

Lessons for baptismal candidates

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How do you know you are saved?

1. How can you know you are saved?

2. What are the evidences that you have that show that you are saved?

3. Why Simon the sorcerer in Acts 8 is not saved though it was said that he believed the gospel, was baptized and even followed Philip the Evangelist?

4. Can baptism wash away your sin?

Baptism

I. The meaning of baptism

Baptism does not mean regeneration or forgiveness of sins. It is an outward symbol of an inward reality.

1. It means obedience to the command of Christ Mt 28:19,20
2. It means following Christ's example 1 Pet 2:21
3. It symbolizes our identification with Christ Rom 6:4-13

II. Who may be baptized?

1. Those who have heard the gospel and believed it Mk 16:16
2. Those whose eyes are opened Acts 9:18
3. Those who have repented Acts 2:38
4. Those who have received the Holy Ghost Acts 10:47

In other word, a person must repent of his sins and accept Christ as his Saviour before he is baptized.

III. How should one be baptized?

1. In what name?
 - a. Of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost Mt 28:19
 - b. In the name of the Lord Jesus Acts 8:16, 19:5
2. By whom should baptism be performed? By one or more representative of church
Examples: Philip, Peter, Silas, Ananias
3. Where was baptism performed?
 - a. Where there is water e.g. river, seaside, baptism pool
4. Mode of baptism performed?
 - a. By sprinkling
 - b. By immersion. The original meaning of baptized is to immerse. Immersion was the common mode of baptism in the New Testament according to history Mt 3:16, Acts 8:38,39

According to Rom 6:1-13, immersion is certainly a more complete picture of death, burial and resurrection than either pouring or sprinkling. The believer immersed in water is a sign to the world that he has died, been buried and resurrected and is now living for Jesus Col 2:12 The important thing is not the mode but the inner spiritual meaning.

IV. When should one be baptized?

Not when I want to have my sins forgiven. Not when I decide to become a Protestant. Not to advance myself socially or for business or other purpose. When one is old enough to understand and meet the conditions of 'who may be baptized' in Section II above.

Conclusion

In baptism, I take a public stand that I have accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour. Baptism is a command and it is not optional. It is for me to obey and submit. Let us prayerfully and perseveringly press on to baptism and the overcoming life.

Baptism Lesson 1: Knowing Christ

Most people have heard of Jesus Christ. They know and believe certain facts about Him – His deity, His birth, His teachings, His death and resurrection. But they never have met Him in a personal way so He could become their Saviour and Lord.

An example? Pilate who condemned Him to death said, “I find no fault in Him”. (John 19:4)

A teacher? Nicodemus came to Jesus by night, and said unto Him, “Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher came from God; for no man can do these miracles that Thou doest except God be with Him.” (John 3:2)

A king? “On the next day many people that were coming to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet Him, and cried, Hosanna, Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.” (John 12:12,14)

A martyr? Him being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken and by wicked hands have crucified and slain; (Acts 2:23)

A Saviour? “And she shall bring a son and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21)

Man was originally created for the glory of God. “Even every one who is called by my name; for I have created him for my glory; I have formed him; yea, I have made him.” (Isaiah 43:7)

This original purpose was interrupted by sin and man became very evil and unprofitable. (Romans 3:19-21)

The sentence of death is over all men for all have sinned. (Romans 6:23) “The wages of sin is death.” (Romans 3:23)

Four things you need to know

1. You need to be saved. Luke 13:3,5
2. You cannot save yourselves. Salvation is a gift of God (Eph 2:8,9)
3. Christ has died for your sins. “Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree.” (1 Peter 2:24)
4. You must repent of your sins and receive Jesus as your Saviour. Acts 20:21

Baptism Lesson 2: Life in Christ has begun

You have become a new “babe”, born again into God’s kingdom, when to the best of your knowledge you have received Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. Do not try to “play Christian”. You have become heir to many wonderful privileges and possession, not only in this age but also in the age to come.

It is important to remember that regardless of your position or training in the world, you are a spiritual babe. Your present concern should be growth. (1 Peter 2:2)

Beware of the attacks of the devil

1. Having Doubts

“And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.” (1 John 5:11,12)

2. Weak in the face of temptation

You are too weak. Why not give up now? It is no use trying. *“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able, but will with the temptation, also make a way to escape that ye may be able to bear it.”* (1 Cor 10:13)

3. Falling into sins

The devil may put doubts into you. Now you have done it. God will not have anything to do with you. You cannot be a Christian. Christians do not act that way. Thank God we have a wonderful promise from our heavenly Father. *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* (1 John 1:9)

What can a young Christian do?

He can cry to God in prayer. *“Ask and it shall be given you.”* (Matt 7:7,8)

Now you are asking in the name of God the Son and at His request (John 16:24)

He can feed on God’s word. *“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby.”* (1 Peter 2:2) Read through the New Testament by reading at least two chapters a day. Start to memorize Scriptures.

