

BOOKLET ONE >

FOUNDATIONS



**“If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?”
(Psalm 11:3)**

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PUBLICATION**

Explanation...

Living a victorious Christian life begins by laying a firm foundation. As every architect knows, *the height of the building depends on the strength of the foundation.*

The following pointers will help you get the most out of this booklet.

- This material requires that you read various verses from your Bible. ***Please make the effort to read the verses required; you'll be amazed at what God teaches us!*** Locate your contents page in your Bible to more easily surf from verse to verse. There is also a useful Bible location index* down the left hand column of every page for your benefit. We recommend that you use a NIV or NKJV translation.

*The locator works like this:

- 1> It begins by defining whether the book you require is in the Old Testament (OT) or the New Testament (NT).
 - 2> Then it will show which two books come before and which two books come after the book you need to locate.
- Work from question to question without getting side-tracked by secondary questions which are bound to rise as you read the passages from your Bible. Make a note of these questions for later study rather than getting stuck in them.
 - Ask someone who is more mature in their faith to be your prayer-partner and coach as you work through this material. Share with them your findings, your thoughts and your questions. There is a helpful “Heart-to-heart” section after each part to aid this relationship.
 - Consider following this first booklet by working through **BOOKLET TWO> DISCIPLINES** to continue growing in your faith. We also recommend that you consider doing the first step of the Equipping Course entitled **FOUNDATIONS**. It is a far more comprehensive look at the foundations outlined in this booklet.

Contents...

Part 1	Sin & Salvation3
	Topic 1 – The Origin of Sin	... 3
	Topic 2 – The Results of Sin	... 4
	Topic 3 – The Solution to Sin	... 5
	Topic 4 – The Victory Over Sin	... 6
Part 2	Lordship & Obedience8
	Topic 1 – Lordship	... 8
	Topic 2 – Lawlessness	... 9
	Topic 3 – Obedience	...10
	Topic 4 – Worldliness	...12
Part 3	Repentance & Faith16
	Topic 1 – The Kingdom of God	...16
	Topic 2 – Repentance	...17
	Topic 3 – Faith	...19
	Topic 4 – Baptisms	...21
Part 4	Mission & Destiny28
	Topic 1 – God’s Purpose	...28
	Topic 2 – Our Mission	...31
	Topic 3 – God’s Church	...34

Part 1...

Sin & Salvation

It does not take a rocket scientist to view our world and see the effects of sin. Despite our potential to “do good,” mankind consistently uses his potential for selfish gain and seems bent on “doing bad”. Even outstanding individuals like Mother Teresa and Billy Graham have acknowledged their shortcomings and have found salvation in Jesus Christ.

Science also teaches us that from day one, a new born baby attempts to manipulate the adults in their world. As every parent knows so well, we do not need to teach our children to do “wrong;” they find it easy to do so, instead we have to teach them to do “right”.

Topic 1 – The Origin of Sin

OT
Gen
Exo
Lev
Num

1. God made mankind with the precious *gift of choice*. What was God’s command to Adam & Eve?

Genesis 2:16, 17

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.....
.....

2. How did Adam & Eve respond to God’s command?

Genesis 3:1-10

.....
.....

3. Who tempted Eve?

Genesis 3:1

.....
.....

4. Adam & Eve chose to disobey God. Rather than eat from the countless number of fruit trees provided by God, they used their gift of choice to eat from the only one He asked them not to eat from. Compare Adam & Eve’s reaction to their sin in contrast to *God’s response toward them*.

Genesis 3:7-10

.....
.....
.....

Topic 2 – The Results of Sin

OT
Ecc
Song
Isa
Jer
Lam

1. What does sin do to mankind’s relationship with God?

Isaiah 59:1, 2

.....
.....

2. **Sin is a condition of heart that centres around selfishness** – as the word “sin” [s – I –n] itself suggests. Jot down some of the characteristics of sin from the passage below:

Romans 3:9-18

.....
.....
.....

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk
Joh
Act

3. Even though we are all capable of doing “good,” **our fallen nature is contrary to God**. In the movie War of the Roses, Danny Devito plays a divorce attorney attempting to urge a client to reconcile with his wife. He says: “We came from mud. Even after billions of years, at our core we’re still mud. Every divorce attorney knows that!”

Who does the Bible reveal has sinned?

Romans 3:23

.....

Rom
1 Cor
2 Cor

4. What does sin result in?

Romans 6:23

.....

...

...

...

...

...

3 Joh
Jud

5. What immediately follows after death?

Hebrews 9:27

.....

Rev

6. We all have a void in our hearts that only God can fill (Ecclesiastes 3:11). However our sinful nature has us seeking to selfishly fill this void with other “things”. It is our sin – **and our choice to continue living selfishly** – that separates us from God. Although God does not damn anyone to hell – He has made every provision for us to choose life in Him – He has made it clear that those who choose to live selfishly will, by their own choices, be eternally separated from His Presence. How does the Bible describe eternal judgment?

Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:11-15; 21:8

.....
.....

Topic 3 – The Solution to Sin

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk
Joh
Act
Rom
1 Cor
2 Cor
Gal
Eph
Phi
Col

1. What is the gift of God?
Romans 6:23
.....
.....
2. Eternal life is not just something that happens when we die. Eternal life begins now...the moment that we give ourselves to Him. ***Eternal life begins now – as we experience His life in this life – and continues forever.*** How did Jesus define eternal life?
John 17:3
.....
.....
3. As we have already learnt, the penalty of sin is death. Thus, ***God chose to send His Son Jesus to die for us...*** to pay our penalty. What motivated God to do this?
John 3:16
.....
.....
4. Jesus was horrifically crucified on the cross, portrayed so graphically in Mel Gibson’s movie, “The Passion”. What did His death accomplish?
Romans 5:9
.....
Ephesians 1:7
.....
2 Corinthians 5:21
.....
5. ***The solution to our sin – yours and mine – was the selfless sacrifice of Jesus on the cross of punishment.*** What privilege do we, who believe in Him, now have?
John 1:12
.....
.....
6. If we have the privilege of having a new identity as the children of God, what word then defines God’s core identity?
John 14:6
.....
.....

