

1. The Gospel (A New Beginning)
2. Repentance and Forgiveness (A New Freedom)
3. Prayer (A New Communication/Service)
4. Assurance of Salvation (A New Foundation)
5. The Bible (A New Guidebook)
6. Resisting Temptation (A New Challenge)
7. The Holy Spirit (A New Teacher/Helper)
8. The Lordship of Christ (A New Master)
9. Baptism (A New Identity)
10. Church Life (A New Family)
11. Holy Communion (A New Celebration)
12. Tithing (A New Responsibility/Participation)
13. Witnessing (A New Opportunity)
14. Self-affirmation (A New You)
15. Interpersonal Relationships (A New Role/Blessing)
16. Decision-making (A New Standard/Direction)
17. Adversity (A New View)
18. Spiritual gifts (New Abilities/Purposes)
19. Where do I fit in? (A New Plan)

Bible verses sample [biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psa19.7-10;2chr7.14&version=cuvmt;esv](http://biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psa19.7-10;2chr7.14&version=cuvmt;esv)

## **@ 1. The Gospel of Jesus Christ (A New Beginning)**

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.*

*The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. - 2 Corinthians 5:17*

### A. God

1. He is the almighty Creator (Genesis 1 (vv 1, 31); Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 40:12-31)
2. He is merciful (Exodus 34:6; 1 John 4:8b)
3. He is just (Exodus 34:7b)

### B. Man

1. He is an image bearer of God (Genesis 1:26-28; 2:7, 15; Colossians )
2. He is a sinner (Romans 3:23; Genesis 3 (vv8,10))
3. He cannot save himself (Proverbs 14:12 BWay; John 11:43 Lazarus; Ephesians 2:1-5)

### C. Grace

1. God takes initiative (Romans 5:8)
2. Salvation and eternal life are free but costly (Romans 6:23; John 10:11)
3. It is not earned or deserved (Ephesians 2:8,9)

### D. Christ

1. He *is* the infinite God-Man (John 1:1,14; 20:28)
2. He *died to pay* the penalty for our sins and *rose to secure* a place in God's Kingdom for us which **He** offers as a free gift (John 17:2,24)
3. We are to follow in His footsteps (Luke 14:27; 1Peter 2:21)

### E. Faith

1. It is not merely intellectual assent or temporal faith (James 2:19)
2. It is trusting Jesus Christ alone for salvation (Acts 16:31)
3. Jesus Christ is the Pioneer and the Perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:2; 7:25 the High Priest)

## **Our Commitment to Jesus Christ**

A. Transfer our trust to **Him** alone

B. Receive the resurrected and living Christ

C. Receive Christ as our *Savior*

D. Receive Christ as *Lord* of our lives

E. Repent - right from the beginning till we finish our earthly journey

\*

## @ 2. Repentance and Forgiveness (A New Freedom)

Write out and memorize 1 John 1:9

The content of Jesus' message right from the beginning was "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." (Matthew 4:17) The need for repentance is therefore one of the first things a person becomes aware of when confronted with the message of Christ. Repentance is a turning away from one direction or way of life to another. Repentance therefore clearly has two points: 1. To turn away from our sin, evil and the things of this world, and 2. turning to God in the person of Christ. It is through these two actions that one is "born again".

But even as Christians who have turned away from sin and turned to Christ, there will be times when we miss God's perfect will and fail him. But by the grace of God, victory over sin belongs to us. And whenever we sin, Satan takes the opportunity to condemn us and make us think that God hates us. However, God continues to love us and has promised in the above verse that forgiveness would be granted when we confess our sins to him. To confess our sins means to uncover it and call it exactly what God calls it. Forgiveness is granted on the basis of God's mercy when we obey him. An honest confession must include a willingness to forsake the sin (turn from it). God promises not only to forgive us, but also to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1. What does Psalm 86:5 tell us about God's nature?
2. According to Ephesians 1:7, on what basis are we forgiven?
3. What are the two characteristics of God? (memory verse)
4. What are the two things God would do when we confess to Him? (memory verse)
5. According to Romans 6:23, what is the result of sin?
6. According to Romans 12:9, 1 Peter 1:15, what should we do to sinful things?
7. Read Ephesians 4:32, How should we deal with people who have offended us?
8. Should we continue to feel guilty after we have dealt with our sins? (Isaiah 43:25) Why or why not?
9. What happens when we don't confess our sins? (Psalm 66:18)
10. How should we confess our sins? Leviticus 5:5
11. What shouldn't we say about ourselves (1 John 1:8-10)
  - a. (verse 8)
  - b. (verse 9)
  - c. (verse 10)
12. Learn from King David's example:
  - a. What did King David do in Psalm 51?
  - b. Even though he confessed, what happened? (2 Samuel 12:13,14)

