

THE
DISCIPLESHIP EVANGELISM
PROGRAM

LEVEL 3

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I want to thank the Charis Bible College graduating class of 1999 for helping to produce this material to make discipleship available to everyone. My deep appreciation goes to Andrew Wommack for his vision of equipping the Saints. A special thanks goes to Dr. Loran Lewis who has helped me learn to disciple others by asking questions. I want to thank Arnold Hoffman for his continued support and encouragement of this project. I want to thank my fellow laborers in Christ, Rocky Forry, Joe Rose, Steve Klepatz, Gene Hall, Janette Light, and Danika Gravelle who have taken this material and proven it to work through a hands-on ministry in the field. I want to thank Richard and Betsy Shepherd for their insight and counsel throughout this project. I want to thank Satoshi Yamamoto for lending his artistic talents to our design. I want to thank my wife, Wendy, for believing in the work that we are doing. I want to give a special, special thanks to Doris Stoll for picking up the mantle; without her help this project would have never been completed in a timely fashion. I want to thank all of you who are not mentioned by name, but who have contributed to this project. May your eternal rewards be great.

Don Krow

THE DISCIPLESHIP EVANGELISM PROGRAM

TEACHERS

ANDREW WOMMACK

Since founding Andrew Wommack Ministries, Inc. in 1978, Andrew has continued to present great truths from God's Word with simplicity and clarity, through the revelation knowledge and anointing given to him from the Lord. Wherever he travels, his powerful emphasis on the Word of God continues to set people free from sin and self-righteousness, with signs and wonders following. Andrew was a pastor of three churches, and he continues to fulfill God's calling on his life by teaching the body of Christ the "good news" of our relationship in Jesus Christ.

DON KROW

Don joined Andrew in ministry in 1975. He ministered in New Mexico, Texas, and Oklahoma before coming on staff full-time in 1988 as an Associate Minister of Andrew Wommack Ministries. In 1994 he became an instructor at Charis Bible College in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The last ten years Don has spent in weekly evangelism outreaches. The Discipleship Evangelism Program was developed after five years of outreaches to help others in reaching out and discipling those turning to Christ. Don spends much time sharing with local churches and others his concept of discipleship that has been proven to work.

USING THE DISCIPLESHIP EVANGELISM PROGRAM

The Discipleship Evangelism Program is a 48-lesson discipleship tool that was developed out of a five-year weekly effort to reach the lost. It has been proven to work and is user-friendly. It supplies the necessary tools for anyone with the desire to disciple another person. It can be effectively used in cell groups, Bible studies, reaching the lost, Sunday school, new believers class, mid-week church services, altar call follow-up, evangelistic crusade follow-up, outreaches in the mission field, prison ministries, Bible schools, and to develop church growth as well as to disciple your neighbors and friends.

There are three levels to this program:

Level 1 is designed to explain the biblical truths of Christ and Him crucified—to bring a person into an understanding of God’s great love for them that was displayed at the cross. Level 1 brings a person into repentance, the new birth, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and water baptism. All of this is done without preaching at a person but by asking them questions to bring them to the Bible for the answers. This program is designed to assist people in understanding the Bible for themselves.

Level 2 contains foundational truths of Scripture such as renewing the mind, how to meditate on God’s Word, the importance of the local church, the authority of the believer, God’s plan for marriage, God’s kind of love, and many more.

Level 3 is designed to assist a person in learning to disciple others. It contains a Training Program that will help a person discover the how-tos of discipling others. It may be used for a training class in their local church and in discovering how to reach and disciple the lost. This level is designed to bring the “disciplee” to the place of becoming a “discipler.” What has been learned from a hands-on ministry of reaching others will be taught at this level.

It is our desire to supply as many discipling tools as possible to assist one in reaching out and discipling others. In a normal local church, a congregation of 200 may only have five to ten people with teaching gifts in that entire congregation. As a result, five or ten people may reach out to disciple, but the majority of the people become benchwarmers in our local congregations. As a result of this need, we are supplying discipleship tools for various individuals who do not necessarily have teaching gifts. On any mechanical job, to effectively get the job done, you must have a screwdriver, a crescent wrench, a voltage meter, a pair of pliers, and other tools to make sure you are able to accomplish the task. Each part of the discipleship program is designed to be one tool. No one tool is better than the others, so it is our goal to supply as many tools so a majority of the body of Christ can reach out, evangelize, disciple, and teach others.

