **Sin** and the **Penalty of Sin**, by His death on the cross. In this section we will examine two more bricks in the barrier that are removed when we trust in Christ.

The third block in the barrier is **Spiritual Death**.

We are born physically alive but spiritually dead. Gen 2:17; Eph 2:1-3

The solution provided by God is **Regeneration**.

Regeneration – is the work of the Holy Spirit in giving spiritual life, (eternal life) and a new nature the moment one believes in Christ.

John 3:1-18 Write down your observations:

vs 1-2 Who, When and Why?

vs 3 Unless one is _____ he cannot see the kingdom of God

vs 4 How does Nic respond?

vs 5-8 Jesus answers: The distinction between physical & spiritual birth

vs 9 How does Nic respond?

vs 10-13 Jesus answers: The distinction between earthly & heavenly things

vs 14 An Old Testament illustration: Moses and the bronze serpent

Num 21:4-9

vs 15-18 Likewise: How does one receive eternal life?

What does it mean to be Born Again?

Regeneration

The moment we believe on Christ, the Holy Spirit, using the Word of God, performs the supernatural work of regeneration. The following address the means through which this happens. Record your observations:

Titus 3:4-7

1 Pet 1:23-25

Regeneration Applied

The believer who is spiritually alive receives a totally new realm of capability and enters an entirely new paradigm of living. The following address the blessings that flow from regeneration:

2 Pet 1:4 Partakers of a new _____

2 Cor 5:17; Gal 6:15 The believer is a new _____

Eph 2:1-6 Once _____ but now _____

John 5:24-25 Passed from _____ to _____

Gal 3:26; John 1:12 Born into God's _____

2 Cor 6:18 God is now our _____

Gal 4:6 The Holy Spirit is in our _____

Take a moment to reflect and absorb the full impact of these verses.

What do they say about your Identity?

The RIBS of Salvation

The work of regeneration at the moment of salvation is the first of several works of the Holy Spirit in the life of the new believer. They can be remembered by the acronym "RIBS."

Regeneration

The new believer is given spiritual life.

Titus 3:5

Indwelling Holy Spirit

Rom 5:5

2 Cor 5:5

2 Tim 1:14

1 Cor 6:15-20

(note the application)

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

The new believer is placed into, identified with the Body of Christ.

1 Cor 12:13

Rom 6:3-4

(note the application)

Sealing of the Holy Spirit

In the Roman world, a seal was a guarantee of a transaction.

Eph 1:13-14

Eph 4:30

2 Cor 1:21-22

Take a moment to reflect and absorb the full impact of these verses.

What do they say about your Security?

Imputation

The fourth block in the barrier is the **Righteousness of Man**.

Man's righteousness is only relative to other men. It does not match the perfect, absolute Righteousness of God. Rom 3:10-12; Is 64:6

Matt 5:20

Suppose the height of these buildings represented their amount of righteousness. Relative to other buildings, some are very righteous. But from the perspective of heaven, they all fall short.



The solution provided by God is **Imputation and Justification**.

Imputation – is a financial term, meaning to credit to an account.

Imputation is the act of God whereby He accounts to the new believer the Righteousness of Christ.

2 Cor 5:21

Rom 3:21-22

Phil 3:8-9

A Financial Ledger

The Death of Christ takes away our debt, no longer a *negative* balance.

The Imputation of God credits to our account perfect righteousness, an infinite *positive* balance.

This forms the basis of what God the Father does next...

Justification

Based on the righteousness of Christ imputed to the new believer, God the Father makes a legal declaration and declares the sinner released from the penalty of sin, and restored as Righteous.

Justification – is the judicial act of God the Father to declare that one is righteous based on faith in Christ. Justification does not cause one to be righteous. It is the legal declaration of God made the moment a sinner trusts in the finished work of Christ on the cross.

The Basis of Justification

Two transactions made justification possible, what are they?