Summary

You have received Jesus as your Saviour. He gave you His life and His divine nature. God does not promise your conversion will be emotional or spectacular. But if you have received Christ into your life, He will come in. Feelings change like the weather, but His word liveth and abideth forever. (1 Peter 1:23) Use the Word of God to overcome the attacks of the devil.

1. Doubt of salvation (1 John 5:11,12)
2. Doubt of victory in temptation (1 Cor 10:13)
3. Doubt of forgiveness (1 John 1:9)
4. Doubt of provision and care (John 16:24)

Baptism Lesson 2: Worksheet “Life in Christ has begun”

A. Multiple choice questions

1. What do we mean by the deity of Christ? ()
 - a. Christ is divine in the same way that men are divine
 - b. Christ is really God in every sense of the word
 - c. Christ is a true human being
 - d. Christ is God seen in human form
2. What do we know about the existence of Christ? ()
 - a. He is eternal
 - b. God created Christ
 - c. He came into being when He was conceived
 - d. He did not exist before His birth
3. What happened when Christ was born on earth? ()
 - a. He stopped being God
 - b. He was truly man and truly God
 - c. He was not truly human
 - d. His true parents were Joseph and Mary
4. Which of the following is true of Jesus Christ? ()
 - a. He sometimes made mistakes
 - b. He was without sin
 - c. He would not associate with sinners
 - d. He was free from temptation, pain and suffering
5. Why did the Lord Jesus die? ()
 - a. He died for His own sins
 - b. He died in our place and for our sins
 - c. He died because He was a failure
 - d. He died as a martyr
6. You have received Christ as your Saviour and He gave you ()
 - a. a new chance
 - b. His life
 - c. new rules
7. Who stands behind Jesus as a double guarantee (John 10:29) ()
 - a. The Father
 - b. The Church
 - c. The Bible
 - d. None of the above
8. The Holy Spirit guides and keeps the Christian in this life. How long ()
is He to be with the Christian (John 14:16,17)?
 - a. Forever
 - b. On earth
 - c. In heaven

9. Romans 10:17 teaches assurance of eternal life should depend upon ()
 - a. your feelings
 - b. your promise to reform
 - c. the word of God
 - d. your good works
 - e. church membership

10. Jesus said in John 13:34,35 that all men would be able to tell you are ()
 His disciple if you keep this new commandment to
 - a. tithe our money
 - b. go to church on Sunday
 - c. love one another

B. True or false questions

1. God wants you to know if you have eternal life (1 John 5:13) T / F

2. Jesus says in John 6:37 that those who are not too wicked can come to Him T / F

3. Jesus said His sheep would never perish (John 10:28) T / F

4. You can be plucked from Christ's hand (John 10:28) T / F

5. God is willing to let some believers be lost (John 6:39) T / F

Baptism Lesson 3: Learning to feed upon the word of God

Many new Christians are surprised they have difficulty living the right kind of life. Their intentions are good. They may try hard. Why do they usually fail?

The reason is that they have an old nature, beside the new nature they received from the Lord at conversion. But thanks be unto God for the gift of the Holy Spirit who indwells in us. It is through the power of the Holy Spirit that you are able to live the Christian life. In your own strength you will fail.

Old habits will be strong. But the Lord will give you the victory if you will fight in His power and strength (Phil 4:13). But to grow spiritually you must feed on the word of God.

Hearing “So, then, faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” (Rom 10:17)

Reading “Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.” (I Tim 4:13)

Studying “Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” (II Tim 2:15)

Memorizing “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.” (Ps 119:11)

Meditating “*But his delight is in the law of God of the LORD and in his law doth he meditate day and night.*” (Psalm 1:2)

Types of Bible Study

1. Question and answer
2. By topics (prayer, temptation, love, Satan)
3. Character study
4. By book, chapter, verse or words
5. Survey

Let us remember the following:

- 1 All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for study (II Tim 3:16)
- 2 The Holy Spirit helps you to understand spiritual things (I Cor 2:9-12)
- 3 Therefore you should pray that God will open your eyes to behold wondrous things out of His word. (Ps 119:18)
- 4 The word of God will help you to
 - a) win another (I Pet 1:23)
 - b) help you grow (Acts 20:32)
 - c) change your life (II Cor 3:18)
 - d) to guide you (Ps 119:105)
 - e) pray more effectively (John 15:7)

Baptism Lesson 3: Worksheet “Learning to feed upon the word of God.”