The following is a list of the tools we provide and how each tool fits into the program:

Introducing the Subject: Each subject for study is being introduced by Andrew Wommack or Don Krow. These few pages are to be read out loud to the person or persons being disciplined. A discussion may follow. Continue by asking the questions from the Teacher's Guide or Detailed Teacher's Guide.

Outlines: Discipleship Evangelism outlines are meant to be copied on a copy machine and distributed to each individual that you are discipling. They are to be handed out prior to playing the accompanying lesson in the audio or video version. These outlines supply a structure of the material that either Andrew Wommack or Don Krow is teaching. By supplying this outline, the person being disciplined can look at the Scriptures and the main points that these lessons are bringing out as they listen to the lessons the CDs or are watching the DVD version.

Teacher's Guide: The Teacher's Guide is a list of questions that will create a dialog between the teacher and the person being disciplined. They are questions that will assist people in discovering for themselves what the Bible is really saying. These questions will create a dialog of about 45 minutes between the teacher and the people you are discipling. We find that the Teacher's Guide is used most effectively with individuals who the scriptures declare are "apt to teach" (1 Timothy 3:2).

On a few of our Teacher's Guides we have supplied an Optional Teacher's Guide. This will allow the person teaching to choose the course of questions to ask. For instance, we realize that there is a great diversity of understanding concerning the subject of water baptism. By supplying the Optional Teacher's Guide, the person teaching is allowed to ask questions that may be more appropriate for the given situation. Let me restate that only a few lessons supply an Optional Teacher's Guide.

An Optional Teacher's Guide may also be supplied by using the questions from the Detailed Teacher's Guide in the same manner as you would use the regular Teacher's Guide. This will give you more options and questions to ask.

Detailed Teacher's Guide: The Detailed Teacher's Guide was developed to help people teach who do not have strong teaching gifts. Instead of using only the five or ten people out of a congregation who have teaching gifts, the Detailed Teacher's Guide allows all the members within the body to reach out and disciple another individual. This method has been used effectively to allow every person to evangelize and disciple others. It has already been proven in over 229 nations of the world. With this approach, a person is allowed to stay on track and bring out the main points of the lesson by simply reading and asking questions. With this approach, a paragraph or section that is numbered is read out loud by the teacher or even by the person being disciplined. At this point, a corresponding question is asked and discussed. The teacher continues to read each paragraph out loud and ask the corresponding questions. A normal Detailed Teacher's Guide will create a discipleship lesson of around 45 minutes. The Detailed Teacher's Guide is an effective tool in the United States as well as in other countries where electricity is not available and DVDs, and CDs cannot be played. In these countries, a person has more quality time to spend with the person being disciplined.

Discipleship Questions and Answer Key: Each lesson has a new set of questions with an answer key developed by Danika Gravelle. This new section is currently being used in the penitentiary system of the United States. These questions allow people to study during the week to give hours of meditation in the Scriptures and to prepare for the weekly studies in the regular Discipleship Evangelism Program. An Answer Key has been provided so that you may compare your answers.

Additional Information: Some lessons contain more in the Additional Information section than others. The Additional Information is designed to be used like a Sunday school teacher's quarterly. In most Sunday schools, a regular quarterly is given to the people. A detailed teacher's quarterly is given to the teachers to supply them with additional information and examples. The Additional Information is designed to give the teacher additional information and examples that pertain to the subject or lesson being taught. In this way, if a person being disciplined asks a question that may not be in the lesson, the teacher is not thrown off by not knowing how to answer the question. Additional Information supplies the teacher with information that makes them very familiar with the subject being taught.

Trainer Video Lessons: The Trainer Video lessons are designed to assist the person that wants to teach the discipleship lessons. They are also tools that may be utilized by the leadership within the local church. As the leaders understand the principles that are contained on the Trainer Video lessons, they will be able to become trainers in their local congregations. The trainers will then be able to give additional insight into the dos and don'ts of teaching and help train those who want to utilize the discipleship lessons. We advise everyone to study the Trainer Video lessons to get the real heart and understanding of how to use this discipleship program.

DVD and CD Lessons: Each lesson is designed to be played on either a CD player, or a DVD player. Each lesson contains ten to twelve minutes of concentrated teaching on various biblical subjects. An outline is supplied to pass out to those being disciplined so they can follow along as they listen to the presentation. After the lesson is played, questions and a dialog follow that take people to the Bible to discover the answers. With this method of teaching, we help others discover for themselves what the Bible says. Our textbook is the Bible. Our prayer is that people will be helped, encouraged, and spiritually strengthened through these lessons.