Topic 4 – The Victory over Sin

NT
 Mat
 Mar
 Luk
Joh
 Act
 Rom
 1 Cor
2 Cor
 Gal
Eph
 Phi
 Col
 1 The
 2 The
 1 Tim
 2 Tim
Tit
 Phm
 Heb

1. Question: How does someone become a “sinner”?
Answer: We don’t become a “sinner” by robbing a bank or thinking dirty thoughts. We become a “sinner” by being *born*! We are born into sin; and therefore, commit sins.
Question: How does someone become “saved”?
Answer: John 3:3 (Jesus’ answer in His own words)

2. It should be clear then that we are not saved by doing good works. We are saved by being “born *again*,” a phrase that means to be “born of His Spirit”. How does the Bible explain it:
 Ephesians 2:8, 9

3. Make this mental heart once and for all: we cannot do anything to help ourselves or save ourselves from sin. Religion (legalism) is spelt “DO” but Christianity is spelt “DONE”!
 The world’s religions teach that we have to “DO” – we have to earn salvation – but the Bible teaches us that salvation is not dependent on what we have or have not done; it is dependent on what Jesus has already “DONE” on the cross! What does God’s grace teach us now?
 Titus 2:11, 12

4. Grace can be understood by the acrostic: G-R-A-C-E = “God’s Resources At Christ’s Expense”. Grace is God’s *enabling favour*. What does the Bible say of those who are “**in Christ**”?
 2 Corinthians 5:17, 21

Heart-to-heart...

Think about your life in three components: before you met Jesus, how you met Jesus and since you met Jesus. Choose three words under each category to describe your life. Discuss these words with your coach.

Before you met Jesus

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

How you met Jesus

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Since you met Jesus

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Part 2...

Lordship & Obedience

Jesus is Saviour and Lord. We cannot have one without the other...we cannot claim Jesus as our Saviour until we submit to Him as Lord. And let us be clear: although the word "Lord" has lost some of its meaning today; it means, "Absolute Ruler; Supreme Controller". To receive the blessings of salvation requires that we surrender to Jesus as our Absolute Ruler and Supreme Controller.

A qualification is important. To submit to Jesus' Lordship does not mean that we become perfect over night. (Sad but true!) Rather to submit to His Lordship refers to having an attitude of complete surrender and total obedience to Him. We sing, "I surrender ALL" not "I surrender 80%! Jesus is either Lord of all or not Lord at all.

Topic 1- Lordship

- 1. What did Peter declare about Jesus? Acts 2:36

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk
Joh

- 2. What does the Bible reveal about Jesus? Philippians 2:6-11

Act
Rom
1 Cor
2 Cor
Gal
Eph

- 3. Every knee will bow...our privilege is to do so now willingly. In his letter to the Romans, Paul takes the first eleven chapters to explain the awesomeness of God's grace in spite of the awfulness of our sin. In the light of God's majesty, what does he urge us to do? Romans 12:1

Phi
Col
1 The

- 4. Who did Jesus say would not enter His Kingdom? Matthew 7:21-23

.....
.....
.....

Topic 2 – Lawlessness

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk
Joh
Act
Rom
1 Cor
2 Cor
Gal
Eph
Phi
Col
1 The
2 The
1 Tim
2 Tim
Tit
Phm
Heb
Jam
1 Pet
2 Pet
1 Joh
2 Joh
3 Joh

1. Lawlessness means, “to be anti-authority” or “to be anti-law”. It describes someone who refuses to submit to authority, and the Bible reveals that it characterizes those who refuse to surrender to Jesus’ Lordship. We may say, “But I’m not a rebel against the government...I’m not an anarchist”. However, how does Jesus contrast a lawless person with one who submits to His Lordship?
Matthew 7:21-27 (especially compare verses 23 & 26 with 21 & 24)
.....
.....
2. What did John say?
1 John 2:4
.....
.....
3. Biblically, the spirit of lawlessness is when we choose to do our will rather than His will. For this reason, Jesus taught about carrying our cross. What did Jesus say this involves?
Matthew 16:24
.....
.....
4. Carrying our cross involves *self-denial*. To carry our cross means that whenever our will crosses His will; we are to choose to do His will over our will. This is not a popular idea in a world that encourages *self-indulgence* at every turn. However, when we indulge ourselves we weaken our resolve and become spiritually flabby. But choosing God’s will over our will – self-denial – strengthens our resolve and prepares us for victory. What analogy does Paul use to speak about spiritual fitness?
1 Corinthians 9:24-27
.....
.....
5. God does not want to break or crush our will. Our will is a gift from God that He desires to temper (sharpen) so that we can use this gift to will to do His will. Victory in Christ requires us taking responsibility for our life by the grace God faithfully gives us. What does Paul say about God’s role and our responsibility?
Philippians 2:12, 13
.....
.....

Topic 3 – Obedience

NT

Mat

Mar

Luk

Joh

Act

Rom

1 Cor

2 Cor

Gal

Eph

Phi

Col

1 The

2 The

1 Tim

2 Tim

Tit

Phm

Heb

Jam

1 Pet

2 Pet

1 Joh

2 Joh

3 Joh

1. According to Jesus, what reveals our love for Him?

John 14:15

.....

2. Jesus did not leave us to figure this out alone. Who did He promise to assist us in this journey of obedience?

John 14:16, 17

.....

.....

3. The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity, or as the Bible calls it the “**Godhead**” (Colossians 2:9). God is One yet reveals Himself as three distinct Persons: the Father, the Son and the Spirit. One way to think of the Trinity is to consider a triangle. A triangle is one shape yet has three distinct angles; if you remove one angle, you no longer have a triangle.

Victorious living is not possible without the Presence of the Holy Spirit – the Spirit of Jesus – in our lives. What is the link between the Holy Spirit and obedience?

Acts 5:32

.....

.....

4. With the enabling power of the Holy Spirit we are to follow our Lord as His disciples. A disciple is a learner, one who follows and applies the teaching of his Lord. Here is a vital point: ***Obedience is not measured by what we know, but what we apply.*** What does James exhort us to do and why?

James 1:21-25

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.....

.....