\*

### @ 3. Prayer (A New Communication/Service)

Write out and memorize John 16:24

Communication is the key to any relationship, including our relationship with Christ. Our heavenly Father wants to hear from us, but He also wants us to hear from Him. Prayer then is more than just asking for what we want. Nor does it only include telling God what we think of Him and offering Him what He asks of us. Prayer should also be an active listening for His voice to speak to us through His Holy Spirit. *Besides, prayer is not only communication, it is service: to adore and praise the Lord and to pray for others (ref. Psalm 135; Ps. 136; 1Tim.2:1-2,8; Eph. 6:18.)*

Let us first look at how our relationship with God affects our prayer:

1. According to James 5:16, what type of people pray effectively?
2. Read Hebrews 4:14-16. How may we have confidence to draw near to God?
3. According to John 14:14, what must happen before God would work on our behalf?
4. What does praying in Jesus' name mean?

Now let us look at some hindrances in praying to God:

5. What is one reason for unanswered prayer? (James 4:3)
6. What will unconfessed sin do to our prayer? (Psalm 66:18)
7. When will we be forgiven by God? (Matthew 6:14-15)
8. What will keep us from receiving what we pray for? (James 1:6-7)

Effective prayer:

9. When we pray, how does God respond?
  - a. (Jeremiah 33:3)
  - b. (Matthew 7:9-11)
10. What happens when people pray together? (Matthew 18:19)
11. What limits what God can do? (Ephesians 3:20)

Learn from Daniel's example:

12. How often did Daniel pray? (Daniel 6:10)
13. What elements are included in Daniel's prayer? (Daniel 9:4, 5, 18)
  - a. (verse 4)
  - b. (verse 5)
  - c. (verse 18)
14. How does God speak in these passages?
  - a. (1 Kings 19:12,13)
  - b. (1 Samuel 3:1; 3:2-10)
  - c. (Acts 8:29)
  - d. (Acts 9:10-16)

15. What must we do to hear from God? (Psalm 37:7a; 130:5-6)

\*

## @ 4. Assurance of Salvation (A New Foundation)

Write out and memorize 1 John 5:13

Sometimes a new Christian might not "feel" saved. Assurance of salvation is not based on our feelings but scriptural facts. When we doubt our salvation, we would not live up to the grace God has given us. It is important that we dispel these doubts by the promises of God's word.

1. When and why do people doubt their salvation?
2. According to 1 John 5:11-12
  - a. Who gives eternal life?
  - b. Where is eternal life found?
  - c. Who has eternal life?
3. According to Revelation 3:20
  - a. Where is Christ in relation to the believer?
  - b. How does Christ enter a person's life?
  - c. What does God's Word promise that Christ will do?
4. If we trust our feelings rather than God's promise, how would our attitudes and actions be affected?
5. If we put our trust in God despite how we feel, how would our attitudes and actions be affected?

*5-1. Is feeling/emotion per se good or bad? why? (Genesis 1:31; John 11:35; Mark 14:34; 12:29-30)*

*5-2. How to properly handle feeling/emotion? (Psalm 73; Mark 14:36)*

6. According to John 20:31, what is the greatest thing that happens to us when we believe in Jesus Christ?
7. What do the following promises from God's word have in common?  
John 3:16, Acts 16:31, Romans 10:9
8. Read Genesis 12:1-3, 17:15-22, 22:1-19
  - a. What can we expect from God? (22:1)
  - b. How do you think Abraham felt, having to sacrifice his son?
  - c. What kept Abraham moving forward in his faith?
9. What does it mean to "believe in Jesus"?
10. What do these verses have to say about "belief"?
  - a. Matthew 7:21
  - b. James 2:14-26

\*

## @ 5. The Bible (A New Guidebook)

Write out and memorize 2 Timothy 3:16,17

Have you ever tried to go to a strange place without a map or any directions to get there? In our spiritual journey, the Bible is our guidebook. Not only does it give us a map of how to get to heaven, but also shows us some recommended places and a few pits along the way.

1. Why should a Christian study the Bible every day?
2. How does studying the Bible help us?

Let's get acquainted with the Bible:

3 It is a total of \_\_\_\_\_ different books written by about 40 different authors over a period of about 1,500 years.

4. All Scripture is \_\_\_\_\_ by God (memory verse), which means it comes from the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 4:4), and it did not come from \_\_\_\_\_ but from the \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Peter 1:20,21).