- 2 Cor 5:21 1) Our _____ were transferred to _____
 2) The _____ of Christ was transferred to us

The Means of Justification Write down your observations:

Gal 2:15-16; 3:24

Rom 3:19-28

vs 19-20 Through the law comes the knowledge of _____

vs 21-23 The Righteousness of God is through _____ in Jesus Christ

vs 24-26 Justification was made possible through _____

vs 27-28 There is no room for our _____ or our _____

Justification Applied

Rom 5:1 We have _____ with God

Rom 5:9 We are _____ from the wrath of God

Rom 8:1, 31-34, 38-39 No one can bring a _____ against us

Titus 3:7-8 We are _____ with Christ, who are to

(Life Change) be careful to engage in _____

The block of relative righteousness of man is removed for the person who trusts in Jesus Christ by Imputation and Justification.

Four Blocks of the Barrier so Far:

We have seen how God has removed the first four blocks of the barrier.

The Barrier	God's Solution
Sin – The human race is born into the slave market of sin.	Redemption – Jesus purchased our freedom from the slave market.
Penalty of Sin – We are separated from God.	The Death of Jesus Christ – Jesus took the penalty of our sins.

Completed on the Cross

 Accomplished by God at Salvation

Spiritual Death – We are born physically alive, but spiritually dead.	Regeneration – the Holy Spirit gives us spiritual life.
Righteousness of Man – it is only relative, falling short of God's perfect standard.	Imputation & Justification – The believer is credited with the Absolute Righteousness of Christ. God the Father then declares us Justified.
Position in Adam -	
Character of God -	

When You Meet Together

Looking Back:

Follow up on the DM Assignment on pg 6-8

Have someone share "Their Story."

Practice presenting the Gospel

Looking Up:

What have you learned about our "so Great Salvation"?

Walk through the "RIBS" of our salvation. What does say about our security?

What is imputation? Why is it important?

Why is God the Father able to declare the believer justified?

Pray together for those who need to hear the Good News.

Looking Forward:

As a result of this study, I Will _____

Additional Notes & Questions

Assignment for Upcoming Week

Bible Reading *(Write down something for each day.)*

Follow through with your Bible Reading Plan. If you do not have one, use the plan that is in the Appendix.

Prayer Follow through with your dedicated time of prayer.

Preparation for Section 8

Complete Section 8: The Work of Jesus Christ, Pt 3

Memorize: *John 14:6*

Further Study: *Sin, the Savior, and Salvation* Section III, Salvation

Disciple Maker Assignment

Continue to pray for the people in your life who need Jesus.

Who can you tell, about how you came to trust in Christ?

Pray for an opportunity to share the Gospel this week.

Who are the next two people you can disciple using this booklet?

Section 8: The Work of Salvation, Part 3

What happens when we believe in Christ?

What is Positional Truth?

Memorize
John 14:6

Over the last two sessions, we studied how God removes the first four blocks of the barrier, **Sin**, the **Penalty of Sin**, **Spiritual Death**, and the **Relative Righteousness** of Man. In this section we will examine the final two blocks in the barrier.

The fifth block in the barrier is our **Position in Adam**. In Adam all die and are without eternal life. 1 Cor 15:22

The solution provided by God is the believer's Position in Christ.

Positional Truth – the moment a person places their trust in Christ, they are placed "in Christ," in union with Christ.

The Means of Positional Truth Write down your observations:

During the Last Supper, Jesus promised the disciples He would send the Helper, the Holy Spirit, that He may be with them.

John 14:15-20

1 Cor 12:12-13

Every believer is _____ into
the Body of Christ

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a unique ministry of the Holy Spirit that began on the Day of Pentecost. Through the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, God was forming a new entity, the Church, (Matt 16:18) the Body of Christ through which God would carry out His Kingdom Work. Since the time of Abraham, God has been in a covenant relationship with Israel. When Israel rejected their Messiah, the Lord Jesus, they entered into a season of discipline, what Paul calls a "partial hardening." Rom 11:1, 17-18, 25-29 However there is coming a time when the "times of the Gentiles" will end, Jesus will return, and God will fulfill His Kingdom promises to Israel. Until that time, God is working through the Church, the Body of Christ.

Going Deeper: What does 1 Cor 12:14-27 teach us about our role in the church?

The Blessings of Positional Truth

Because of our standing in Christ, God is now free to pour out His blessing on the believer. What are the blessings of God made possible for the believer who is "in Christ"?