A. Multiple choice questions

1. Who wrote the bible? ()
 - a. Thirty six authors
 - b. Human authors under God’s direct control
 - c. The apostle Paul
2. What does “inspiration” mean when it refers to the bible? ()
 - a. That everyone who reads the bible is inspired
 - b. God guided men in writing the very words
 - c. The bible contains the words
 - d. That God inspired just the thoughts
3. What is the main subject of the bible? ()
 - a. The Jews
 - b. The nations
 - c. The church
 - d. Jesus Christ
4. What is the best thing to do with the bible? ()
 - a. Regard it as another religious book
 - b. Read it, believe it, and practice it
 - c. Receive it only when we can understand it.
 - d. Honour it and read part of it

B. True or false questions

1. Job 23:12 teaches that God’s word is more important than food T / F
2. II Tim 3:16 teaches that all Scriptures are inspired by God and is profitable for study. T / F
3. God still allows men to add to the bible (Rev 22:18) T / F
4. Psalm 119:11 teaches you should memorize Scripture so others will know you are a Christian T / F
5. God is willing to let some believers be lost (John 6:39) T / F

C. Further Questions

1. Ps 119:18 tells you should begin to read the bible by praying that God will.....
2. How many chapters do you read each day?
3. Whom did Andrew find after he had found Jesus? (John 1:40,41)
Have you ever led anyone to Christ?
Would you like to?
Would Jesus like you to (John 15:16)?

Baptism lesson 4. Learning to pray

Christians are sons of God and heirs and joint heirs with Christ

“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:” (John 1:12)

“And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together” (Romans 8:17)

It is amazing to know that God wants us to pray. He says, “Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.” (Jeremiah 33:3)

Some may ask, “If God knows all things, why should I pray about anything. He knows my needs better than I do.” The answer is that prayer is God’s chosen way of obtaining His blessing and accomplishing His will. James 4:2 says, “Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.” In Matthew 7:7, we read, “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:”

Conditions for effective prayer.

1. Faith. “And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive” (Matthew 21:22) Faith is claiming His promise and expecting Him to answer.
2. His will. “And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:.” (I John 5:14) God reveals His will in His word. The more you understand and know His word, the better you will be able to pray.
3. Do not ask amiss. You must not ask things from God out of a selfish motive. “Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.” (James 4:3)
4. Obedience. “And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.” (I John 3:22)
5. Thanksgiving. “In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” (I Thessalonians 5:18)

A-C-T-S of prayer.

Adoration –praise and reverence

Confession---agreeing with God concerning your sins.

Thanksgiving----your appreciation for what He has done for you.

Supplication---asking for things or for others.

Don't of prayer

1. Do not pray at others
2. Do not pray to others
3. Do not constantly repeat the Lord's name
4. Do not pray with the intention to impress others.
5. Do not mumble in public prayer.

Times when you should pray a. without ceasing (I Th 5:17) b. when afflicted (James 5:13) c. when tempted (Matt 26:41) d. evening, morning and noon (Ps 55:17) e. in times of needs (Heb 4:16)

Baptism Lesson 4 worksheet "Learning to pray"

A. True or false. Please check true or false.

True False

1. One of your first prayer should be "Lord teach us to pray."

2. As you pray to God, your motive should be to bring glory to God.

B. Please match the corresponding verse with the followings

1. Some of the people for whom you should pray for are:

a. Eph 6:18 1. your enemies

b. Matt 5:44 2. all saints

c. James 5:14 3. all men

d. I Tim 2:1,2 4. the sick

e. I Tim 2:4 5. the unsaved

2. Some of the things that you should pray for are:

a. James 1:5 1. strength

b. Acts 4:29 2. that the Lord will teach you

c. Ps 19:12 3. boldness to witness

d. Ps 105:4 4. wisdom

e. Ps 119:33 5. cleanse me from secret faults

f. I Peter 5:7 6. a knowledge of His will for you

g. Col 1:9 7, all your cares

C. Questions and answers

1. What sometimes hinders our prayers? (Isaiah 59:1,2)

2. If you sin, how do you get back on praying ground? (Psalm 32:5)

3. Who helps you when you do not know how to express your thoughts or desires to God? (Romans 8:26,27)

4. Have you started a prayer list for unsaved friends, relatives etc.?

5. How many chapters have you read the past weeks?

6. In the following verses what time of the day did Jesus pray? (Mark 1:35)

7. What did the Lord do in His solitary communion with God? (Luke 5:16)

8. What did the Lord do before He distributed the bread? (Matthew 14:19)

9. What did the Lord command us in Matthew 26:41?

10. What command did Jesus give us in John 16:24? _____

Baptism lesson 5 Learning to walk,

God sees three classes of men

The natural man. I Cor 2:14, "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

The Carnal man I Cor 3:4, "For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?"

The spiritual man. I Cor 2:15, "But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man."

A Christian should walk in the spirit and not fulfil the lust of the flesh. He receives the Holy Spirit. This is what the Lord prayed, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;" (John 14:16). "Another" could be translated "another just like me." "Comforter" from the Greek word "paraclete" means "one called alongside to help."

God desires that we be filled with His Spirit. "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;" (Eph 5:18). Be constantly filled (controlled) by the Spirit.