OT
Est
Job
Psa
Pro
Ecc

5. Religion is all about trying to appease a demanding deity. Christianity is all about the sublime privilege of bringing pleasure to the heart of our Father. This is such a key thought. We are not to **obliging** obey God in the hope we appease Him and earn His favour. No! We have His favour because of Jesus Christ, and now we can – through our **willing** obedience – delight the heart of God.

What did the psalmist say?

Psalm 149:4

.....
.....

Topic 4 – Worldliness

NT
 1 Cor
 2 Cor
 Gal
 Eph
Phi
 Col
 1 The
 2 The
1 Tim
 2 Tim
 Tit
 Phm
 Heb
Jam
 1 Pet
 2 Pet
1 Joh
 2 Joh
 3 Joh

1. The Bible teaches us to shun worldliness. What does James say about being a friend of the world and how does he teach us to abandon it?

James 4:4, 6-10

.....

2. What did John say about worldliness?

1 John 2:15-17

.....

3. So what is worldliness? Rather than drawing up a list of “do’s” and “don’ts” – what legalism would do – the Bible teaches that worldliness is the **values of the world system** that are opposed to God’s values. Let us consider some examples:

- Individualism

The world champions proud individualism, expressed in songs like; “I did it my way” (Frank Sinatra), “It’s my life” (Bon Jovi) and the anthem of our age, “Look after number one”. The Bible teaches that even though each individual person is precious and unique, living an individualistic life is a selfish way to live; a way of life that uses others for personal gain. God’s value of **selfless servanthood** emphasizes our responsibility to our neighbour. How does the Bible teach us to live?

Philippians 2:3, 4

.....

- Materialism

The world encourages materialism, captured in phrases like; “time is money,” “keep up with the Jones” and the distinction between the “haves” and the “have nots”. The world teaches us to use people to acquire things; the Bible teaches us to use things to bless people. God’s value of **faithful stewardship** stresses that everything we have are gifts we are to use for His glory and in the service of others. How does the Bible teach us to live?

1 Timothy 6:6-12

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NT
Mat
 Mar
 Luk
 Joh
 Act
 Rom
1 Cor
2 Cor
 Gal
 Eph
 Phi
 Col
 1 The
 2 The
 1 Tim
 2 Tim
 Tit
 Phm
 Heb
 Jam
 1 Pet
 2 Pet
 1 Joh
 2 Joh
 3 Joh

- Sensualism

The world teaches us to “do what feels good” as long as it “makes us happy”. We are easily led to believe that if we don’t indulge our every whim then there is something wrong with us! God’s value of **self-denial** teaches us to honour God with our desires and to live to please Him. It is only by denying the urge to indulge ourselves that we enjoy true freedom and joy in the Lord. How does the Bible teach us to live?

1 Corinthians 6:18-20

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.....

Can you think of other values of the world that are contrary to the values of God’s Word?

.....

.....

4. To avoid worldliness, we do not have to become a hermit and distance ourselves from reality. However the Bible does teach us to avoid the **worldly influence** of worldly people.

What does the Bible teach?

1 Corinthians 15:33

.....

.....

2 Corinthians 6:14-18

.....

.....

5. While we avoid the worldly influence of others we should continue to build meaningful relationships with them in order to be a godly influence to them. The key: live a life of conviction and show non-judgmental love.

1. Heart Conviction

We avoid worldliness by living by conviction, nurturing a hunger for holiness. We must ask ourselves: *Do I bend my convictions to suit my circumstances; or do I stand firm in my circumstances based on the strength of my convictions?*

What did Jesus teach about living a life of conviction and what did He promise about having a pure heart that desires godliness?

Matthew 5:6, 8

.....

.....

.....

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk

2. Accepting Love

In an episode of the Simpsons, Bart’s religious neighbours return from a church camp. When Homer asks them how it went, the father replies: “It was great...we learnt to be judgmental”. Unfortunately this tends to be the perception some believers portray.

Avoiding worldliness does not mean we become judgmental of others; that was not the life Jesus modeled! ***Even though He separated Himself from the value systems of the world, Jesus never separated Himself from the opportunity to serve others.*** Here is the crucial point: being a godly person means that I am becoming a better person than I was; it does not mean that I think of myself as a better person than others!

We must be true to our convictions yet not judge others based on our convictions! What did Jesus say about being judgmental?

Matthew 7:1-5

.....
.....

Heart-to-heart...

Add your own thoughts to the list of value systems of the world in the first column. Write down in your own words, in the second column, what you think the Bible's contrasting values may be.

The World's Value Systems

1. Individualism
2. Materialism
3. Sensualism
- 4.
- 5.

God's Value Systems

1. Selfless servanthood
2. Faithful stewardship
3. Self-denial
- 4.
- 5.

Discuss your thoughts with your coach and prayer-partner, acknowledging where you feel you are influenced more by the world's values than God's values. Discuss ways that you can, by the enabling power of the Holy Spirit, break this influence and live your life in God's value systems.

Part 3...

Repentance & Faith

Following Christ is a way of life. Submitting under His loving Lordship requires swimming upstream to the value systems of the world. It requires making a decisive break with the old way of thinking and living to instead live for the King and His Kingdom. However, we do not do so to earn God's blessing; we give our lives to Him because we already have His blessing. *We live for Him because He died for us!*

In encountering His saving grace, we do not become instantly perfect (often to our shock and horror!); but we are now willing to be perfected by the transforming power of God's Spirit. Our core responses to God's awesome grace are captured in two words: repentance and faith.

Topic 1 – The Kingdom of God

OT

Pro
Ecc
Son

1. What did Jesus declare was at hand?

Mark 1:15

.....

Isa

Jer
Eze

2. *The Kingdom of God is the government of God*; where the King rules and reigns. Jesus declared that a new order, a new regime, a new way of living was at hand because He, the King, had come! The prophet Isaiah foresaw the coming King. What did He say about the Kingdom of God?

Isaiah 9:6, 7

.....

Mar

Luk

Joh

Act

Rom

1 Cor

2 Cor

3. What did Jesus teach about our responsibility to the Kingdom of God?

Matthew 6:9, 10

.....

Matthew 6:33

.....

4. What is the fruit of living of living in the Kingdom (government) of God?

Romans 14:17

.....