5. The word of God is \_\_\_\_\_ (John 17:17)

Why we should study the Bible:

6. We should study the Bible to understand \_\_\_\_\_  
(1 Corinthians 2:12, 13).

7. Romans 15:4 says the Bible was written to teach us so that \_\_\_\_\_.

8. The Bible will help us find out about \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 24:27,44,45).

It is through Bible study that we may grow in Christ:

9. What should we use to fight the Devil's schemes? (Ephesians 6:17)

10. How can scripture memorization help us? (Psalm 119:11)

11. John 14:23, our desire to know God's word is based on our \_\_\_\_\_.

12. Read Psalm 19:7-10 and fill in the blanks in the following table

<u>verse</u>	<u>description</u>	<u>characteristic</u>	<u>function</u>
7a	<i>law</i>	<i>perfect</i>	<i>renews</i>
7b	<i>statutes</i>		
8a			
8b			
9a			
9b			
10			

13. What happens to those who don't do what Jesus says? (Matthew 7:24-27)

\*

## @ 6. Resisting Temptation (A New Challenge)

Write out and memorize 1 Corinthians 10:13

*The new life we have received in Christ Jesus is not to be a passive one. We should be growing in the grace of God becoming more like Christ. On the other hand, from the moment we receive Christ into our lives we begin to face new challenges--challenges to overcome temptations.*

1. According to Ephesians 6:12, what kind of warfare are Christians facing?
2. Why may we overcome? (1 John 4:4)

The nature of temptations (from the memory verse):

3. What is true about every temptation we face?
4. Who gives the victory when tempted?
5. Will God remove temptations?
6. What would he do for those being tempted?
7. What should we do when tempted?
8. According to Hebrews 4:15, what is the difference between temptation and sin?
9. And why would Jesus Christ understand the temptations that we experience?
10. How did Christ overcome temptations? (Luke 4:4)

The sources of temptations:

11. What are major sources of temptations? (James 1:13-14, *Ephesians 2:1-3*)
12. What areas of our lives do temptations target? (1 John 2:15-16)
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
13. What has the death and resurrection of Christ freed us from? (Romans 8:1-3)
14. What does new life in Christ give us power over?
  - a. (Romans 6:22)
  - b. (Romans 8:9-12)
  - c. (1 John 3:8)
15. What can we do to overcome temptation?
  - a. (Matthew 6:9, 13)
  - b. (Psalm 119:9, 11)
  - c. (James 4:7-8)
  - d. (2 Timothy 2:20-22)
  - e. (*Philippians 4:8-9*)

16. *What temptations are you facing? (Galatians 5:19-21)*

Learn from Joseph's example (Genesis 39:6-18, 20; 41:39-42)

\*

## @ 7. The Holy Spirit (A New Teacher/Helper)

Write out and memorize Ephesians 5:18

To talk about the Holy Spirit, we first need to understand that the word "**holy**" means first of all to be set apart. If the temple is holy to God, it is set apart for him. It can not be used for any other purpose. We are called to be "a holy nation", this means we have been set apart to be God's. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to set us apart from the world and sin, to God. The Holy Spirit cleanses us, then shows us and empowers us to walk in His ways.

1. **Before being born again** the Holy Spirit works to (John 16:8):
2. **In being born again** the Holy Spirit (John 6:63):
3. **After being born again** the Holy Spirit: (also #5)
  - a. (Romans 8:16)
  - b. (Ephesians 4:30)
  - c. (Ephesians 5:18)
  - d. (1 John 4:4)
  - e. (*John 16:13-15*)
4. How do we receive the Holy Spirit? (Luke 11:13)
5. Is the Holy Spirit a force or a person? (John 14:16,26; 15:26; 16:7)
6. How do we have **fellowship** with the Holy Spirit? (II Corinthians 13:14)
7. How do we recognize the voice of the Holy Spirit? (Galatians 1:8-9, I Timothy 1:3-5, *John 10:27, 16:13-15 see #3e*)

One area that the Holy Spirit is active in is our moral purity. It is He who sets us apart to God away from sin.