If you have any questions concerning this program, write to:

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LEVEL 3

DISCIPLESHIP EVANGELISM PROGRAM

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THE DIVINE FLOW

Andrew Wommack

Today I want to share some things about how you can begin to start letting God flow through you to minister to other people. Hopefully by this time you've been ministered to and God's done some great things in your life. You now have the power and the anointing of God in you, but how do you get it out to other people? Being able to communicate His power and grace to other people is a necessity if you want to go on to the highest level of relationship with Him. He didn't save you just for you personally but also to make you a blessing. If there had been nobody else, nothing else to do, God loves you enough that He would have expended all that effort on just you, but it's not limited only to you. He wants to bless other people through you.

How do you get the power of God to manifest, flowing out to other people? There are a number of scriptures we can start with. I want to begin with Philemon 6, where Paul is praying for Philemon: "That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus." To me, the very first step in having the power of God flow through you to other people is that you have to be full yourself. You have to acknowledge these things and have them functional and working inside you; so the way your faith becomes effective in dealing with other people is by first acknowledging the good things that are inside you. You can't give away what you don't have, but once you know you have it on the inside, some of it will automatically begin to happen. You'll begin to share with other people, show them your excitement, give testimonies of what God has done in your life, and automatically some of them will be helped.

There are other things you can do that will help you flow in the gifts of the Holy Spirit and let God release Himself through you. One of them is found in 1 John 4:7-8: "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." There is so much I could say on this. If you would read this in its context, it would be more powerful. Basically what 1 John is talking about is that if we say we love God and don't love the people around us, it's not God's love inside us. If you are truly walking with the Lord, then He is loving you, you're experiencing His love, and it will flow through you to other people. God is love, and the person who doesn't walk in love doesn't really know God, because He is love.

There's another application of this: Anytime you feel love flow out of you toward another person, that's God flowing out of you toward them. That needs to be qualified, because our world says "I love my wife, I love my dog, and I love ice cream" all in the same breath. Hopefully you love all those things in different ways. There are actually four words for "love" in the Greek language, and this is talking about the highest form, "agape" love, which is God's supernatural kind of love. I want to make the distinction that you need to recognize the difference between attraction or desire toward somebody and this supernatural high form of God's love. Whenever you discern God's love flowing out of you toward someone else, it's not self-serving. You can verify this by looking at 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, which gives the qualifications of God's kind of love. It is not envious, selfish, self-serving, easily provoked, etc. You need to analyze what you call love and make sure it's really God's love—that it's not selfish or self-serving—that you don't love a person because of what they can do for you. As you grow in this and literally begin to discern His kind of love, then when you feel it flow through you for somebody else. That's God moving. Once you discern

the love of God flowing through you for someone, all you have to do is follow it with some word of encouragement—do something.

There are times when I've been praying, a person would come to my mind, and I would have God's kind of love and compassion for them. There was no reason for this to happen; it was supernatural. I've learned to call the person, write them a letter, or contact them in some way. Nearly every single time that person will say, "Boy, that was God speaking through you to me, and He touched my life through it." Do you know how that happened? It happened because I sensed this love, this godly compassion flowing out of me toward that person. When I feel that now, I recognize it's not me—it's God. God is love, and when I love other people, it's Him loving other people through me.

An example of this happened in a little church I pastored in Pritchett, Colorado. A woman I'd never seen before came to the church, and she and her husband were in the service. I didn't know anything about them, but the whole time I was ministering, I was drawn to this woman. Outwardly, she didn't look depressed. There was nothing in the physical to clue me in, but in my heart I felt sympathy and compassion for her. I knew she was struggling and was really hurt. Finally, at the end of the service, I called to her and said, "Would you come up here. God has a word for you." I didn't know what I was going to tell her. The Lord hadn't yet told me what to say, but I could feel the compassion flowing, and I've learned that when you feel that God kind of love and compassion flow out of you, it's God trying to minister to a person. He'll always minister through the gifts of His Spirit—a word of wisdom, a word of knowledge, discerning of spirits, a prophecy, or something. So, based on my compassion alone, I asked the woman to come forward.

It's a long story, but I prophesied many things to her about how she was discouraged and bereaved because she had recently lost someone. I found out later that her teenage son had died of leukemia a few months before. As I ministered to her, I said one of the things that had caused confusion in her life was that she thought God allowed it, but He didn't do it. I said, "God is not the one that's caused this grief in your life—it's the destroyer. It's the destroyer that has done these things," and I kept emphasizing "the destroyer." After the service she came up and told me about her teenage son dying of leukemia. They thought God placed leukemia on him and He was actually responsible. But about a month before their son's death, as he drove into their little town one day, he looked up and he saw in a vision a demonic power over the town. He cried out to God and said, "What is this?" God said, "It's the destroyer, a demonic power, that's killing you and these other people . . . not me."

