

## USING THE DETAILED TEACHER'S GUIDE

### TRUSTING JESUS ALONE

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Today, we want to look at using the detailed teacher's guide. I teach at Charis Bible College, and in an interaction group of about 10-12 students we were talking about the Discipleship Evangelism program. As we talked, someone said, "Boy, I got a lot out of Andrew's teaching on eternal life, and my mother was really blessed. She learned some things she never knew before." I said to the students, "This is the question—how can you teach just like Andrew and get the same kind of response he does?"

Somebody said, "Well, if we memorize everything Andrew ever said, word for word, that would work," and I said, "Well, that's not very practical and chances are it's not going to happen, so what else could you do?" Another said, "If you produced an outline of one of Andrew's discipleship lessons and gave it to us, we could teach from the outline." My question was, "Would you get the same kind of response, the same kind of action, if I give you an outline and say, 'Here's an outline, just do it, okay?'" They said, "Well, no, I don't think we'd sound exactly like Andrew."

"So what else could you do?" "Well, maybe if Andrew was a pastor, we could spend lots of time with him, go over to his house and spend all day and all night with him, see how he taught, and we'd spend time with him." I said, "It'll never happen. If Andrew was a pastor, you couldn't spend that kind of time with him. What can you do to bring forth the points in the Discipleship Evangelism lessons without getting off track, even if you don't have a teaching gift?"

Down from our school is a Kingdom Hall where there are about two hundred people. I asked the students, "Out of those two hundred people, how many do you think are really discipling and reaching out to other people to evangelize them?" They said, "Well, probably two hundred." I said, "That's exactly right. Two hundred of two hundred down there are discipling and evangelizing, reaching out to other people. Now, why? Why can they do it? If we had a church here, a charismatic or fundamental church of two hundred, how many would be evangelizing and discipling? The answer is probably two or three. Why is it that in Kingdom Hall there are two hundred out of two hundred, and in our churches there are maybe three?" Somebody said, "Because they're motivated by works." I said, "All right, they're motivated by works, and there are two hundred of them out there doing the work of their ministry. We're motivated because we love Jesus and there are only two or three of us."

It's the method we use. Have you ever looked at the material from churches people consider to be cults? They make it so easy that anyone can disciple regardless of whether they have a teaching gift. That's how I came up with the idea of a detailed teacher's guide. It has already been proven in 229 nations of the world in 4,278,000 Bible studies that take people on to water baptism. This method has been proven for years as people have used it.

In your outlines, I've given you one called, "Trusting Jesus Alone." It's a bit too long to be used in a Bible study, because we want to keep most studies in a time frame of about 45 minutes. You have it in your Discipleship Evangelism materials and I want to show you how it works. There is a paragraph or section with a number, and then a corresponding numbered question to answer at the bottom of the page. It's very simple.

Here's how it works: Read the first paragraph. Suppose you were to die tonight, stand before God in heaven, and He asked you, "Why should I let you into heaven?" Then you ask the question at the bottom of the page, "John, what do you think a person has to do to go to heaven?"

He says, "Oh, I don't know, maybe live the best you can and keep the Ten Commandments, or whatever."

"Okay, let's read the next paragraph. According to our survey most people say live the best you can, keep the Ten Commandments, and try to live a good life." Then you ask the question at the bottom of the page: 'According to our survey what do most people say?'

John says, "Just exactly what I said—live a good life and keep the Ten Commandments."

"That's right! Let's read this next paragraph, John. 'It is true that if we kept God's laws and commandments perfectly both in our actions and attitudes, we would have a righteousness that equals God's. The only problem is that no one has ever done it. There are over 613 commandments in the Old Testament and hundreds of commandments in the New Testament, and for a person to be justified by the law, that is, declared righteous before God, he would have to keep the whole law and keep it perfectly without one slip.' Now, John, let's go to Titus 3:5. What does the Bible say right there in that verse about us trying to be saved by our own good works?"

He reads aloud, "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us."