Eph 1:3	Blessed with every _____ blessing
Eph 1:4	Holy and _____ before God
Eph 1:5	Predestined to be _____ as sons
Eph 1:11	Have obtained an _____
Eph 2:6	Raised up and _____ with Christ
Eph 2:19; Phil 3:20	Fellow _____ with the saints
Col 2:10	In Christ the believer is _____

Positional Truth Applied

Because of the believer's position in Christ: Record your observations:

Rom 6:1-14

Col 3:1-4

Gal 2:20

Col 1:24-29

Take a moment to reflect and absorb the full impact of these verses.

What do they say about your View of Life?

How should these truths Change your Life?

Propitiation

The final block in the barrier is the **Perfect Character of God**.

God cannot compromise His Righteousness and Justice. 1 John 1:5

The solution provided by God is **Propitiation**.

Propitiation – the perfect character of God, His absolute righteousness, and perfect Justice are completely satisfied by the work of Christ on the cross. Through the complete provision of salvation, God is free to have a relationship with the believer without compromising His character.

*In this is love, not that we loved God,
but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.
1 John 4:10*

Old Testament Background

The background of propitiation is the Mercy Seat that was on top of the Ark of the Covenant. The blood was poured on the Mercy Seat. This was the place of propitiation, where the character of God was satisfied by the blood sacrifice.

Ex 25:17-22

1 John 2:2

Rom 3:25



The Person and Work of Jesus Christ are the perfect sacrifice for our sin and the only means by which the standards of God's perfect character are met.

*Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne;
Lovingkindness and truth go before You. Ps 89:14*

All of this provides insight as to why Jesus is the Only Way! John 14:6

Putting it All Together

Romans 1-5 is the most comprehensive explanation of salvation in all of Scripture. Our study of God's work to remove the barrier uniquely equips us to understand and appreciate the discourse of Paul to the Romans.

Romans 3:22-28

- ²¹ *But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,*
- ²² *even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ (imputation) for all those who believe; for there is no distinction;*
- ²³ *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*
- ²⁴ *being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;*
- ²⁵ *whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over*
- the sins previously committed;*
- ²⁶ *for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.*
- ²⁷ *Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.*
- ²⁸ *For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.*

What is the one condition specified in this passage to receive salvation?

Reconciliation, the Barrier is Removed!

Every aspect of the barrier between God and man has been removed for the person who trusts in Christ. The believer is reconciled to God. Rom 5:10

The Barrier	God's Solution
Sin – The human race is born into the slave market of sin.	Redemption – Jesus purchased our freedom from the slave market.
Penalty of Sin – We are separated from God.	The Death of Jesus Christ – Jesus took the penalty of our sins.

The above work of Christ in paying the penalty for the sins of the entire world was accomplished on the cross. "It is Finished!"

The below work of God is accomplished the moment a person places their trust in Christ.

Spiritual Death – We are born physically alive, but spiritually dead.	Regeneration – the Holy Spirit gives us spiritual life.
Righteousness of Man – it is only relative, falling short of God's perfect standard.	Imputation & Justification – The believer is credited with the absolute Righteousness of Christ. God the Father then declares us Justified.
Position in Adam – In Adam, all die.	Position in Christ – The believer is placed "in union" with Christ.
Character of God - God cannot compromise His Holiness.	Propitiation – The demands of God's perfection, are satisfied by the work of Christ on the Cross.

When You Meet Together

Looking Back:

Follow up on the DM Assignment on pg 7-8

Have someone share "Their Story." Practice presenting the Gospel

Looking Up:

What have you learned about our "so Great Salvation"?

How does your position in Christ alter your identity?

How has this study influenced your view of salvation?

Considering all the Christ has done for us, how are you going to live?

Looking Forward:

As a result of this study, I Will _____

Assignment for Upcoming Week

Bible Reading Read through 1 Cor 15 several times.

Prayer Follow through with your dedicated time of prayer.

Preparation for Section 9

Complete Section 9: The Resurrection

Memorize: *1 Cor 15:58*

Disciple Maker Assignment

Who in your life needs to hear about Jesus Christ? What steps can you take?

Pray for an opportunity to share the Gospel this week.

Who are the next two people you can disciple using this booklet?

Section 9: The Resurrection !!

Why is the Resurrection so Important?

Where is Jesus Now?

Memorize 1 Cor 15:58

God has demonstrated maximum divine love through the work of Christ on the cross. But what came three days later is even more amazing.