He told his parents about it, but they didn't have the depth or maturity in the Word of God to actually apply it. The boy died, but it was a tremendous encouragement to her when I told her exactly what was going on in her life, even using the exact words God had spoken to her son. That ministry to her was started through feeling the divine flow of God's kind of love. When you feel the love of God flow out of you, recognize that it's God.

This is the way Jesus ministered. Matthew 14:14 says, "And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick." The way the power of God flowed through Jesus was through the compassion and love He felt toward the people He ministered to. In Matthew 8:2-3 a man with leprosy, who was unclean and could not be touched according to Jewish law [no one could come in contact with him or they would become contaminated and become unclean themselves] lifted up his voice and cried to Jesus from a distance, "saying, Lord, if thou

wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.” He was moved with compassion toward the man with leprosy and touched him. As you study the Scriptures you’ll find this compassion, this godly love in many places. It’s not just an emotion but a compassion that flows out through us.

When Jesus was hanging on the cross, He loved the people around Him so much that He said, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34). These were the very people who were crucifying Him, yet He had compassion on them and asked God to forgive them. We know He didn’t have goose bumps—it wasn’t just a feeling or an emotion—it was a choice. Nonetheless, He felt it and released it toward other people. Every one of you who is born again has God living inside of you. According to the verse we started with, 1 John 4:8, God is love, and He wants to flow through you to reach other people. To do that, He will release this compassion. You’ll feel it flow out of you toward other people, and when you do, you need to respond.

You don’t always have to do something special. It doesn’t have to be “thus saith the Lord.” Sometimes, if you have a feeling of compassion toward a person, just go over and put your arm around them and say, “God loves you and so do I.” I know one time this worked when I was on the receiving end, in a situation where I was about to be run out of a church. People had lied about me, and one person even threatened to kill me. I was feeling so discouraged like, “God, what’s the use? Nobody appreciates what I’m trying to do.” I was fighting the devil over this, and a friend called long distance. He talked for a few minutes, and I said, “Well, what did you call for?” He said, “I just wanted to call and let you know I love you. I was praying and felt the love of God toward you. I appreciate you.” That’s all he said. He didn’t know anything about the situation going on in my life, but God used that. I knew it was Him loving me through that person, and it kept me in the ministry and changed my life.

It doesn’t have to be profound or necessarily some great word. God is love, and whenever you discern that love flowing through you, it’s the divine flow . . . the divine life of God. When you sense that, you need to follow it up. Go do something, say something, be a blessing to some person. God will put words in your mouth. He will use you, and He will set people free as you are moved with compassion and minister to those around you.

THE DIVINE FLOW (Outline)

1. Two of the main reasons God saved you:
 - A. So you can express His power and grace to other people.
 - B. God wants to bless others through you.
2. How do you get His power and grace flowing out of you to others?
 - A. Philemon 1:6: “That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing within you in Christ Jesus.”
 - (1) The first step is to be full of God’s power yourself.
 - (2) Recognize and acknowledge the good things God has put inside you, and share your excitement and testimony.
 - B. 1 John 4:7-8: “⁷Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. ⁸He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.”
 - (1) If we truly love God, we will love others.
 - (2) 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 describes God’s kind of love.
 - (3) When you feel God’s kind of love for another, act on it by giving them help and encouragement. Try to fill whatever need He has shown you.
 - C. Matthew 14:14: “And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.”
 - (1) Compassion was the key to God’s power flowing through Jesus.
 - (2) Jesus’ compassion for the people who were killing Him caused Him to ask God to forgive them for what they were doing.
3. If you are born again, you have God living on the inside of you, and GOD IS LOVE.
 - A. When you feel God’s compassion flow through you, respond to it.
 - B. God’s love is a divine flow. Go with it and bless others.

THE DIVINE FLOW (Teacher's Guide)

NOTE: In this lesson, we will examine how to let what God put in us flow out to others.

1. According to Philippians 1:6, what is the first step in allowing God to flow out of us?

To realize that God is doing a work in us.

2. According to 1 John 4:7, what is the real source of reaching out to love others?

God, for God is Love (1 John 4:8).

3. A. According to 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, what are some of the characteristics of God's love?