How may I be filled with His Spirit?

"In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink..... (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.) (John 7:37,39)

1. Thirst (John 16:13,14; II Tim 3:7; II Cor 3:18; Gal 5:22,23; I Cor 15:57)
2. Come to the Lord. (II Cor 8:5; Rom 6:13; Rom 12:1)
3. Believe on Me.

Questions asked

1. What will happen to me if I do not yield myself to God?
2. Will God force me to yield my life to His control and be filled with the Spirit?
3. Why must I depend upon the Holy Spirit?
4. How do I know that God will not ask me to do some hard thing like becoming a missionary to some country?
5. What happens if you say no to the Holy Spirit and disobey Him? (Eph 4:30; I Th 5:19)

Having confessed one's sin and experienced forgiveness, having surrendered oneself completely to the Holy Spirit to be filled by Him (Eph 5:18) one must by faith believe that God has fulfilled His promise and that he is filled with the Holy Spirit. This is the life of victory, which is possible for every Christian.

Baptism Lesson 5 worksheet: Learning to walk

A. Please match corresponding verses/ steps with the followings

1. The Holy Spirit is called:

a. John 14:16

b. John 14:17

c. Heb 10:29

d. Romans 1:4

e. Romans 8:2

f. Ephesians 1:17

g. Heb 9:14

h. Romans 8:9

i. II Tim 1:7

1. Spirit of God, Spirit of Christ

2. eternal Spirit

3. the Comforter

4. Spirit of truth

5. Spirit of grace

6. Spirit of Holiness

7. Spirit of wisdom and revelation

8. Spirit of power, love and a sound mind

9. Spirit of life

2. All Christians have been:

a. John 3:5,6

b. Eph 1:13

c. I Cor 12:13

d. I Cor 6:19

e. Eph 5:18

1. indwelt by the Spirit of God

2. baptized into the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit

3. born of the Spirit

4. sealed by the Spirit

5. commanded to be filled with the Holy Spirit

3. List the three steps in order that the Lord Jesus stated in John 7:37-39, whereby you may be filled with the Spirit"

a. Come and drink

b. Thirst

c. believe that God will fill you

1. First step

2. Second step

3. Third step

4. If you permit Him, the Holy Spirit will:

a. Rom 8:26,27

b. Rom 5:5

c. I Cor 2:12

d. I Cor 2:13

e. Rom 8:16

f. Eph 3:16

g. Rom 8:14

1. Strengthen you

2. lead you

3. help you to pray

4. teach you to pray

5. shed the love of God in your heart

6. show you the things God has given you

7. assure you that we are children of God

B. Multiple choice questions

1. If you sin and fellowship is broken, how can you get back into fellowship (I John 1:9)

a. do penance b. be rebaptised c. confess your sin to God

2. To remain filled with the Spirit you must not (Eph 4:30; I Thes 5:19)

a. quenched b. grieved c. a & b d. none of these choices

Baptism Lesson 6 Walking without falling into sin

Many Christians are surprised that they are still tempted after they are saved. But the Bible teaches that even spiritual leaders are to be watchful so they will not be tempted and fall into sins. (Gal 6:1; I Cor 10:12)

You have made Satan very angry when ye became a Christian. Now he will redouble his efforts to make you sin and become ineffective in the service of Christ. Temptation is harmless unless you give in to it.

How will Satan tempt us?

Satan will tempt and try to lead you into sin through things you desire.

One way is through old sinful habits and desires. Perhaps Satan will send a friend and use him to tempt you. The Bible warns: "My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not." (Prov 1:10). Stay away from friends and places that might tempt you.

Man's three basic sins are the results of the desire to enjoy things, the desire to get things, and the desire to do things. These three basic sins results from the three areas of temptations mentioned in I John 2:16.

How can we meet temptation?

1. Use the word of God. This is the way Jesus met the temptations of the devil. "It is written,,," (Matt 4:4)
2. Resist the devil. James 4:7, "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."
3. Flee these things. "But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness" (I Tim 6:11)
4. Put on the shield of faith. "Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." (Eph 6:16)
5. Watch and pray. "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Matt 26:41)

What will be outcome of overcoming temptation?

You shall be rewarded. This is not salvation but a reward. Salvation is a free gift. You can earn rewards. James 1:12, "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."