5. What two responses are required to enter the Kingdom of God?

Mark 1:15

.....

Topic 2 – Repentance: turning from sin

Repentance means that we turn from sin and our selfish living. It does not mean that everything changes all at once, *but it means that we are willing to allow everything to change over time.*

1. What pictures spring to mind when you think of the word “repentance”? Mad prophets of doom? Actually, the word repentance literally means a *change of mind* and involves a *change of direction*. Thus it means, “to turn” and requires a 180% change or turn in our view of...
 - GOD – FROM a distant, hard and cruel being TO a loving, close and approachable Father.
 - SIN – FROM a casual and comfortable companion we accept will be part of our journey TO a crime against our Father that we detest and forsake.
 - PEOPLE – FROM categories of those who we like because they are “like us” and others who we bear with and tolerate TO precious and unique individuals who are the object of our Father’s love.
 - THINGS – FROM objects that we use to define our identity and satisfy our cravings TO gifts that we are to steward to bless others with.
 - OURSELVES – FROM self-obsession (where we trivialize or idolize ourselves) TO view ourselves as God sees us: valuable and precious!

How does this differ from your previous concept of repentance?

.....
.....

2. What happens when we repent and turn from sin?

Acts 3:19

.....
.....

NT

Mat

Mar

Luk

Joh

Act

Rom

1 Cor

2 Cor

Gal

Eph

3. Repentance involves four things:

- 3.1 Conviction of sin

Who did Jesus say convicts us of our sin and need for God?

John 16:7, 8

.....

- 3.2 Contrition of heart (godly sorrow)

What did Paul say godly sorrow does?

2 Corinthians 7:10, 11

.....

.....

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk
Joh
Act
...
...
...
Jam
1 Pet
2 Pet
1 Joh
2 Joh
3 Joh
Jud
Rev

3.3 Confession of wrong

A mistake often made is to confuse “repentance” with “confession”. To confess our sins to God is a part – an important part – but only a part of repentance. In fact, one can confess without truly repenting. But **true repentance will overflow in confession**. What does the Bible promise when we confess our sins to God?

1 John 1:9
.....
.....

3.4 Change of attitude and action necessary

A true change of heart requires making restitution, the act of making amends. How did Zacchaeus seek to make restitution as a result of his repentance and what was Jesus’ response to him?

Luke 19:8, 9
.....
.....

Is there any restitution you need to make? For what? When and how do you plan to make amends?
.....
.....

4. **Repentance is a continual submission to the loving Lordship of Jesus**. In salvation, we repent of our old life; we turn 180% from living for ourselves to live for our Lord and Saviour. But repentance is not just a once off act in salvation; rather it is a **way of life**. Whenever we find an area of our lives that is not aligned to God’s will, we are to repent; we are to turn it over to God and realign ourselves with His will. What does Jesus say to believers who are out of line?

Revelation 2:4, 5
.....
.....

Topic 3 – Faith: turning to God

Repentance means that we turn from sin and living for ourselves. But it is incomplete by itself. We turn from sin *in order* to turn to God. This is where faith comes into the picture. It is vital to stress that repentance comes first. We can only turn to God once we have turned from sin and selfish living.

NT
 Joh
 Act
Rom
 1 Cor
2 Cor
 Gal
 ...
 ...
 Tit
 Phm
Heb
Jam
 1 Pet
 2 Pet
1 Joh
 2 Joh
 3 Joh

1. How important is faith?

Hebrews 11:6

.....

2. What is faith? The word faith can be used as a noun to describe the “Christian faith”. But Biblically, it is primarily used as a verb. In this sense, *faith means a confident trust in God’s character and God’s Word that results in action.*

Take for example the simple act of sitting on a chair. The only reason we sit on a chair is because we trust that it will hold our weight. This confidence results in our action to sit in the chair. Faith means that we confidently put our trust in God and therefore live in a way that validates this confidence.

Faith is not passive. What does James call faith that does not lead to action?

James 2:14-23

.....

.....

3. What are some of God’s character qualities that strengthen our confidence in Him?

Romans 8:28

.....

Romans 8:31, 32

.....

Romans 8:38, 39

.....

1 Corinthians 10:13

.....

(These are just four examples. The Bible reveals many other characteristics that show that God is completely reliable, absolutely faithful and totally dependable).

4. What must we believe?

1 John 5:1, 5

.....

.....

OT
Est
Job
Psa
Pro
Ecc

5. In salvation, our faith in Jesus' complete sacrificial payment for our sin is crucial. But again, faith is not a once off act in conversion; *rather it is a way of life in which we entrust ourselves continually to the trustworthiness of Father God.* What did Paul say about this?
Romans 1:17

.....

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk
Joh
Act
Rom
1 Cor
2 Cor
Gal
Eph
Phi
Col

6. Living by faith means entrusting ourselves to God as we follow His lead. Faith does not wait for the storms of life to clear; faith moves forward in confidence despite the weather conditions. And this confident, forward moving faith is evidenced through two main indicators: (1) the words we speak and (2) thoughts we think. What was the psalmist's prayer?
Psalm 19:14

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.....

7. Our responsibility is to fill our thoughts (our hearts and minds) with the character of God through meditating on God's Word and to then ensure our words are positive and faith-filled. What is the connection between our heart's meditation and the words we speak?
Matthew 12:34

.....

.....

8. Faith is rooted in God's ability and His willingness.
What does the Bible teach about God's ability?
Ephesians 3:20

.....

What does the Bible reveal about God's willingness?
Mark 1:40, 41

.....

9. All God's work in and through us is dependent on our faith.
What did Jesus say?
Matthew 9:28, 29

.....

Topic 4 – Baptisms

NT
Luk
Joh
Act
Rom
1 Cor

1. As we have seen already, Peter declared that Jesus was Lord and Saviour. In response, the people were convicted of their sin and need for God, asking: “What shall we do?” What did Peter instruct them to do?

Acts 2:36-38

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.....

2. What did Peter say they would receive if they would repent and be baptized? Who did this promise apply to?

Acts 2:38, 39

.....
.....

3. What happened in this remarkable account?

Acts 2:40-47

.....
.....

4. What did the people do when they believed the Gospel when Philip preached?

Acts 8:12

.....
.....