One More Sign

In Matthew 12, the religious leaders had just witnessed the healing of a blind and mute demon-possessed man. Then they had the audacity to ask for a sign!

Matt 12:38-42

vs 39-40 What is the one more sign?

The Morning of the Resurrection

All four of the Gospel accounts cover the events surrounding the resurrection of Jesus. Read through them and record your observations.

Matt 28

Mark 16

Luke 23

John 20

The Significance of the Resurrection

It is not an overstatement to declare; The credibility of the Christian faith stands or falls of the historical reality of the resurrection. What does Paul claim?

1 Cor 15:1-8

What does Paul say happened after the resurrection?

1 Cor 15:12-19

What does Paul say about the historical accuracy of the resurrection of Jesus?
vs 19 Restate this verse in your own words.

Record what Paul and Peter state about the resurrection in their letters.

Rom 1:4

Col 2:12-14

Rom 4:24-25

1 Peter 1:3-5

Eph 2:4-6

Col 3:1-2

Rom 6:1-5

Because of the reality of the resurrection, what is the only appropriate response of the believer in Christ?

1 Cor 15:58

The Irreversible Work of God

The moment we place our trust in the work of Jesus Christ for our salvation, there are a number of supernatural, permanent transactions that God performs to the benefit of the believer:

New Life: Made Spiritually Alive

The natural man is spiritually dead, separated from God, unable to understand spiritual things. At the moment of salvation, the believer is spiritually born, made alive:

From death to life	John 5:24; Col 2:13-15
Born Again into God's family	John 1:12; 3:7; Gal 3:26; 1 Pet 1:23
Regenerated by the Holy Spirit	Titus 3:5
New Creation	2 Cor 5:17; Eph 4:24; 2 Pet 1:3-4
Reconciled	2 Cor 5:18-19

New Home: Transferred Citizenship

The natural man is within the domain of Satan's kingdom. At salvation, the believer is transferred into God's kingdom.

Transferred into God's Kingdom	Col 1:13 (rescued us)
Heavenly Citizens	Phil 3:20

New Standing: Legally Declared Righteous

The relative righteousness of man does not meet the absolute, perfect standard of God's righteousness. At salvation, the believer is credited with the righteousness of Christ and declared justified by God the Father.

Credited with +R of Christ	2 Cor 5:21; Phil 3:8-9
Declared Justified	Rom 5:1; Rom 3:26-28; Gal 2:16
No condemnation	Rom 8:1, 31-34
Cannot be separated from God	Rom 8:35-39

New Identity: Placed "In Christ"

At salvation, the believer is identified with or placed in Christ. This makes possible the pouring out of God's blessing.

In the Body of Christ	1 Cor 12:13
Adopted as adult sons	Rom 8:15; Gal 4:4-7
Inheritance of Christ	1 Pet 1:3-4; Eph 1:11
Complete In Him	Col 2:10
Every Spiritual Blessing	Eph 1:3; 2 Pet 1:3
Seated with Christ	Eph 2:4-7

What Next?

This series is intended to lay a solid foundation for our faith. Hopefully from your study, you have a greater appreciation for all that God has done to secure your eternal destiny with Him. This should change our lives. Paul said it this way:

For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf. 2 Cor 5:14-15

We are on a life long journey of following Christ, such that He can transform us into *Fishers of Men*. Disciples who Make Disciples, Matt 4:19.

To continue your journey, consider the following pursuits.

1. **Time with God:** Spend quality time with God each day. Lift up your prayer requests to the Lord and continue the habit of reading the Bible each day. John 15:1-11
2. **Local Church:** Faithfully attend and serve in a church that teaches the Bible. Develop "one another" church family relationships. Rom 12:10
3. **Make Disciples:** Find 2 or 3 others who you can lead through this series. Do not let this booklet sit on a bookshelf and collect dust!! Use this, along with the other Ambassador Tools listed on the back inside cover, to *Make Disciples who Make Disciples*.
4. **Continue Your Training:** Series 3, *Pressing On to Maturity*, is the next booklet in this series. It covers the practical aspects of walking by the Spirit, and in a manner that is pleasing to the Lord.

We were created to enjoy fellowship with God forever. Until we meet the Lord face to face, we have the privilege of participating in His kingdom work.