Baptism lesson 6 Worksheet: Walking without falling into sin

A. Please match the corresponding verses with the following:

1. Satan is also called :

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------|
| a. Matt 4:3 | 1. god of this world | _____ |
| b. John 8:44 | 2. tempter | _____ |
| c. II Cor 4:4 | 3. Satan | _____ |
| d. Romans 16:20 | 4. a liar | _____ |
| e. II Cor 11:14 | 5. appears as an angel of light | _____ |

B. True or false. Please check true or false.

- | | True | False |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Jesus met the temptations by quoting Scriptures (Matt 4:6) | _____ | _____ |
| 2. According to Prov 4:14; Eph 4:27 and Rom 13:14 and Roman 13:14, you should not go to places or people whom the devil can use to tempt you to sin | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Sometimes a Christian is tempted by something greater than he is able to resist and he cannot help sinning (I Cor 10:13) | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Christ is able to succor you when you are tempted because He also was tempted (Heb 2:18;4:15) | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Sin and temptation mean the same thing | _____ | _____ |

C. Please fill in the blanks.

- You should _____ yourself to God and _____ the devil . (James 4:7). At time it may be wise to _____ from temptation (I Tim 6:11)
- Thy word have I _____ in mine heart that I might not sin against Thee. (Ps 119:11)
- "Be sober, be vigilant; because your _____ the devil as a roaring _____ walketh about seeking whom he may devour: (I Peter 5:8)
- Your victory over temptation and in testing will bring _____ and _____ and _____ to Christ as His appearing. (I Peter 1:7)

Baptism Lesson 7 Cleansing and chastisement.

What is sin? Sin can be defined as rebellion against God and His will. It is saying yes to Satan's suggestions and no to God's commands and exhortations.

What will happen to a Christian when he becomes lax and yield to temptations?

Is he lost? Should he forget his failure? No. He should realise that Christ the Lord has died for his sins---past, present and future. He has this promise that he shall not come into condemnation (John 5:24). However these sins cannot be ignored. They will mar their fellowship with God.

What does fellowship mean?

Fellowship means joint participation or sharing of some common things: serving and worshipping God. But his fellowship with God can be broken. Sin will mar our fellowship with God.

How can this broken fellowship with God be restored?

How can we obtain forgiveness of sins? The key to forgiveness and restoration is confession. The Greek word for confession has an important meaning. It means "saying the same thing as another."

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (I John 1:9)

How can we maintain this fellowship with God?

God is light (I John 1:5). Therefore we must walk in the light. "This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all." (I John 1:5). "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." (I John 1:7)

What will happen if a believer refused to admit that he has sinned?

God will have to chasten you if you will not listen to his word. Note: Confession has to do with known sin, not unknown sin.

What does chastening mean?

Chastening means disciplining or correcting or reproof. The object of chastening is training not punishing.

God's purpose in chastening:

1. To cause you to acknowledge your sin so that you may be restored to fellowship and be holy and without blemish. (Eph 5:27)
2. To reveal that He will deal with you as a father will deal with a rebellious child. (Heb 12:5-8)

How will God chastise a wayward child?

God is all wise and will use the best method for each of His children. God may send sickness or He may deny some privileges. He may take away some possessions. All sickness should not be considered as chastisement. But it should call for soul searching. He may even allow a Christian to reap what he has sown.

What should be our attitudes in the face of chastisement?

1. Despise not the chastening of God? (Heb 12:5)
2. Do not faint or be discouraged. (Heb 12:5)
3. God's chastisement will bring forth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. (Heb 12:11)

How shall ye escape chastening? (I Cor 11:31)

Baptism lesson 7 Worksheet: Cleansing and chastisement

A. Please match the right verses / meaning with the following:

1. Match the following words and their meanings:

a. disciplining or training

1. fellowship

b. communion or joint participation

2. confession

c. saying the same or agreeing with another

3. chastening

2. If you are chastened you should:

a. Rev 3:19

1. know God loves you

b. Heb 12:1

2. not despise it nor faint because of it

c. Heb 12:5

3. bring forth peaceable fruit of righteousness

B. True or false. Please check true or false

	True	False
1. Becoming a Christian means that you will not sin any more (I John 1:8,10)	_____	_____
2. If you deny that you did not sin, you make God a liar (I Jn 1:10)	_____	_____
3. Galatians 3:13 teaches your sins can be forgiven if you join the church, are baptized and start to tithe.	_____	_____
4. If a Christian confesses his sin, he is cleansed from the defilement of that sin and restored into fellowship with God (I Jn 1:9)	_____	_____
5. After you have confessed your sin you should let Satan make you feel guilty by bringing it to your remembrance. (Isa 43:25)	_____	_____
6. Are there 6 sins listed in Prov 6:16-19 that God hates?	_____	_____
7. You can sin by not doing good thing which you know you should do. (James 4:17)	_____	_____
8. Sin separates a Christian from God. (Isaiah 59:2)	_____	_____
9. Does pride keep you from being restored into fellowship with God? (Psalm 10:4)	_____	_____
10. Psalm 139:23 teaches that you should hide your sins from God so He will not be offended.	_____	_____
11. If you do not judge your sins God will chasten you (I Cor 11:13; 32)	_____	_____
12. You can prosper if you hide your sins. (Prov 28:13)	_____	_____

Baptism Lesson 8 Growing through fellowship with believers.

The Christian needs fellowship.