Love is patient, kind, not envious, not boastful, not proud, not rude, not self-seeking, not easily angered, keeps no record of wrongs, does not delight in evil, rejoices in the truth, protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres, love never fails (NIV).

- B. Have you loved like this? If so, it is God flowing through you.

4. A. According to Matthew 14:14, what motivated Jesus?

Compassion.

- B. What did He do then?

He healed them.

- C. Have you ever felt compassion toward someone as Jesus did?

- D. Did it move you to act? If so, it was God's love flowing through you.

THE DIVINE FLOW (Detailed Teacher's Guide)

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

¹ Anytime you feel love flow out of you toward another person, that's God flowing out of you toward that person. Now that needs to be qualified because in today's world people say, "You know, I love my wife, I love my dog, and I love ice cream" all in the same breath. Hopefully you love all of those things in a different way. In the Greek language, there are actually four words for "love." I am talking about the highest form of love. The Greek called God's kind of love "agape." This is that supernatural God-kind of love. So you need to recognize that there is a difference between just attraction toward somebody, a desire for somebody, and this supernatural high form of God's kind of love. Whenever you discern God's love flowing out of you toward somebody else, it's not self-serving. You can verify this by looking in 1 Corinthians 13. Verses 4 through 8 give you qualifications of God's kind of love. It isn't envious; it's not selfish; it's not self-serving; it isn't easily provoked, etc. You need to analyze what you're calling love and make sure it's really God's love—that it's not selfish or self-serving. You don't just love this person because of what they can do for you. As you grow in the Lord, you literally begin to discern God's kind of love. Then when you feel God's love flow through you for some person, all you have to do is follow it with some word of encouragement—do something.

² There are times I have been praying and a person comes to my mind that I haven't thought of in a while. There was no reason for this to happen—it's almost supernatural—and a God-kind of love and compassion came out of me toward this person. Now I've learned just to call that person up or write them a letter or say something, and nearly every single time that person will write me back and say, "Boy, that was God speaking through you to me, and God touched my life through you." And you know how all of that happened? It happened by me just sensing His love—this godly compassion—flowing out of me toward that person. When I feel that now, I recognize that it's not just me—it's God. God is love, and when I love other people, it's God loving other people through me.

¹ Andrew states, "Anytime you feel love flowing out of you, that's God flowing out of you."
How does 1 John 4:7 show us this?

² How was Jesus Christ moved in ministering to others? Matthew 14:14.

³ I had this happen one time in a little church in Pritchett, Colorado. I was a pastor of that church, and a woman came whom I had never seen. She and her husband were in the service. This was the first time I had ever seen them. I didn't know anything about them, but the whole time I was standing up and ministering, it was like I was drawn to this woman. She didn't outwardly look like she was depressed. There wasn't anything in the physical to clue me in, but in my heart I just felt a sympathy and a compassion for this woman. I knew she was struggling and that she was really hurt. So I just felt this love and compassion flow out of me toward her. Finally, at the end of the service, I just called her out and said, "Would you come up here? God has a word for you." I didn't know anything I was going to tell her. It's not like the Lord had already told me what to say to her, but I could feel this compassion flowing. I've learned that when you feel that God-kind of love and compassion flow out of you, that God is trying to minister to a person. He'll always minister through some of the gifts of His Spirit—like a word of wisdom, a word of knowledge, a discerning of a word of wisdom, discerning of spirits, or a prophecy. So based on that compassion alone, I just asked that woman to come forward. It's a long story, but basically I prophesied many things to her about how she was discouraged and how she had lost someone and was bereaved. I found out later that her teenage son had just died of leukemia just a few months before this. As I was ministering to her I said, "One of the things that has caused confusion in your life is that you thought God had allowed this, but God didn't do it." I said, "God is not the one who has caused this grief in your life, it's the destroyer. It's the destroyer who has done these things." I kept emphasizing the word "destroyer." After the service was over, she came up and told me about her teenage son dying of leukemia. They had thought that God placed this leukemia on him and that He was actually responsible. However, just about a month before their son's death, as he drove into their little town one day, he looked up and saw in a vision a demonic power over that town, and he cried out to God and said, "What is this?" The Lord said, "It's the destroyer. It's a demonic power that's killing you and these other people—it's not me." They just didn't have enough depth—enough maturity in the Word of God to actually apply it. He went in and told his parents about it, but they didn't do much with it, and so the boy died. But, it was a tremendous encouragement to her when I told her exactly what was going on in her life—even used those exact words. And do you know how all that got started? It was through feeling this love—the divine flow of God's kind of love.