And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."
Matt 4:19

Therefore my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.
1 Cor 15:58

Appendix A, Additional Notes

Much to Learn:

Sound doctrine includes a broad range of topics which are addressed in the Bible. The principles of Scripture apply to every area of life. This is an example list:

Foundational Doctrine – *Provides Stability to our Faith*

Word of God	Revelation, Inspiration, Illumination
God	His Character, The Trinity
Jesus Christ	His Person and Work, Redemption, Resurrection
Man	Creation of Man, the Fall, Sin, Depravity
Salvation by Grace	Reconciliation, Repentance, Biblical Faith, Justification
Holy Spirit	Regeneration, Indwelling, Baptism, Sealing Spiritual Gifts
Holy Living	Spiritual Growth
The Church	The Body and Bride of Christ
The Local Church	It's organization and function, Church leadership
End Times	The Rapture, Tribulation, Return of Christ

Functional Doctrine – *To be Fruitful*

Confession of Sin
Relationship vs Fellowship with God
Temptation
Prayer
Right Thinking - Mental Attitudes
Divine Guidance
Faith - The Promises of God
Spiritual Growth
Filling of the Holy Spirit
Spiritual Gifts
Suffering
Witnessing
Authority
Church Organization
Doubtful Things
Giving/Tithing
Judging
Marriage
Biblical Love
Worship

Other Areas of Life & Reality

Angels
Baptism
Capital Punishment
Conscience
Crowns / Rewards
Divine Discipline
Dispensations
Grace
Heaven/Hell
Inheritance - Heirship
Leadership
Meditation
Mystery
Predestination
Priesthood
Separation/Divorce
Tabernacle
War
Work

Section 1 Notes

The blanks for this section are:

- Pg 1-2 The Nature of God: Spirit, Infinite, Person, Life, One
Pg 1-3 Attributes of God: Holy, Righteous, Justice, Love, Goodness, Truth
Pg 1-4 Omniscient, Omnipotent, Immutable

Section 2 Notes

Pg 2-5, The principles from the Sovereignty of God:

- God makes perfect provision for all of our needs.
- God does as He pleases.
- The sovereignty of God is over the plans of man.
- God is over the power of kings.
- God is over the rise and fall of nations.
- God is over the events of nature.

Section 3 Notes

Pg 3-6, The Christian View of Man:

- Man has Dignity because we are created in the image of God.
- Man was created to have a Relationship with God.
- There is both a material and immaterial part to man.
- Man is answerable, Accountable to his creator, God.
- Man has been given a job, a responsibility, to Subdue the earth.

Section 5 Notes

- Pg 5-1 Heb 1:1-12
- vs 1-2 Through whom He made the world
 - vs 3 The exact representation of His nature
 - vs 4-7 Superior to Angels
 - vs 8-9 Your throne O God is Forever
 - vs 10-12 In the beginning, You laid the Foundation of the earth

Section 6 Notes

- Pg 6-1 Why did Jesus Come?
- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| John 1:18, 14:7-9 | To <u>Reveal</u> God the Father to us |
| Matt 1:21; 1 Tim 1:15 | To <u>Save</u> His people from <u>Sin</u> |
| Mk 10:45; Heb 10:11-14 | To offer one perfect <u>Sacrifice</u> for sin |
| Lk 1:31-33; 2 Sam 7:8-16 | To fulfill the <u>Promise</u> to King David |
| 1 John 3:8; Gen 3:15 | To <u>Destroy</u> the works of the <u>Devil</u> |

Pg 6-4 Benefits of Redemption:

1 Cor 6:19-20	We <u>Belong</u> to Christ, He purchased us
Gal 4:4-7	We are <u>Adopted</u> into God's family
Eph 1:13-14	We will receive an <u>Inheritance</u>
Heb 9:13-14	The Capacity to <u>Serve</u> God, who is Holy
Rev 5:9-10; 14:3-5	The basis for <u>Praise/Worship</u> in eternity

Jesus died for:

Rom 5:6-8	"... Christ died for the ungodly."
1 Cor 15:3	"... Christ died for our sins..."
2 Cor 5:14-15	"... and He died for all..."
Gal 1:4	"... who gave Himself for our sins..."
Col 2:13-14	"... having canceled out the certificate of debt...against us..."
Heb 2:9	"... He might taste death for every one."