The Bible teaches us about two baptisms. The first is *baptism with water* and the second is *baptism with the Spirit*. Let us first look at baptism with water.

Baptism with water...

The Greek word for “baptism” means, “to immerse”. A Greek person would use the word to explain how he would immerse (dunk) a biscuit in coffee.

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk
Joh
Act
Rom
1 Cor
2 Cor

5. ***Water baptism is an outward, public declaration of our new found life in Christ.*** In some ways it is like a wedding ceremony. The vows exchanged between a man and a woman before witnesses is the essence of the marriage covenant. Water baptism serves this same purpose. What does the Bible call water baptism?

Luke 3:3, Acts 19:4

.....
.....

6. Paul describes water baptism as a burial. Obviously a person dies first before being buried. What must we die to before we are water baptized?
Romans 6:1-4

.....

7. Why should get baptized?
Who was baptized as an example for us to follow?
Matthew 3:13-17

.....

Who instructed us to be baptized?
Mark 16:16

.....

What did Jesus encourage us to do in making disciples?
Matthew 28:18-20

.....

8. Water baptism is not a ***requirement*** to being saved but it is a ***responsibility*** now that we are saved. Remember that we are saved by grace, not by works (Ephesians 2:8, 9).

Therefore water baptism is an ***act of obedience*** after we are saved. It requires that we are of an age where we can understand the implications of our sin and the choice we have made to follow Jesus. For this reason, baby baptism is not a Biblical means of water baptism. Yes, parents can and should dedicate their new born baby to the Lord, as Jesus’ natural parents did for him (Luke 2:22), but water baptism requires a personal decision from one who is old enough to do so.

Have you been baptized with water?

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Baptism with the Spirit...

Recall that the Greek word for “baptism” means, “to immerse”. A Greek person would use the word to explain how he would immerse (dunk) a biscuit in coffee. We saw that in the baptism with water it means to be immersed in water. The same is true for baptism with the Spirit: the Lord desires to immerse us into the power of His Spirit!

NT

Mat

Mar

Luk

Joh

Act

Rom

1 Cor

2 Cor

Gal

Eph

Phi

1. What did Jesus promise us?

Acts 1:4, 5, 8

.....
.....

2. The Bible teaches us that the baptism with the Spirit is a second, ***subsequent*** work of the Holy Spirit. Can you recall the first work of the Holy Spirit? The first work of the Holy Spirit is in the miracle of conversion in which He redeems us; ***an impartation of life***. What did Jesus say about those who are born again?

John 3:3-6

.....
.....

3. Therefore, ***every person who is saved has the Holy Spirit living within them***. What is the fruit of the Spirit’s indwelling Presence?

Galatians 5:22, 23

.....
.....

4. So what then is the second work of the Spirit? The second work of the Holy Spirit is the baptism with the Spirit; ***an impartation of power***. Who experienced this baptism with the Spirit? (Note that it was a second experience of the Spirit in each case).

Acts 1:4, 5 and Acts 2:1-4

.....
Acts 8:4-8 and Acts 8:14-17

.....
Acts 19:1-6

.....

OT
Est
Job
Psa
Pro
Ecc

5. ***This baptism with the Holy Spirit is an impartation of power in which the believer is empowered for the work of ministry.*** As we have seen, the first work of the Spirit is evidenced by the “**fruit of the Spirit**” (Galatians 5:22,23). What is the evidence of the Spirit’s second work of empowering?
1 Corinthians 12:7-11
.....

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk
Joh
Act

6. How do we receive this second work of the Spirit, this baptism of power?

1. Confess all known sin.

What does the Psalmist say about unconfessed sin?

Psalm 66:18
.....

2. Submit yourself to be useful to God.

The baptism with the Spirit is not for self-benefit but to be a vessel in God’s hands. What does Paul say about being a vessel of God?

2 Timothy 2:20, 21
.....

3. Ask the Father for His Spirit’s power.

What did Jesus instruct us to do if we desired the Holy Spirit’s infilling power?

John 7:37-39
.....

4. Receive in faith.

What did Jesus say about the Father’s willingness to give us the Holy Spirit?

Luke 11:11-13
.....

7. One **provision** of the baptism with the Spirit is the gift of tongues? Notice what occurred in these accounts?

Acts 2:1-4
.....

Acts 10:44-46
.....

Acts 19:1-6
.....

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk
Joh
Act
Rom
1 Cor
2 Cor
Gal
Eph
Phi
Col
...
...
2 Joh
3 Joh
Jud
Rev

8. What did Jesus describe the gift of tongues as?

Mark 16:17

.....

9. The gift of tongues is a sign of the new covenant and is a gift to strength our life in Christ. Paul explained that speaking in tongues empowered both his worship and prayer life (1 Corinthians 14:14, 15). What other benefit is there to speaking in tongues?

Jude 20, 21

.....

10. We should seek to receive any and every gift that God has made available to us. What was Paul's desire?

1 Corinthians 14:5

.....

11. How do you receive the gift of tongues? In the same way that we receive all God's gifts: we are to ask the Father for it and receive it in faith.

We encourage you to ask and expect to receive this wonderful gift when you seek the baptism with the Spirit.

Have you been baptized with the Spirit?

.....

12. We have an important responsibility now that we have been baptized with the Spirit. What does Paul teach us?

Ephesians 5:18

.....

13. We are urged to live a Spirit-filled life; overflowing with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit does not ever lose His power over our lives; nor does He 'leak out' from us. But there are times when we stop giving Him unhindered rule over our lives. When we draw back from 100% surrender to His Spirit, to that degree we are no longer "filled". Three factors can cause us to hinder the Spirit's fullness:

1. *An increase in the flesh's assault in our lives.*

Paul explains that the "flesh" – our old selfish nature – seeks to re-exert its influence upon us, warring against us (Romans 7:23; Galatians 5:16, 17). Unless we "starve" our flesh and "feed" our spirit through the spiritual disciplines of prayer, Bible meditation and the like, we start to walk in the flesh rather than the Spirit (Galatians 5:16, 17).