Do you know what I just did? I read a paragraph, asked a question, read a paragraph, asked a question, and never got off the point I wanted to get across. I got right to the point that your own good works do not save you, but you're saved by faith in Jesus Christ. This detailed teacher's guide has been designed so that if you don't have a teaching gift, if you aren't able to keep your points in order, if you get off track, all you have to be able to do is read a paragraph and ask a question. It will work in Russia, in Mexico, in South America—any nation of the world. It will work where they have electricity and where they don't have electricity. It can be translated in any language of the world and used effectively to disciple people.

I really want you to focus in on this discipling tool. It's a tool that has already been proven to work in the nations. God bless you.

## USING THE DETAILED TEACHER'S GUIDE (Trainer Video Lesson)

### TRUSTING JESUS ALONE (Detailed Teacher's Guide)

Note: The following information may be read out loud (a numbered section at a time) with the person(s) being disciplined. After each numbered section is read, pause and ask the question(s) that correspond to the paragraph(s), and then discuss them.

#### TRUSTING JESUS ALONE

<sup>1</sup> Suppose that you were to die tonight and stand before God and He were to say, "Why should I let you into My heaven?" What would you say? Let us state this another way, "What do you think a person has to do to go to heaven?"

<sup>2</sup> According to our survey most people answer this question by saying something like this: "I have to do the best I can, live a good life, keep the Ten Commandments, love my neighbor, etc."

<sup>3</sup> It is true that if we kept God's laws and commandments perfectly—in both our actions and attitudes—that we would have a righteousness that equaled God's. The only problem is, no one has ever done that. There are over 613 commandments in the Old Testament and hundreds of commandments in the New Testament. For a person to be justified by the law (that is, declared right before God) he would have to keep the whole law perfectly without one slip. The Living Bible states, "For Moses wrote [concerning the law] that if a person could be perfectly good and hold out against temptation all his life and never sin once, only then could he be pardoned and saved" (Romans 10:5).

<sup>4</sup> James 2:10 states, "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it" (NIV).

To illustrate this point I will share the following parable. Suppose I am driving 50 miles per hour through a residential area that has a 25 miles per hour speed limit. A policeman clocks my speed with a radar gun and gives me a summons. I appear in court and say to the judge, "I never speed on that street and you should give me a reward!" The judge looks at me and says, "You may have never sped on that street until last week, but when the policeman clocked you, you were going 50 miles per hour. You are guilty of breaking the law and must pay the appropriate fine."

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<sup>1</sup> What do you think a person has to do in order to go to heaven?

<sup>2</sup> How do most people (according to our survey) answer the question, "What must you do to go to heaven?"

<sup>3</sup> What does Titus 3:5 say about being saved by your own good works?

<sup>4</sup> (a) How many of God's laws do we have to break before we become lawbreakers? James 2:10.

(b) How many sins does it take to make a person a sinner? Romans: 10:5.

How many of God's laws do we have to break before we become lawbreakers? How many lies does it take to make a person a liar? How many sins does it take to make a person a sinner? Just one!

<sup>5</sup> Have you ever sinned? If we consider sin as missing the mark of God's perfection we can easily see the error of our ways. If we think of sin as consisting of wrong thoughts that we embrace: anger, jealousy, gossip, or lust, we could say that a person who only sinned three times a day would seem to be almost an angel. Have you ever considered that three sins x 365 days = 1,095 sins or transgressions against God? If you are only 17 you would have already committed more than 18,000 sins or transgressions against God. What do you suppose would happen in a court of law if you were found to have 18,000 offenses on your personal record?

<sup>6</sup> The Bible says "THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH" (Romans 6:23). "Wages" are the due reward for the things we have done. "Death" in the Bible means "a separation" (James 2:26). What does sin do? It separates. It always separates!

If someone committed the sin of adultery, what would that sin do? It would separate the couple in the marriage relationship.

If someone was dishonest or got into strife in a business partnership, what would that sin do? It would separate the business partners.

When the Bible says, "The wages of our sin is death," it means that our sins will separate us from God forever. That's not good news.

### THE GOOD NEWS!

<sup>7</sup> "All we, like sheep have all gone astray, we have turned every one to his own way and the LORD has [in His mercy] laid upon him [Jesus] the iniquities [sins] of us all" (Isaiah 53:6).

The Bible tells us, "God offered him [Jesus], so that by his sacrificial death he should become the means by which people's sins are forgiven." (Romans 3:25, Today's English Version).