Section 7 Notes

Pg 7-2 Regeneration Applied:

2 Pet 1:4	Partakers of a new <u>Nature</u>
2 Cor 5:17; Gal 6:15	The believer is a new <u>Creation</u>
Eph 2:1-6	Once <u>Dead</u> but now <u>Alive</u>
John 5:24-25	Passed from <u>Death</u> to <u>Life</u>
Gal 3:26; John 1:12	Born into God's <u>Family</u>
2 Cor 6:18	God is now our <u>Father</u>
Gal 4:6	The Holy Spirit is in our <u>Hearts</u>

Pg 7-5 Justification Applied:

Rom 5:1	We have <u>Peace</u> with God
Rom 5:9	We are <u>saved</u> from the wrath of God
Rom 8:1, 31-34	No one can bring a <u>Charge</u> against us
Titus 3:7	We are <u>Heirs</u> with Christ, engage in <u>Good Deeds</u>

Section 8 Notes

Pg 8-2 The Blessings of Positional Truth:

Eph 1:3	Blessed with every <u>Spiritual</u> blessing
Eph 1:4	Holy and <u>Blameless</u> before God
Eph 1:5	Predestined to be <u>Adopted</u> as sons
Eph 1:11	Have obtained an <u>Inheritance</u>
Eph 2:6	Raised up and <u>Seated</u> with Christ
Eph 2:19; Phil 3:20	Follow <u>Citizens</u> with the saints
Col 2:10	In Christ the Believer is <u>Complete</u>

Sample Questions to Begin a Spiritual Conversation

Innocent Awe Questions:

(Getting to know you)

- 1) What are your life goals?
- 2) What did you want to be as a kid?
- 3) What dreams have you let go of? What dreams do you still hold on to?
- 4) What is your dream job?

Life Based Questions:

- 1) Tell me your greatest success along the way?
- 2) What is the biggest thing you have learned on your journey?
- 3) What was the best advice, or wisdom ever passed on to you?

Other belief systems:

(Getting to know your worldview)

- 1) What kind of belief system did your family have growing up?
- 2) How can all religions be right and so different?
- 3) How is it possible for a person to know what is right?
- 4) What is the source of your moral authority?

Right & Wrong:

- 1) Do you think there are absolutes when it comes to right and wrong?
- 2) How do you teach your kids right from wrong?
- 3) Why do you think our culture has moved away from absolutes of R & W?
- 4) Why do people try to live Good Lives?

Knowing God:

(Getting to know your view of God)

- 1) Why are there so many misconceptions about God?
- 2) Why do people live as though God does not exist?
- 3) What would God have to do to validate to you that He exists?
- 4) What do you hope is true about God?
- 5) Do you think we are the product of random processes?
- 6) How does your view of God, affect your life?
- 7) What is your biggest question for God?

About Following Jesus:

- 1) How does someone become a Christian?
- 2) Have you ever thought about what it means to be a follower of Jesus?
- 3) Have you ever explored what the Bible says about following Jesus?

Talking about New Birth:

- 1) What do you think when you hear the phrase Born Again?
- 2) Do you ever wish you could get a mulligan, a do over?

Telling Your Story

The Samaritan woman did not have any training, but she had a story. She immediately went out and told people she knew, what Jesus had done in her life.

If you have trusted in Christ, you have a story to tell. It may not be a story that will make it into a best selling book, but it is your story. It is unique to you. It is real, and no one can deny your story. There is no theological debate.

He then answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

John 9:25

What is Your Story?

Take some time to concisely write your story.

My Life Before Christ:

"There was a time in my life when..."

What Brought Me to Christ:

"Then someone showed me..."

My Life After I Trusted in Christ:

"Jesus changed Me, and now..."

The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself..."

1 John 5:10

Appendix B, Additional Resources

<i>Sin, the Savior, and Salvation</i>	Robert P. Lightner
<i>Growing in Christ</i>	Nav Press
<i>Now That I'm a Christian</i>	Michael Patton
<i>Basic Theology</i>	Charles C. Ryrie
<i>Major Bible Themes</i>	Lewis Sperry Chafer & John F. Walwood

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Bob Theime, Jay Chappell, George Miesinger, Ron Merryman, Charlie Clough,
The professors of Capital Bible Seminary
The pastoral staff of Chantilly Bible Church

Thank the Lord for these men who faithfully and carefully taught so many, so we could turn around and teach others also.