1. The home.

There is nothing that unites a family more and helps it grows spiritually than fellowship together with Christ. This is sometimes called a family altar or family devotion. It should not be so complicated that little children cannot understand. A few verses explained will prove more valuable. Broadly speaking, it should include praise, thanksgiving and word of God and all praying together. Family worship pays big dividends.

2. The Church.

Every believer should become united with a local bible-believing and God honouring church. The bible refers to the church in two ways: 1. As a local body of believers (Acts 8:1). 2. As the Body of Christ composed all believers around the world. (I Cor 1:2). No church is perfect. The pastor, elders, and deacons are all humans.

Points to consider with regards to the church one is planning to join.

1. A good pastor will teach the whole counsel of God. (Jer 3:15)
2. The church should uphold and practice the whole counsel of God. (I Peter 2:1-2. I John 4:1, 2).
3. Do they have a midweek prayer meeting and do they pray at this meeting?
4. Is there a constant effort made in soul winning? Are they supporting their own missionaries?
5. Does the church earnestly contend for the faith? "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." (Jude 3)

The church provide the following"

1. Teaching and training
2. Worship
3. Service

1. Teaching and training.

- a. New members (II Tim 2:2)
- b. The children (Prov 22:6; II Tim 3:15)
- c. Old members (Eph 4:11-13)

2. Worship

- a. Jesus left two ordinances for the church ---baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism is an outward sign of an inward work of grace, the new birth. It speaks of one's identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection (Romans 6:4). Consequently it should be for believers only.
- b. Be present when the Lord's Supper is observed. "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." (I Cor 11:26).
- c. Giving should be part of worship. Give of your tithes and offerings. You should only give to causes that honour Christ.
- d. Prayer meeting. God gives a special promise to united prayer. "Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven." (Matt 18:19) Members who are in the business for God will usually be there.

3. Service.

- a. Start praying that God will give you a place to serve Him. The big task is to get the gospel to the utter part of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

Baptism Lesson 8 Worksheet Growing through fellowship with others.

A. True or false. Please check true or false.

	True	False
1. Abraham and Joshua were too busy doing the work of God to have time for family worship (Gen 18:19; Josh 24:15)	_____	_____
2. God holds parents responsible for training their children (Eph 6:1-4)	_____	_____
3. The New Testament never tells Christians that they should meet for worship and instruction. (Heb 10:25)	_____	_____
4. Hearing the word preached will strengthen your faith and help you grow spiritually (Rom 10:17; I Peter 2:2)	_____	_____
5. I Thessalonians 5:12,13 teach that your pastor and spiritual leaders should respect and esteem you highly in love.	_____	_____
6. Love promotes the unity of the church? (Col 3:14)	_____	_____
7. The early church according to Acts 2:40-42; 13:1-3 preached, baptized, taught, fellowshiped together, broke bread, prayed and sent missionaries.	_____	_____
8. Paul recommended that the church members at Corinth should lay up systematically and regularly on the first day of the week (I Cor 16:2)	_____	_____
9. Colossians 3:23 teaches that you should do all things heartily as unto God and Matthew 5:16 teaches that our good should bring glory to God	_____	_____
10. The Word of God prepares a Christian for every good work (II Tim 3:16,17).	_____	_____

B. Please match the right Bible references to the followings:

The church :

a. Col 1:18	1. is called the Body of Christ.	_____
b. I Cor 12:27	2. has Christ as the Head of the Body .	_____
c. I Cor 12:12,13	3. has all born again believers as members in the Body.	_____

Baptism Lesson 9 Growing through fellowship with God.

Knowing the Lord Jesus.

You have met a Person, the Lord Jesus Christ and have received Him as your Saviour. He gave you eternal life. According to the purpose and desire of God, Christians are to conform to the image of His Son. "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren." (Romans 8:29). One of the most effective ways to realise this is to set a time of fellowship with God each day.

Our spirit thirsts.

"That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." (John 3:6) You are now a partaker of the divine nature. "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (II Peter 1:4). The better you know Christ, the easier it will be to tell others about Him. It seems almost unbelievable that God would allow His creatures to fellowship with Him. "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him." (John 4:23). Let us not forget that we can come to the presence of God only by the blood of Jesus Christ.

God not only desire your fellowship but He wants to manifest or reveal Himself to you. (John 14:21-23). Let us realise that Christ longs to have fellowship with us.

The quiet time.

You cannot afford not to have a quiet time. Make time. Be definite. Early in the day is the best time. If you can arrange to eat three times a day to meet your physical needs, you can arrange a time each day to meet the need of your soul. Start with no less than 15 minutes. Guard the quiet time jealously.

A definite place.

If at all possible find a quiet place to meet with the Lover of your soul. Decide right now where you can have your quiet time with the Lord.

A definite aim.