8. Are those who live by the sinful nature pleasing to God ? (Romans 8:5-8) Why or why not?
9. Are we controlled by the sinful nature if we have the Holy Spirit? (Romans 8:9-11)
10. What power will keep us from sin? (Romans 8:11) And how great is that power?
11. The acts or manifestations of the sinful nature are clear, so are the manifestations of those controlled by the Holy Spirit. What are they? (Galatians 5:22-25)

a.	f.
b.	g.
c.	h.
d.	i.
e.	
12. The Lord promises many things concerning the Holy Spirit, what are they? (also #3 & #5)
  - a. (John 14:17)
  - b. (John 14:26)
  - c. (Acts 1:8)

\*

## @ 8. The Lordship of Christ (A New Master)

Write out and memorize Matthew 6:33

Christ gave himself as the **ransom** for our lives. In other words, he paid for our lives with his life. Therefore, when we become a Christian, we change masters and begin to live **under new ownership**. We don't belong to the devil or the world or ourselves any longer. We belong to the Lord Jesus Christ, the son of God and the King of our lives. He becomes our new ruler. Just as he becomes our **Savior** at conversion by freeing us from our sins, he becomes our **Lord** so that we may do God's will and enjoy the new life to the utmost.

1. Why would a person want to be his own master?
  2. Why would a person want to serve two masters? (Matthew 6:22, 23)
  3. What happens when we try to serve more than one master? (Matthew 6:24)
  4. What are some of the results of a divided heart?
    - a. (James 1:8)
    - b. (Romans 7:15)
    - c. (Romans 7:18)
    - d. (Romans 7:19)
    - e. (Romans 7:23; cf. 24-25, *Who can help? Can you identify with Paul?*)
  5. What did Joshua challenge the people to do who were trying to serve two masters? (Joshua 24:14, 15)
  6. How did Elijah deal with those who were undecided about which god to serve? (1 Kings 18:21-37)
  7. How did Jesus deal with the temptation to serve two masters? (Matthew 4:8-10)
  8. How can we keep Christ first in our lives? (memory verse)
  9. What is the benefit of seeking God's kingdom first?
  10. What are some of the priorities in your life that **need to be changed** because of your submission to Christ?
  11. Learn from Paul's example (Philippians 3:7-14):
    - a. How should we count our old loyalties? (verses 7,8)
    - b. What is most important? (verse 10)
    - c. What needs to be done? (verse 13)
    - d. Who is calling us? (verse 14)
- \*



## @ 9. Baptism (A New Identity)

(Hand in the Baptismal Registration form after completing this page.)

Write out and memorize Romans 6:4.

**Baptism** is the outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. A believer of Christ is declared to be a member of the Church, openly by the **sacrament** of baptism, which is also a **seal** of the believer's **union with Christ**.

1. Read Matthew 28:18-20. Whose idea is baptism, and who should be baptized?
2. Does baptism save you from your sins? Then why do we need to get baptized?
3. According to Acts 2:38, 39, what did Peter ask those touched by the gospel to do?
4. Right after Saul (Paul) believed in the Lord, what did Ananias do for him? (Acts 9:18)
5. What is the connection between baptism and Christ's crucifixion and resurrection? (Romans 6:4-7)
6. When temptations come, how would baptism help you overcome them?
7. How would baptism help you lead a Christ-like life?
8. Why do you think some believers are hesitant to be baptized into Christ?
9. Why do you think some baptized Christians are still having trouble leading a Christ-like life?
10. When should a new believer be baptized?
11. Read Acts 19:1-5. Why did Paul baptize those disciples even though they had been baptized before?
12. How many times is a Christian to be baptized in the name of Christ? ( )
13. What is this church's stance on other forms of baptism (other than immersion)?
14. Should a person baptized as an infant be baptized as an adult believer? (Matthew 3:13-15)
15. Why do *you* want to be baptized?
16. Why do *you* not want to be baptized?
17. Learn from the example of the Philippian jailor: (Acts 16:22-34)
  - a. What was the outlook of the jailor before he heard the gospel? (verse 27)
  - b. What was the solution Paul and Silas gave him? (verse 31)
  - c. What kind of changes can you see in the jailor's life? (verse 33)
  - d. What happened immediately?
  - e. What else can you see as changes in the jailor's life? (verse 34)
  - f. What do *you* need to change, in perspective and actions?

\*

## @ 10. Church Life (A New Family)

Write out and memorize Hebrews 10:24,25

The Lord has not placed us into a vacuum when he saved us from our sins. He has admitted us into his eternal kingdom and has made us members of his family, the Church.

1. Identify the seven ways Paul describes the relation between God and Christians (Ephesians 2:19-22):

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.
- f.
- g.

2. What does "church" mean to you?

3. What does the memory verse tell us is the reason believers should assemble together regularly?

- a.
- b.