Bible Reading Plan

The following verses provide a weekly reading plan that correspond to each section of this booklet. Much of the reading is through the book of Romans.

Week leading to Section 2: The Relationships of God

Day 1	Gen 37	Day 2	Gen 39-40
Day 3	Gen 41-42	Day 4	Gen 43-44
Day 5	Gen 45-46	Day 6	Gen 47—48
Day 7	Gen 49-50		

Week leading to Section 3: The Nature of Man

Day 1	Rom 1:1-17	Day 2	Rom 1:18-32
Day 3	Rom 2:1-16	Day 4	Rom 2:17-29
Day 5	Rom 3:1-20	Day 6	Rom 3:21-31

Week leading to Section 4: Sin

Day 1	Rom 4:1-25	Day 2	Rom 5:1-11
Day 3	Rom 5:12-21	Day 4	Rom 6:1-14
Day 5	Rom 6:15-23		

Week leading to Section 5: The Person of Christ

Day 1	Rom 7:1-27	Day 2	Rom 8:1-25
Day 3	Rom 8:26-39	Day 4	Rom 9:1-13
Day 5	Rom 9:14-33		

Week leading to Section 6: The Work of Christ

Day 1	Rom 10:1-21	Day 2	Rom 11:1-16
Day 3	Rom 11:17-36	Day 4	Rom 12:1-13
Day 5	Rom 12:14-21		

Week leading to Section 7: The Work of Christ

Day 1	Rom 13:1-14	Day 2	Rom 14:1-9
Day 3	Rom 14:10-23	Day 4	Rom 15:1-13
Day 5	Rom 15:14-33		

Week leading to Section 8: The Work of Christ

Day 1 Rom 16:1-27

Day 2 Review & Summarize Rom 1-5

Day 3 Review & Summarize Rom 6-8

Day 4 Review & Summarize Rom 9-11

Day 5 Review & Summarize Rom 12-16

Week leading to Section 8: The Resurrection

Day 1 Matt 28

Day 2 Mark 16

Day 3 Luke 23

Day 4 John 20

Day 5 Acts 1

The Three Phases of Salvation

"Salvation" is the total work of God to restore us into right relationship with Him for all eternity.

Phase One: Justification

Salvation Past - Conversion

This stage begins the moment of faith in Christ, when God declares the sinner to be Righteous before Him.

One Time Event, Irreversible

One Condition: Faith in Christ

John 5:24; Eph 1:13-14; Titus 3:5

Gal 2:16; Eph 2:5-9

Rom 3:21-26; 5:1; 8:1

2 Cor 5:17, 21; Phil 3:9

Establishes Position in Christ

Positional Sanctification

Delivered from the
Penalty of Sin

This is our Confidence &
Assurance

Phase Two: Sanctification

Salvation Present - Christian Walk

This is the experiential, progressive walk of the believer, where God is gradually conforming the believer to become more like Jesus.

Process of gradual Spiritual Growth

Condition: Daily Obedience to Christ

1 Cor 1:18; 2 Cor 2:15; 3:18

Rom 6:11-14, 19; 12:1-2

Phil 2:12-13; Gal 2:20; 1 Thes 4:3-8

Eph 4:11-16; 1 Pet 2:2

Transforms Current Condition

Experiential Sanctification

Being Delivered from the
Power of Sin

This is our Motivation
to Press On

Phase Three: Glorification

Salvation Future - In Heaven

This final stage occurs at death or at the Rapture, where the believer moves into eternity, forever with Christ.

One Time Event, Irreversible

Predestined Act of God

Rom 5:10; 8:16-17, 30; 13:11

Phil 1:6; 3:20-21; Eph 1:14

1 Cor 15:43-44; 1 Pet 1:3-5;

1 Jn 3:2; Jude 1:24-25; Rev 7:9-10

Matches Condition with Position

Ultimate Sanctification

Ultimately Delivered from the
Presence of Sin

This is our Hope & Destiny

Phases of Discipleship Effort

How do we help a person take one step closer to Jesus?