Your desire is to grow more Christlike through fellowship with God. You want to know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His suffering being made conformable unto His death." (Phi 3:10). Your quiet time should be a time for self-examination, confession and cleansing.

A method.

Your quiet time should have three main ingredients: the word, meditation and prayer.

Questions:

Sin is there for me to forsake?

Promise is there for me to claim?

Example is there for me to follow?

Command is there for me to obey?

Stumbling block or error to avoid?

When you come to a promise, stop and claim it by faith and thank Him for it.

When you come to a command, stop and surrender to His will.

Baptism Lesson 9 Worksheet: Growing through Fellowship with God.

A. True or False. (Please true or false)

- | | True | False |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Part of your prayer time should be secret prayer between you and God. (Matt 6:6) | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Daniel did set aside 3 times a day to commune with God. (Dan 6:10) | _____ | _____ |
| 3. John 4:23 teaches that God seeks true worshippers to worship Him. | _____ | _____ |
| 4. God promised Joshua that his way would be prosperous and he would have good success if he would meditate upon and keep His word (Josh 1:8) | _____ | _____ |
| 5. I Timothy 4:15 teach us that meditation is a waste of time. | _____ | _____ |

B. Match the right bible references to the followings:

The Bible says:

- | | | |
|------------------|---|-------|
| a. Eph 6:18 | 1. commit thy way unto the Lord | _____ |
| b. Prov 15:8,29 | 2. true prayer should be guided by Holy Spirit | _____ |
| c. Jer 29:13 | 3. sin hinders prayer | _____ |
| d. Ps 37:5 | 4. the prayers of the upright are a delight to the Lord | _____ |
| f. Isaiah 59:1,2 | 5. should seek the Lord with your whole heart. | _____ |

C. Fill in the blank.

- In Isaiah 40:29-31, it teaches that God promises those who wait upon Him that He will renew their _____.
- In John 16:13,14 He says it is by the _____ who will teach you and glorify Christ.
- You can sometimes fool men by your deeds but the Holy Spirit can use the Word of God to show you the real _____ and _____ of our heart. (Heb 4:12)
- What four things you must decide on when you start a quiet time? 1. _____
2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____
- How many days have you had a quiet time during the past weeks? _____
How many chapters in the Bible have you read? _____

Baptism Lesson 10 Following God's direction

God's will for you

When you were saved, you became a member of the Body of Christ. (I Cor 12:12, 13). The Spirit of God gives gifts to every one and it is according as God wills. (I Cor 12:11) God promises to guide you. "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye." (Psalm 32:8)

Three steps to guidance.

"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding" (Prov 3:5) "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Prov 3:6)

1. Trust in the Lord with all thine heart.
2. Lean not unto thine own understanding.
3. In all thy ways acknowledge him and He shall direct thy paths.

Three steps to know His will.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." (Rom 12:1) "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Rom 12:2)

1. Present your bodies....unto God.
2. Be not conformed to this world; but
3. Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind that ye may prove what is the good and acceptable will of God.

You may miss God's plan for your life.

God will not force you to fit into His plan. Through sin or neglect, you can miss His first choice for you. His plan is the life of blessing. This happened to king Saul who missed God's will because of disobedience.

Source of guidance

1. The word of God. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." (Ps 119:105). The Bible reveals to us God's will for His people. For example it is always wrong to lie. You do not need to seek for guidance when His will is clearly revealed in His word. It is the final authority.
2. Principles in the word. A decision for almost every situation can be made on these principles. God has promised wisdom to us. "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." (James 1:5).
3. The leading of the Holy Spirit. One of the easiest ways for Him to guide you is through the verses you memorised. They are always with you so He can use them. "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh." (Gal 5:16). There will never be any guidance contrary to the word of God. It will always be in perfect harmony with the word of God or it will not be divine guidance. If you are faithful in the little things God asks you to do, you will become usable for bigger responsibilities. God's work must be done in God's power. This is what God tried to tell Moses. God has often chosen the weak and common things to do His work so that all glory will go to God and not to man.

Baptism Lesson 10 Worksheet: Knowing God's will

A. Please check true or false.

	True	False
1. Man must have guidance from the Lord in order to live a life well pleasing to Him. (Jer 10:23)	_____	_____
2. The Holy Spirit will lead and guide the Christian. (Rom 8:14; John 16:13)	_____	_____
3. In II Samuel 22:31 David says that the way of God is perfect.	_____	_____
4. The Christian's first duty is to obey the king or ruler over him (Acts 5:29)	_____	_____
5. Luke 6:46 teaches that if you call Jesus Lord and claim Him as your Saviour you do all things that He asks.	_____	_____
6. A Christian is supposed to conform his life to the pattern of the world around him. (Rom 12:2)	_____	_____