4. Identify the four things that the church was devoted to in Acts 2:41-47:

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

5. What is the common feature in the following passages?

Acts 1:6	Acts 2:1	Acts 10:27
Acts 12:12	Acts 14:27	Acts 15:30
Acts 20:7,8	1 Corinthians 5:4	

6. How should Christians relate to each other?

- a. (Romans 14:1)
- b. (Romans 15:1)
- c. (1 Corinthians 12:12-27)
- d. (Ephesians 4:15,16)
- e. (Philippians 2:1-4)

7. Why would a Christian not want to go to church?

Some reasons Christians use for not going to church stem from the hypocrisy of those in the church. But the church is not composed of perfect people. At the same point there needs to be order and discipline in the church. We are called to be pure and holy.

8. What can (and should) be done when someone in the church offends you? (Matthew 18:15-17)

9. The punishment in 1 Corinthians 5:9-13 seems harsh, why is it necessary?

10. What must be done to have correct discipline in the church? (1 Corinthians 13:1-13)

11. What is it that distinguishes the church from the rest of the world? (John 13:34-35)

12. Is this love passive in nature? (John 13:34) How then are we to live?

\*

## @ 11. Holy Communion (A New Celebration)

Write out and memorize 1 Corinthians 11:26

After Pentecost the disciples "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer" (Acts 2:42). The "breaking of the bread" has since then been called the Eucharist, Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion, and has always been celebrated in the church. The Lord Jesus Christ instituted the Holy Communion when he fulfilled the Jewish Passover at the Last Supper. The Passover represented a memorial of deliverance from bondage and a perpetual sign of--and renewal of--the covenant God set up with the Israelites.

To the Christian the Holy Communion:

1. is a memorial of the death of Christ,
2. signifies his acceptance of the new covenant which was sealed by the blood of Christ,
3. is an acknowledgment of his participation in the church, and
4. represents and effects the union of Christians.

1. What does "eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood" mean? (John 6:53,54)
2. What happens when they participate in the above eating and drinking?
3. What does 1 Corinthians 10:17 say about Holy Communion concerning Christian unity?
4. According to 1 Corinthians 11:23-29,
  - a. Where did Paul learn about the procedure and significance of Holy Communion?
  - b. What is the meaning of the bread?
  - c. What is the meaning of the cup?
  - d. What should be the participant's attitude when receiving the elements?
  - e. What warning did Paul give concerning the receiving of Holy Communion?

During Holy Communion, the participant is not actually ingesting the body and blood of Jesus Christ, and the substances of the bread and grape juice have not been changed. But by faith the participant enters into a special spiritual union of his/her soul with the glorified Christ. Through Holy Communion the members of the church understand and experience the reality and depth of their unity with Christ, and find strength in Christ and each other through their mutual sharing of gifts and burdens.

5. Learn from the example of the first Christians (Acts 2:46,47):
  - a. What can you say about the atmosphere when they broke bread together?
  - b. What happened to the size of the Church?
  - c. What could be the correlation between the participation in Holy Communion and the growth of the church?

\*

## @ 12. Tithing (A New Responsibility/Participation)

Write our and memorize Romans 12:1

Financial offering is a result of our understanding that everything we have is given by God. It is also a way for believers to support and participate in God's ministry--a privilege of God's people.

1. Read Genesis 4:1-7, the first recorded offering made to God. (ref. Hebrews 11:4)
  - a. What did Cain give? Abel?
  - b. Why was Abel's offering more acceptable to God?
  - c. What difference was there in the brother's attitudes?
  
2. Read Genesis 14:17-20, the first recorded tithing (giving 10% of what one has gained).
  - a. Why did Abraham give to Melchizedek?
  - b. Was it required or voluntary giving?

3. There were three different tithings in the Law of Moses, complete the following table

reference:	purpose:	today's application:
Leviticus 27:30-33 Numbers 18:21-24		ref. 1 Corinthians 9:4-12
Deuteronomy 14:22,23		ref. Philippians 4:12
Deuteronomy 14:28,29		

4. From Deuteronomy 12:6; 16:10,16,17, what other offerings were to be given to God?
5. What is said about the amounts and attitudes in these offerings?
6. In Luke 21:1-4, Jesus praised the woman for her offering. How much did she give?
7. In Acts 4:32, how did the early Christians treat their properties?
8. In Acts 5:1-11, why was the couple's offering not good?
9. How does paying taxes affect our financial giving to the church? (Matthew 22:21)
10. What is the reason you give money to the church?
11. How much do you think God wants you to give?
12. What can we learn about financial giving from Romans 12:1,2; 1 Chronicles 29:5, 14; 2 Corinthians 9:7-12?
13. Is this all that God wants of us--to give financially?
14. For one week, what is a tithe of time that you are awake?