Skeptic, Far from God
 Deceived by the wisdom of the world
 Enslaved by the lusts of the flesh
 No knowledge of God or Jesus
Engage

Growing in Christ
 Following & Serving the Lord
Equip

Questions &
 Stories

Seeker, Approaching the Cross
 Open to hearing about Jesus
 Under Conviction of Holy Spirit
Evangelize

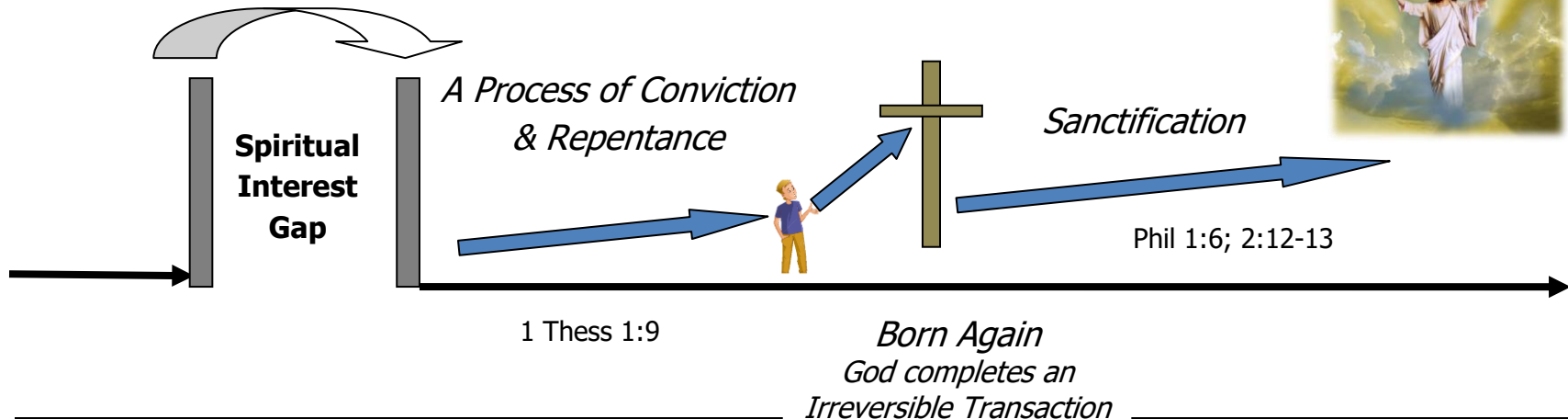
**Follower
 A New Believer**
 Has Trusted in Christ
Establish

DM3 Pressing On
 DM4 Serving
 Fishers of Men

Apathy
 No Interest in
 Spiritual Things

The Invitation
 Who is Jesus?
 Good News Booklet

New Life in Christ
 DM1 Essentials
 DM2 Foundations



The Ambassador Toolbox

This booklet is part of a series of materials which together give us a toolbox of resources we can use to make disciples. Every discipleship opportunity is different. There is no one cookie-cutter approach. However, the following resources are designed to give you a place to start.

3 Circles: Life Conversation Guide, a pamphlet outlining a diagram of circles to initiate a spiritual conversation that sets the context for the gospel.

The Invitation, a 5 week booklet intended for an unchurched person, with minimal exposure to the God of the Bible. Starting with Genesis, how does the Bible answer the fundamental questions of life. "Have you ever read for yourself what the Bible says?"

Who is Jesus? This 5 week booklet is intended for the religious person with some knowledge of the Bible, maybe grew up with some exposure to Jesus, but has never really come to understand who He is.

The Good News of Jesus Christ, After you have had a conversation explaining the gospel, this is a follow up booklet. "How about you read through this, and we get back together again next week and talk about it?"

New Life in Christ This 5 week booklet is for the new believer. I just trusted in Christ, what happens now?

Making Disciples, Series 1, Essentials for the New Believer, an 8 week study that covers the essentials for living a Christ centered life. Don't let the name fool you, it covers good reminders for any believer, no matter how long you have been saved.

Making Disciples, Series 2, Foundations of the Faith, an 8 week study that covers the doctrines of God, man, sin, and salvation. A solid understanding of these foundational topics provide stability and confidence to the believer.

Making Disciples, Series 3, Pressing on to Maturity, an 9 week study that covers the supernatural provisions of God for the believer to walk in a manner that honors Christ.

To be developed:

Making Disciples, Series 4, Serving the Lord



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