NT
Luk
Joh
Act
Rom
1 Cor

2. *An increase in the spirit's activity from our lives.*

As we minister to others we can get weary. Continually pouring out from our own spirit's means that we can wind up exhausted. Without seeking the infilling of the Spirit we begin to minister with less and less effectiveness, and in a weakened state can be vulnerable to the attack of the enemy. We should mirror David's attitude and experience, **"You anoint my head with oil; my cups runs over"** (Psalm 23:5). Effective ministry over the long haul happens only when our "cups" are running over. A key to walking in victory is being able to discern when you are no longer overflowing; don't wait until you're running on empty!

3. *An increase in the devil's attack on our lives.*

As the persecution against the early church intensified (Acts 4), the disciples realized their need for an infilling of His Spirit. In the enemies attack on us, we may unintentionally draw back from Jesus, when we focus on our circumstances rather than Him. But repenting of our lack, and by faith seeking His infilling, brings fresh power!

What did the early church do and what was the result?

Acts 4:21-31

.....
.....

Heart-to-heart...

The third part of this booklet is very critical to laying a solid foundation for a victorious life in Christ. With your mentor, check the following bases:

1. Under the topic of the Kingdom of God...
 - Have you put Christ at the centre of your existence and defined all of life from that Divine Centre?

2. Under the topic of repentance...
 - Discuss your own conversion experience.
How did you understand repentance then? Now that your understanding may be more complete, is there any restitution you feel you may need to do now? This does not detract from your conversion experience but may be necessary now that you understand the responsibility you have in Him?

3. Under the topic of faith...
 - Do you defer to God and His will for your life in every area? Do you understand that this is what it means to entrust yourself to Him?

4. Under the topic of baptisms...
 - Have you been baptized with water?
Why don't you make plans to do so immediately? **“And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord”** (Acts 22:16).
 - Have you been baptized with the Spirit?
Why don't you ask the Father who is so willing to answer your desire?

Part 4...

Mission & Destiny

Following Christ is the most exhilarating way to live. Welcome to an adventure! Jesus has saved you for a purpose. You are not a mistake. You are not an expendable pawn on the chessboard of life. You are not subject to fate. You are not Neo stuck in the Matrix. No! ***You were designed by God Himself to be alive at this time in human history.*** You are not just another product mass produced off an assembly line. No! ***You were made uniquely by God Himself for a purpose He has destined you for.***

Topic 1 – God’s Purpose

NT

Mat

Mar

Luk

Joh

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...

...

2 Cor

Gal

Eph

Phi

Col

...

2 The

1 Tim

2 Tim

Tit

Phm

1. In mentoring Timothy, Paul taught him that we are saved and ...?
2 Timothy 1:9
.....
2. Many people misunderstand the word “calling,” implying that only some are called while most are not. This is not a true statement. The Bible reveals that we are all called (chosen) – it refers to God’s invitation to everyone of us – ***into a relationship with God Himself.***
What does the Bible say of the calling of the disciples?
Mark 3:14
.....
.....
What does Paul say about our calling?
Ephesians 1:3-6
.....
.....
3. Therefore, our calling is to be with Him, as His children, enjoying an essential relationship with Father God. Out of this life-giving relationship, we are then commissioned to serve in His purposes. This is important. We do not serve in order to earn a relationship with God; rather we serve because we already enjoy a relationship with Him.

Let’s return to Paul’s counsel to Timothy. He continued: we are saved and called, not by our own effort or works, but according to His...?
2 Timothy 1:9
.....

NT
Mat
 Mar
 Luk
Joh
 Act
Rom
 1 Cor
 2 Cor
 Gal
Eph
 Phi
 Col
 1 The
 2 The
 1 Tim
2 Tim
 Tit
 Phm
 Heb
 Jam
1 Pet
 2 Pet
 1 Joh

4. He then makes an incredible statement. God did not concoct our purpose as an after-thought. He did not create us and then say, “Ummm, what can I do with you?” Rather God created us for His purpose before...?
 2 Timothy 1:9

.....
 [i.e before creation...before God created the earth for us, He had destined us to play our unique role in His redemptive plan].

So what are God’s purposes? It is helpful to consider it in two ways: the *general* purpose of God and the *specific* purpose of God.

The general purpose of God

5. The general purpose of God is the big picture; the wide angle view of God’s will for His creation.
 According to Jesus, what are we to do with our lives?
 John 15:8; 17:1-4

.....
 What does Paul say this involves?
 Romans 8:29

.....
 Thus we can say: *the general purpose of God for us is to glorify Him by becoming more and more Christlike.*

6. As we grow in the likeness of Jesus – Christlikeness – we reveal Him more clearly and more powerfully through our attitudes and actions, thus bringing glory to God. What did Paul exhort us to do?
 Ephesians 5:1, 2

The specific purpose of God

7. The specific purpose of God is our specific contribution, the unique role we play in God’s plan.
 What are Jesus’ clear marching orders for us as His people?
 Matthew 28:19

.....
 [Also called the Great Commission – Our Mission]
 What does Peter say this involves?
 1 Peter 4:10

.....
 Thus we can say: *the specific purpose of God for us is to make disciples by using the gifts and resources that He has entrusted to us.*

OT
Gen
Exo
Lev

8. Jesus taught us that we are to steward the resources God gives us for the advancement of His Kingdom on earth. He taught a parable to urge us to be faithful and fruitful with what God entrusts to us. What do you learn from this parable?

Matthew 25:14-30

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk

.....
.....
.....

9. Consider this analogy: imagine for a moment that we are commissioned to serve on the staff of a ship sailing from South Africa to Australia.

Our **general purpose** for this journey would be to get from one country to the next; this is true for every one of us who are on board. Our **specific purpose** would be to ensure the ship operated optimally by each playing different roles on board; some would serve in the engine room, others in the kitchen, others as offices on board, etc. etc. Similarly, God’s general purpose for our lives is to bring Him glory through our Christlike lives. His specific purpose for us is to fulfill His mission by using our God-given resources for His glory.

This was God’s plan for mankind from the very beginning. Can you see these principles in the creation account of Adam and Eve?

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15

.....