B. Please match the right bible reference with the followings:

In trying to decide what is the proper thing for you as a Christian to do concerning things not particularly mentioned in the bible, it is sometimes helpful to ask yourself the followings:

a. I Cor 10:31	1. can I do this in the name of Christ	_____
b. Col 3:17	2. does it have the appearance of evil	_____
c. I Thess 5:22	3. will this bring glory to God	_____
d. Rom 14:13	4. should an ambassador do this	_____
e. Col 1:10	5. is this walking worthy of the Lord	_____
f. II Cor 5:20	6. will this cause my brother to stumble.	_____

C. Fill in the blank

- Psalm 119:105 says one source of guidance is the _____
- In Psalm 32:8 God promises that He will _____
- If it is God really guiding you, it will not be contrary to the _____
- Circumstances may seem unreasonable, but if you are in God's will you will be like Joseph and know by the witness in your heart that _____ is with you.
- Have you started a prayer list? _____
- How many days of the past week have you had a quiet time?

Baptism Lesson 11 Witnessing for the Lord

Jesus said, "Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men." (Matt 4:19). They were only required to follow Him. It was His responsibility to make them fishers of men. Our responsibility is to be witnesses to every creature. (Mark 16:15) and to the uttermost part of the earth. (Acts 1:8). This command was given to all believers. Many people try to excuse themselves by saying, "I do not know enough to lead another person to Christ." If you know enough to be saved, you know enough to lead another person to Christ. If you want to be used by God, do not neglect your quiet time and private devotional life. Hide the word of God in you heart. It is the sword of the Spirit. (Eph 6:17).

How shall you start?

1. Ask God to guide you to someone.

Pray for those people around you who are lost. It might be your own family, your neighbours or some whom you work with. Preach the Gospel. The heart of the gospel is a Person and the work He has done for you. It is the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God who died for our sins.....was buried and rose again the third day according to the scriptures. (I Cor 15:3,4). Help people to understand that becoming a Christian is not doing something but is receiving Someone, the Person Jesus Christ.

2. Use the word of God.

The Bible says, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." (I Peter 1:23). "Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?" (Jer 23:29).

3. Trust in the Holy Spirit.

"And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:" (John 16:8). To be effective our words, our thoughts, our attitudes and our plans must be guided and controlled by the Holy Spirit so we can go to the right person, say the right thing in the right way and at the right time. Unless you are led by the Holy Spirit it will be an unfruitful waste of time and effort and might even harm the Lord's work. "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." (John 15:5)

Two main factors for failure in witnessing: 1. No plan 2. Fear of men.

The Gospel plan.

- a. The fact and penalty of sin. "*For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*" (Rom 3:23) "*For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*" (Rom 6:23)
- b. Eternal life is a free gift. Romans tells us that the gift of God is eternal life. (Titus 3:5; Ephesians 2:8,9)
- c. Christ paid the penalty. *Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.* "(I Peter 2:24).
- d. The unbeliever must believe and receive Him as Saviour. "*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*" (John 1:12)
- e. Do try to talk to the person alone. The Lord spoke to Nicodemus alone.
- f. Do use your Bible after you get started.
- g. Do try to make him understand his sin and his need of the Saviour.
- h. Ask the person to repent of his sin and to receive Christ as His Saviour.

Baptism Lesson 11 Worksheet: Witnessing for the Lord.

A. True or false. Please check true or false.

	True	False
1. Only preachers and missionaries should be able to witness for Christ (I Peter 3:15)	_____	_____
2. The Bible teaches in John 14:6 that all religions lead to heaven.	_____	_____
3. Beside a lack of knowledge of the Bible, Christians often fail to witness because they are afraid (Prov 29:25)	_____	_____

B. Please match the right bible references with the followings:

1. Take the message:

a. Mark 16:15	1. to the uttermost part of the earth	_____
b. Acts 1:8	2. to every creature	_____
c. Romans 1:16	3. because we are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation	_____

2. To help you to witness more effectively, you should pray for:

a. Acts 4:29,31	1. compassion	_____
b. Matt 9:36	2. boldness	_____
c. Eph 6:19	3. wisdom	_____
d. James 1:5	4. the utterance or word to speak	_____

C. Fill in the blank

- Romans 10:17 teaches that faith comes by _____ the word of God.
- What is the seed by which people are born again (I Peter 1:23)? _____
- Who has a part to play in the new birth? (Jon 3:16) _____
- How many different kinds of sinners are named in Rev 21:8? _____ Are liars included in this list? _____ Do you know anyone who has not told at least one lie? _____ Do you believe in Ezekiel 18:4? _____ Does everyone needs a Saviour? _____
- What are the main points of the gospel message that they must understand:
 - Romans 3:23 _____
 - Romans 6:23a _____
 - Romans 6:23b _____
 - Galatians 3:13 _____
 - John 1:12 _____
 - I John 5:11-13 _____
- Should you ever argue when trying to witness to someone? _____
- Write your testimony briefly so you can give it in five minutes or less
- Will you pray that God will allow you to witness for Him?