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<sup>5</sup> What would happen in a court of law if you were found to have 18,000 offenses on your record?

<sup>6</sup> According to Romans 6:23, What is the due reward for the evil things that we have done?

<sup>7</sup> (a) Turn to Isaiah 53:6 and read out loud the first part of the verse. Ask the question, "Is that true of me?"

(b) Read the rest of the verse, and ask, "What has the Lord done with your sins?"

(c) "What then must I do to be saved?"

<sup>8</sup> The following parable illustrates what Jesus has done for us. A parable is a simple story that illustrates a moral or spiritual truth.

I was raised in a small community in Northeastern Oklahoma. Although we lived in town, we had a ranch a few miles west of the city. As I was driving hurriedly to our ranch one day, I suddenly was startled by the flashing lights of an Oklahoma highway patrol car. He stopped me and gave me a summons for speeding. I was to appear before a judge at the Pawnee County courthouse. As the judge came in, I noticed that he was a friend of the family. I thought to myself, "I know I'm going to get this traffic ticket dismissed." The judge greeted me, asked about my family and then said, "I'd like to show you mercy; I would like to show you grace, but I cannot in order to be a just judge." He heard the evidence from the highway patrolman and found me guilty as charged. His sentence was one day in jail or \$50. Not having \$50, I was prepared to go to jail. At this point the judge did an amazing thing. He took off his robe that distinguished him as a judge, stepped down from his stand, reached into his pocket and handed me \$50.

Because he was a just judge he sentenced me and found me guilty, but in his mercy paid my debt.

That's what God did for us in Jesus Christ. Because He is a just and holy God he sentenced us (The wages of our sin is death; Romans 6:23), but in His mercy and love He paid our debt. "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God." (1 Peter 3:18).

<sup>9</sup> How are we to respond to this good news? The Bible tells us that we are to repent and believe the gospel (Mark 1:5).

What is repentance? Repentance is a gift that God gives to people who want to be saved. It involves a new attitude, a change of heart, and a change of mind. It results in turning to God and His kingdom and away from Satan and his kingdom. Although it is not perfection, it is a change of direction. Repentance involves turning FROM something, TO something. It's described in Acts 26:18 as "to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins."

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<sup>8</sup> (a) Do you believe that Christ died for your personal sins?  
(b) Do you believe that He rose from the dead?  
(c) Do you believe that He did this to bring you to God? (1 Peter 3:18).

<sup>9</sup> Repentance is turning to God through Christ, for mercy and forgiveness of your sins.  
(a) How is repentance described in Acts 20:21?  
(b) How is it described in 1 Thessalonians 1:9?  
(c) How is it described in Acts 26:20?

<sup>10</sup> Jesus not only said to repent, but also to believe the gospel (Mark 1:15).

In the 20th century, “believing” can mean just acknowledging some mental facts. I “believe” in Jesus; He died on a cross and rose again. I believed that all my life and was taught that in Sunday school.

In the English language there is just one word for “believe,” it means: “To hold an opinion; think or consider to be true or honest.” In the Greek language of the New Testament, “belief” or “faith” means, “having confidence in, trusting, reliance upon, placing one’s self in the care of another.”

The Amplified Bible expands faith’s meaning by stating, “Believe in and on the Lord Jesus Christ—that is, give yourself up to Him, take yourself out of your own keeping and entrust yourself into His keeping, and you will be saved.” (Acts 16:31).

<sup>11</sup> An example of how one must believe upon Christ is expressed by the story of a pilot who crashed in the ocean. As he saw a piece of wood from a raft floating by, he really believed that it could save him. However, he finally perished as he saw the wood float away. Even though he believed it could save him, it did not save him. In order for the piece of wood to save him, he needed to throw himself on it, cling to it, rely on it, and trust himself to it. Saving faith is throwing yourself on, clinging to, relying on and trusting yourself to Jesus Christ and His saving work for you upon the cross. It is trusting Jesus ALONE for your salvation (Galatians 2:21).

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<sup>10</sup>How does the Greek language define “faith” or “believing?”

<sup>11</sup>(a) What is Jesus saying in John 6:37?

(b) According to Acts 26:18, why do we need to come to Jesus?

(c) Will you come?