\*

## @ 13. Witnessing (A New Opportunity)

\* Hand in the Testimony Worksheet next time

Write out and memorize **Acts 1:8**

If we ate in a good restaurant, we'd introduce it to our friends. If we found a short-cut to go to school, we'd show it to our classmates. Now we have found forgiveness and eternal life in Christ Jesus. Naturally, we should tell others how they may receive God's salvation, too. Yet, most of us might feel inhibited sharing the gospel.

1. What did the Lord ask us to be in Acts 1:8?
2. How would you define "witness"?
3. How may a new believer overcome fear when he/she share his/her testimony with others?
4. According to Romans 10:13-15, what needs to happen before a person may be saved?
5. According to Ezekiel 3:18,19, what is the consequence for the believer who fails to witness for the Lord?
6. According to Luke 15:10, what is one of the reasons for celebration in heaven?
7. What is the basis of effective witnessing? (Matthew 5:16)
8. Where may we get the power as Jesus' witnesses? (memory verse)
9. What are the main points that should be included in the presentation of the gospel? (compare the outline of the gospel in lesson 1, "*The Gospel of Jesus Christ (A New Beginning)*")
10. What is the best time for us to share the gospel with others?
  - a. In John 4:5-7, what were the conditions when Jesus talked with the Samaritan woman?
  - b. Where did Paul meet people and share the gospel in Acts 17:17; 20:20?
  - c. How long did Andrew wait before he brought his brother Simon to Jesus? (John 1:41)
  - d. In Acts 5:42, what did the Christians do?
11. Learn from Philip's example (Acts 8:26-40): **\*\*\* inductive Bible study \*\*\***
  - a. What is the role of the Holy Spirit? (verse 26)
  - b. What is Philip's attitude? (verse 27)
  - c. How did Philip relate to the Ethiopian? (verse 30)
  - d. Can you tell Philip's readiness? (verse 35)
  - e. How did the event end? (verse 38)
  - f. *What and how can I apply what I just learned?*

\*

## @ 14. Self-Affirmation (A New You)

Write out and memorize 2 Corinthians 5:17

Human beings have been created in God's image, we are meant to reflect God's character. But, sin has changed the image of God in us by polluting our nature and ruling in our hearts. God has bought us back for a very precious price--the blood of his Son Jesus Christ--so that we may manifest his glory again. Therefore, you are special in God's eyes. You did not begin your Christian life by reformation, but by transformation, because you have received new life in the Lord. This **new life enables** you to think like Christ and to act like Christ. That's why a believer is called a Christian--one who belongs to Christ!

1. The memory verse says we are a "new creation" in Christ. What changes are evident in your life (personality, thinking, behaviors) since you became a Christian? What are some of the brand new things that you have experienced as a Christian?
2. What are some of the old things that you must discard?
3. What are some of the new things that you want to add to your life?
4. In 1 John 3:1, we are called the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. What does that mean in terms of our status and our relationship with the rest of the world?
5. Name several things that happen as a result of our being in Christ? (Ephesians 1:7-8)
6. What does Colossians 2:9-10 say we are given when we are in Christ?
7. In 1 Peter 1:3-4, what kind of inheritance have we received from God?
8. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.
  - a. What kind of ministry have we been given? (verse 18)
  - b. How are you going to do this ministry in your daily life?
  - c. What position are we in because of this ministry that is given to us? (verse 20)
  - d. How should you behave as an ambassador of Christ?
  - e. How do you feel knowing that you represent Christ in you life?
9. Learn from the example of Gideon (Judges 7:9-15)
  - a. Was Gideon a brave man to begin with? (verses 10-11)
  - b. How did God help him to become a courageous leader? (verses 13-14)
  - c. How did Gideon respond when he heard the dream and its interpretation? (verse 15)
  - d. What are you going to do to live up to the name "Christian"?
10. *What does Galatians 2:20 teach about the new you? Are you to live for yourself or for the Lord? Why?*

\*

## @ 15. Interpersonal Relationships (A New Role/Blessing)

Write out and memorize John 13:34-35

No one lives in a vacuum. The quality of our lives is greatly affected by how we relate to people around us. A healthy relationship usually enhances a person's happiness. Just as we have received love, forgiveness and acceptance freely from God through Christ, we must also give them to others freely.