Topic 2 – Our Mission

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk
...
...
2 Cor
Gal
Eph
Phi
Col

1. Jesus has entrusted us to advance His Kingdom. The Great Commission is our mission, our marching orders. What is the core phrase in Jesus' Great Commission?
Matthew 28:19
.....
2. The objective is to “**disciple the nations**” (Matthew 28:19). The word “**nations**” does not mean “countries” but actually refers to “cultural groupings”. ***Our mandate is to bring His Kingdom into every cultural expression of mankind.*** Yes, this certainly involves planting churches into countries and cities. But it also involves carrying Christ's love into every neighborhood and sub-culture of a city; from the yuppies to the skater-boys. And it also involves bringing Christ's influence into every sphere of society; into commerce, education, politics, science & technology, sports, art & entertainment.
What two pictures of impact did Jesus envision us with?
Matthew 5:13-16
.....
.....
3. In order to disciple every cultural expression of mankind it requires each of us – every believer – playing our God-given role in fulfilling His mandate. Paul uses the picture of the human body to teach on the vital contribution that every believer has in God's plan. Who does he say must play their role in fulfilling God's plan?
Ephesians 4:16
.....
.....
4. Many people think that only a few are called into “the ministry”. However, the Bible teaches that this is not so. ***Every believer is a minister, and every believer is responsible for ministry.*** This does not mean that every believer is a “**pastor**” or “**apostle**”. In fact, the Bible teaches that God only graces a few with the gift of apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor or teacher in order to equip (train) ***every believer*** for...?
Ephesians 4:11, 12
.....

NT
 Joh
 Act
Rom
1 Cor
2 Cor
 Gal
 Eph
 ...
 ...
 2 The
 1 Tim
2 Tim
 Tit
 Phm
 Heb
 Jam
1 Pet
 2 Pet
 1 Joh

5. Paul explained what was central to the work of ministry, revealing that we have been entrusted with the “**ministry of reconciliation**” (2 Corinthians 5:18, 19); enabling those without God’s life and healing to reconcile with God. What does he call us?

2 Corinthians 5:20

.....

6. **Reaching** others with the life and healing of Jesus is the first part of the privilege we have in fulfilling His mandate as an “**ambassador for Christ**”. The second part of this task is **discipling**, the task of nurturing others in the footsteps of Jesus. What did Paul say to those he was discipling?

1 Corinthians 11:1

.....

What did he likewise tell Timothy to do?

2 Timothy 2:2

.....

7. To the church in Rome, Paul explained that every believer is crucial for the advance of the Kingdom (Romans 12:3-5). But he made it clear that we all have different gifts and thus different roles to play. ***We ought to accept the gifts God has given us and appreciate the gifts He has given to others.*** Then he listed seven different gifts that God gives to His people to do His work. Although the list is not an exhaustive list (there are many other gifts), can you list them here?

Romans 12:6-8

.....

.....

.....

8. God created an eagle to fly and a dolphin to swim. In His genius, He gave them the necessary equipment to fulfill their purposes. Wings on a dolphin and fins on an eagle would have been a disaster! In the same way, God gives us the necessary equipment to fulfill our God-given purpose. In other words, God gives us the necessary gifting to accomplish our destiny purpose. ***Every believer is a minister, and every believer is gifted for ministry.*** What did Peter tell us to do?

1 Peter 4:10

.....

OT
Son
Isa
Jer
Lam
Eze

9. Summer is a great time of the year. It does however come with one frustration...flies! Yet it is a fact, flies are vital to our ecosystem. Without them we would be ravaged by disease. God made flies with a unique purpose...but hey, you are much, much more important than a fly! When did God know Jeremiah's purpose and give him the gifts he needed to achieve it?

Jeremiah 1:5

.....
.....

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk
Joh
Act
Rom

10. Thus, in creating us, God has given us unique gifts in line with His purpose for us. In using these gifts we ignite the passion of God within us that fuels our forward progress. In the movie Chariots of Fire, Eric Liddle explains to his family his decision to compete in the Olympics. He said: "God made me fast and when I run I feel God's pleasure".

The key that unlocks these gifts is servanthood. *As we develop a servant's heart, and follow His Spirit's prompting, He will empower us for ministry.* An important lesson to learn is this: *when you see a need, intercede* (pray for the person concerned); *when you sense God lead, intervene!* What did Jesus say of Himself?

Mark 10:45

.....
.....

[In BOOKLET THREE we look at the different Biblical gifts and how we can discover, develop and deploy our God-given gifts. All that is important to do at this stage is to get stuck in! It is in serving that we experience God's power and discover His gifts in our lives].

11. Wow! We have discovered that we are made for ministry, gifted for ministry, empowered for ministry and responsible for ministry. Now, get ready to be commissioned for ministry! What did Jesus say to us?

John 20:21

.....
.....

***For God so loved the world that He sent Jesus.
For God so loved your world that He sent YOU!***

Topic 3 – God’s Church

NT
Mat
Mar
Luk
Joh
Act
Rom
1 Cor
2 Cor
Gal
Eph
Phi
Col

1. We are not called to live alone or minister in isolation. Paul had a team that worked with him. Even the Lone Ranger had Tonto. The only person who flew alone was Superman. And hey, sorry to burst your bubble, you’re not Superman! In fact, **God has brilliantly designed a “vehicle” for advancing His Kingdom**. What did Jesus envision?

Matthew 16:18, 19

.....
.....

2. The Greek word for “**church**” (*ekklesia*) literally means, “the called out people of God” or the “Kingdom enforcers”. Now consider the analogies of the church in the Bible.

Building (Ephesians 2:19-22)

What do we call a brick without a building?

.....

Family (Ephesians 3:14, 15)

What do we call a child without a family?

.....

Body (Ephesians 4:11-16)

What do we call a limb without a body?

.....

Army (Ephesians 6:10-18)

What do we call a soldier without an army?

.....

Clearly God never intended us to live alone or minister in isolation. He designed the church to be His vehicle for advancing the Kingdom!

3. You may find it interesting that the Bible does not use the word “membership”. Belonging to a church is not at all like joining a gym or social organization where you pay your dues and show your face to secure your name on the roster. Though the Bible does not use the word “membership” it does use the word “**member**” in reference to being a part of the “**body**”. The word “**member**” Biblically refers to a “body part” and this has vital implications to how we live and minister. For one, who decides where each body part should be; in other words, who decides which church we are to be apart of? [This is key!]