1. How has becoming a Christian affected your relations with others?
2. Compare your interpersonal relationships before and after believing in Jesus:

<u>Before</u>	<u>After</u>
a.	a.
b.	b.
c.	c.
d.	d.
3. Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-16.
  - a. What does it mean to be "yoked together"?
  - b. What kind of relationships are undesirable for Christians?
  - c. Do you have any relationship that you should leave?
  - d. Does that mean we should have no dealings with non-believers? (1 Corinthians 5:9-10)
  - e. How can we remain in the world without becoming one of the world? (1 John 4:4-6)
4. Look at the memory verse again.
  - a. How should Christians treat each other?
  - b. What is the extent of the love between Christians?
  - c. List some of the ways that Christ has loved us.
  - d. Explain how you should love other similarly.
5. Can unpleasant things happen in relationships between Christians? (Acts 15:36-40)
6. Why are we able to love other? (1 John 4:20)
7. Can a Christian not love other Christians? (1 John 4:21)
8. Read John 13:37-38. How are actions better than words?
9. According to John 13:35, how would the world know that we are Christians?
10. How did Barnabas demonstrate his love for Paul (Saul)?
  - a. (Acts 9:26-27)
  - b. (Acts 11:25-26)

\*

## @ 16. Decision-Making (A New *Standard/Direction*)

Write out and memorize Proverbs 3:5-6

We make a lot of decisions every day. We can either glorify God or gratify ourselves in each of these decisions, no matter how big or small the matter is. Whether we are a victorious Christian or not depends on the choices we make, not the circumstances we are in.

1. What is the greatest decision you are faced with today?
2. How can you glorify God in this decision-making?
3. What are we told to do in the memory verses?
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
4. What would God do for us then?
5. Why shouldn't we try to make decisions on human reasoning alone? (Isaiah 55:8-9)
6. What warning is given to those who trust in man? (Jeremiah 17:5-6)
7. What advantage is there for those who trust in the Lord? (Jeremiah 17:7-8)
8. What happens to those who trust in the Lord?
  - a. (Psalm 32:10)
  - b. (Isaiah 41:10)
9. How would the Holy Spirit help us make the right decisions? (John 16:13)
10. Romans 12:1-2 shows us three steps in knowing God's will. What are they?
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
11. How can you apply these three steps in your life?
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
12. What do these verses tell us about making right decisions?
  - a. (James 1:5)
  - b. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
  - c. (Hebrews 13:17)
  - d. (1 Corinthians 10:31-32)
  - e. (1 Peter 5:6-7)
13. An important part of question 12 is having fellowship with the Holy Spirit and knowing His voice--how do we do that? (Go back to *Lesson 7* and review questions 5-7) (See also Psalm 37:7a and 130:5-6)

\*



## @ 17. Adversity (A New View)

Write out and memorize Romans 8:28(~29)

Pain and suffering have become part of human life ever since the fall of mankind. Therefore, bad things often happen to good people. Believing in Jesus does not mean that we are exempt from the troubles of this world. But our faith in Christ gives us a new source of strength to overcome hardship.

1. What is the biggest trouble that you have gone through?
2. How has God used suffering in your life to help your spiritual growth?
3. Read Genesis 1:27-28. What were the original blessings for human beings?
4. What are the results of sin? (Genesis 3:16-19)
5. What is granted to Christians along with their faith in Christ? (Philippians 1:29)
6. What is one reason for Christians' sufferings? (2 Timothy 3:12)
7. What should be the Christian's attitude in difficult times? (James 1:2)
8. What should we do during affliction? (Psalm 119:67)
9. How are we supposed to comfort those who are afflicted? (2 Corinthians 1:3-7)
10. What was the result of Paul's adversity? (Philippians 1:12)
11. What is the relation between present suffering and eternal glory? (2 Corinthians 4:17)
12. What will we get when the earthly suffering is over? (2 Corinthians 5:1)
13. How are present sufferings compared to future glory? (Romans 8:18)
14. What effect will our freedom in Christ have on the rest of creation? (Romans 8:19-21)
15. Why should we not be discouraged by adversity? (Romans 8:31)
16. What are your answers for the questions in Romans 8:35?
17. What can separate us from God's love? (Romans 8:38-39) Why?
18. What did God promise in Hebrews 13:5b-6?
19. With these promises of God, how are you going to respond to adversity?
20. Read Romans 12:19. Why shouldn't we take revenge?
21. Learn from the example of the apostles: (Acts 5:17-42)
  - a. What was the reason they were flogged? (verse 40)
  - b. What was their attitude after being persecuted? (verse 41)
  - c. Did they stop doing God's will because of adversity? (verse 42)

\*

## @ 18. Spiritual Gifts (New Abilities/Purposes)

Write out and memorize Romans 12:6

Every Christian by virtue of the gift of the Spirit also has at his disposal one or more of the spiritual gifts. Every Christian does not however have the same gift(s). These gifts are not for our entertainment, but for the building up of the body.

1. What are the gifts of the Spirit from the 3 major passages?

Romans 12:6-8	1 Corinthians 12:4-11	Ephesians 4:11
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.
5.	5.	5.
6.	6.	
7.	7.	
	8.	
	9.	

2. Are there other gifts not listed in these 3 lists? if so what are they?

3. What is the difference between a gift and a natural ability? (1 Corinthians 12:7)

4. What is the difference between gifts of the Spirit and *fruit* of the Spirit? (Galatians 5:22-23)

5. What is the purpose of the gifts? (1 Corinthians 12:7)

6. How then should we use them?

- a. (Romans 12:3)
- b. (1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13)
- c. (1 Corinthians 14:26c)

7. How are the more visible gifts (tongues, prophecy, etc.) to be used? (1 Corinthians 14:26-33)

8. Does giftedness necessarily mean holiness? (Judges 16:1)

9. How do I determine which spiritual gifts I have? (James 1:5; John 16:13)

\*

## @ 19. Where Do I Fit In? (A New Plan)

**1 Peter 2:9** *But you are a **chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.***

To be a Christian is to be a part of the body of Christ. "But, where do I fit in?" The key to fitting in is God's calling on your life--"Where does He want me to be?" There are five areas of our lives that we must concern ourselves with: 1. Self before God. 2. Self in the family. 3. Self in the family of God. 4. Self in vocation. 5. Self in the world at large. Each of these areas must be in line for the whole to "Fit". Let us consider each part separately.

**Self before God**--Are you right with God? Are you in close fellowship with Him? To understand our relationship with Him, see: The Gospel (*Lesson 1*), Repentance and Forgiveness (2), Prayer (3), The Holy Spirit (7), The Lordship of Christ (8), and Baptism (9). Each of these shows how we are to be close to God, communing with Him constantly, and obeying all He commands us.

**Self in the family**--As we are members of an earthly family, we will first have to be persons of integrity in Christ. This means we will have to act honestly, faithfully upholding our role in the family.

Ephesians 5:22-6:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7; 2 Corinthians 12:14; 1 Timothy 5:4,8.

1. According to the above passages, what is the role of the:

- A. Husband
- B. Wife
- C. Children

**Self in the family of God**--What role does God want me to play within the body? This is where special giftedness and God's calling through the Holy Spirit separate us for our own tasks.

2. What is (are) your gift(s)?

Don't be disturbed if you don't know them! Learn them through the service God calls you to. How do we know what God is calling us to? Go to him in Prayer (3), paying close attention to the Holy Spirit's (7) leading through your Decision Making (16) process. I would suggest that each person would start in the most basic and yet most vital role, that of priest--making intercession for one another. Then as needs arise in the church, seek out ways of meeting them (look first to the church's leadership for directions--they may already be working to meet that need). For more possibilities of service, see Church Life (10). WARNING: Don't do a job simply because it needs to get done. Instead ask yourself, "Is God calling **me** to do this?"

### **Self in vocation**

3. Is this employment (present or future) pleasing to God morally?

4. Even moral employment can be done immorally. Are their areas of potential abuse common to this type of work?

5. Despite being morally appropriate, is this where God wants me to be?

6. Am I seeking this employment for the right reasons?

7. What are some possible positive benefits of this employment?

8. What are some possible negative consequences of this employment?

### **Self in the world at large**

9. Why are we here?

- a. Matthew 5:13-16
- b. 2 Corinthians 5:18-20

10. Are you acting in accordance with 2 Corinthians 5:18-20?

\*@

**Baptismal Registration Form**  
Long Island Abundant Life Church

1. If you were to die today, would you be certain you have eternal life and would go to heaven?
  
2. If you were now standing at the gate of heaven, and God were to ask you why you have eternal life and why He should let you enter into His heaven, what would you say to Him?
  
3. Why do you want to be baptized?
  
4. Please describe briefly how you were found by the Lord Jesus Christ and why you submit your life to Him? (tell your story/testimony)
  
5. Describe your relationship with Jesus Christ (What it is like and what is your participation in it).
  
6. Are you a regular participant in the life of Abundant Life Church and who are the people who could confirm this?

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Chinese name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #, email: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of baptismal candidate: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_