1 Corinthians 12:12, 18

.....
.....

NT
 ...
 Joh
 Act
Rom
 1 Cor
 2 Cor
 Gal
 Eph
Phi
 Col
 1 The
 2 The
 1 Tim
 2 Tim
 Tit
 Phm
Heb
 Jam
 1 Pet
 2 Pet
1 Joh
 2 Joh
 3 Joh

We need to discern into which church (family, body) God is placing us in, and then *we need to give ourselves to it*. Let us continue with the Bible's analogy of a human body and its members (body parts). For a limb to be healthy two things are required: one, it needs to be correctly *relating* to the whole of the body, and two, it needs to be rightly *functioning* within the whole of the body.

Relating to others...

4. God is essentially a Father and Son enjoying life in the Spirit; thus, in essence, *church is simply fathers and sons enjoying life in the Spirit*. Church is where we find spiritual fatherhood and brotherhood and in which we can begin to be a big brother and, in time, a spiritual father to others. (This obviously refers to both men and women!) John taught that the church was in essence a family. How did he view different levels of spiritual maturity in the church?
 1 John 2:12-14

5. In discerning which spiritual family God has birthed us into, we need to invest into relationships. Notice the difference in these two approaches to relationship building:

	<u>Worldly relationships</u>	<u>Godly relationships</u>
Questions we ask:	How do I fit in? How will I benefit?	Where is God adding me? What does God desire of us ?
Attitude:	<u>Use</u> and <u>get</u>	Discover and give

[We trust you can see the clear differences in approach and attitude].

What did Paul say about the quality of our spiritual family life?
 Romans 12:10, 15, 16

 Philippians 2:2-4

 Hebrews 10:24, 25

NT
...
Luk
Joh
Act
Rom
1 Cor
2 Cor
Gal

6. Being part of a church family requires investing oneself into this family as these relationships are one's *primary relationships*. Of course, we can and should have many secondary relationships but we are responsible to invest our time, talents and treasures into these God-given primary relationships. Notice how Paul reminds the church in Corinth of their primary relationship with him. What does he say?
1 Corinthians 4:15, 16

.....
.....

Functioning...

7. Even if a limb was rightly related to the rest of the body we would still be concerned if it was not functioning properly. An arm that just hung limp on the side of the body would give us reason to worry. Likewise, a believer who was relating to others in their spiritual family in a healthy way should then begin to function within this community or something would be clearly wrong.

We have already seen that a vital part of living for Jesus is to serve where we see the need as He leads us. In serving in this way, we start to use our God-given gifts to bless and build our spiritual family as an enforcer of His Kingdom. What was the early church devoted to?

Acts 2:42

.....
.....

8. Describe early church life.
Acts 2:43-47

.....
.....
.....
.....

Did you notice the freedom they all enjoyed to initiate and contribute? What are you inspired to do within your spiritual family?

.....
.....

OT

...
Job
Psa
Pro
Ecc
Son

For a church family to thrive and glorify God, four things are vital: prayer, unity, leadership and vision.

9. Prayer: The history of every family is built in their prayer lives.

What does Paul urge the church in Rome to do?
Romans 12:10-12

.....
.....

NT

...
Luk
Joh

10. Unity: United we stand; divided we fall.

What does the Bible teach us to do to maintain unity?
Ephesians 4:1-3, 29-32

.....
.....

Act

Rom

1 Cor
2 Cor

Gal

Eph

Phi

Col

1 The

2 The

1 Tim

2 Tim

Tit

Phm

Heb

11. Leadership: God has ordained leadership; it is His idea!

What are some of the requirements of leaders?
1 Timothy 3:2-13; 2 Timothy 2:24-26

.....
.....

How should the members of a church family relate to their leaders?
Hebrews 13:7, 17; 1 Thessalonians 5:12, 13; 1 Timothy 5:17, 18

.....
.....
.....
.....

12. Vision: Without vision we wander in circles.

A vision is a God-given picture of God's specific purpose for us. It is a church family's specific role in fulfilling the Great Commission.

What does the Bible say happens if we do not have vision?
Proverbs 29:18

.....
.....

How did the church flesh out Jesus' commission to disciple the nations?
Acts 14:21-23

V. 21.....
V. 22.....
V. 23.....

Exciting! Paul and his apostolic team pioneered new ground for the Kingdom, reaching new converts for Christ (v. 21), established the new believers (v. 22) and then raised leadership to parent the new church in its mandate to advance the Kingdom. In essence, the early church translated “disciple the nations” into “plant and parent churches”. In the same way, our churches’ vision and mission statements capture this which we believe God has called us to do.

Our Overall Vision Statement –

CrossWave Ministries Global is an apostolic movement that exists to glorify God through planting and parenting prevailing churches around the world thereby advancing the Kingdom of Christ.

Our Local Mission Statement –

*Each local church within CrossWave Ministries Global is a network of home churches and fulfils this local mandate:
Reaching people for Christ,
Training them for ministry,
Empowering them for leadership.*

We invite you to the great adventure!

Heart-to-heart...

In concluding this BOOKLET ONE we urge you to roll up your sleeves and get stuck in! Chat through the following with your coach...

- What is God's purpose for mankind?
- What do you sense is your specific role in advancing His Kingdom and making disciples? Discuss any passions on your heart, any verses of Scripture that are particularly meaningful to you and any prophetic words that you have received. What do you think may be some of the gifts or abilities the Lord has given you?
- Are you relating and functioning within a church family. If not, seek the Lord to do so immediately. If you are, what do you feel you have learnt to encourage your initiative and commitment to your spiritual family?

Finally...

- We encourage you to follow this booklet up by doing BOOKLET TWO > DISCIPLINES or the in-depth Step 1 of the Equipping Course, called FOUNDATIONS which can be downloaded from our website...

www.crosswaveglobal.com

This booklet is part of a four part series...

Booklet One > FOUNDATIONS

Booklet Two > DISCIPLINES

Booklet Three > MINISTRY

Booklet Four > LEADERSHIP

CrossWave



Written by
Craig Kirkby

January 2007

WEB

www.crosswaveglobal.com

MAIL

craig@crosswaveglobal.com