³ What does Matthew 7:12 teach us about love?

⁴ When you feel the love of God flow out of you, that's God. This is the way that Jesus ministered. Matthew 14:14 says, "And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick." The way that the power of God flowed through Jesus was through compassion. He felt love toward the people He ministered to. You find in Matthew, chapter 8, that a man with leprosy was unclean and, according to the Jewish law, nobody could touch him. Nobody could come in contact with him, or they would be contaminated and become unclean themselves. But this man lifted up his voice and cried to Jesus from a distance saying, "Have mercy on me. If you will, you can heal me." Jesus said, "I will", and He reached out and touched him. He was moved with compassion toward this man with leprosy and touched him.

⁵ As you study the Scriptures, you will find that compassion—this godly love—is not just an emotion, but it's a compassion that flows out through us. When Jesus was hanging on the cross, He loved the people around him so much that He said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." These were the very people who were crucifying Him, yet Jesus had compassion on them and said, "Father, forgive them." We know that He didn't have goose bumps; it wasn't just a feeling; it wasn't just an emotion; it was a choice. But, nonetheless, He felt it and released it toward other people.

⁶ Every one of you who are born again has God living on the inside of you and, according to 1 John 4:8, God is love. God wants to flow through you and reach other people. To do that, God will release this compassion. You'll feel it flow out of you toward other people. When you feel that compassion flow, you need to respond. You don't have to always do something special. It doesn't have to be, "Thus saith the Lord. If you have a feeling of compassion toward some person, just go over, put your arm around him and say, "God loves you and so do I."

⁴ What was Jesus' purpose according to 1 John 3:8?

⁵ What was Stephen moved to do in Acts 7:59-60?

⁶ How is love described in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8?

THE DIVINE FLOW (Discipleship Questions)

Read Philippians 1:6

1. What are you to be confident of?
2. When will the good work in us be complete?

Read Philemon 5-7

3. Toward whom did Philemon show his love and faith? _____
4. Was he sharing his faith or keeping it to himself?
5. How is it that your faith may become effective?
6. Why was it that Paul had great joy and consolation in Philemon's love?

Read 1 John 4:7-11

7. Why are we commanded to love one another?
8. If you do not love, what is the conclusion of your relationship with God?
9. How did God show His love toward us?
10. Why, besides love, did God send His only begotten Son into the world?
11. What does verse 10 say that love is?
 - A. We loved God
 - B. God loved us
 - C. We love one another
12. If love is entirely that God loved us, what are we commanded to do to one another?

Read 1 John 4:12-16

13. Has anyone ever seen God?
14. How are we to know that God abides in us?
15. If we love one another, what is perfected in us?

16. What can we conclude if we know He has given us His Spirit?
17. What have we known and believed God for?
18. Who is love?
19. Where do we abide if we love?
20. Where does God abide if we love?

Abide: to continue, dwell, endure, remain, stand, tarry. To persevere, stay behind, to lodge in, to establish, to appoint, to hold fast.

Read 1 John 4:17-19

21. How do we know love has been perfected among us?
22. Is there fear in love?
23. What casts out fear?
24. What does fear involve?
25. If you fear, what have you not been made perfect in?
26. Why do we love Him?

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-8

27. If you have the tongues of men and angels without love, what do you sound like?
28. What ingredient would make all of our knowledge and understanding and faith come to nothing?
29. Why are we given the gift of prophecy and understanding of all mysteries and all knowledge?
To keep for ourselves or to benefit and encourage others
30. What does it profit you if you give away all you have and offer your body as a sacrifice if you don't have love?
31. List the sixteen things that describe what love is and is not in verses 4-8
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____
 - D. _____
 - E. _____
 - F. _____

- G. _____
- H. _____
- I. _____
- J. _____
- K. _____
- L. _____
- M. _____
- N. _____
- O. _____
- P. _____

Read 1 Corinthians 13:13

- 32. "And now abideth _____, _____ and _____."
- 33. Which is the greatest of the three?

Read Matthew 14:14

- 34. When Jesus saw the multitudes, what moved Him?
- 35. What did He do as a result of His compassion?
- 36. Have you ever been moved by compassion for somebody?
- 37. Did you follow through on your compassion?
- 38. If you did, do you recognize now that it was God compelling you to help that person?

Compassion: a feeling of sorrow or pity for the sufferings or misfortunes of another. Tender, kind, merciful, and sympathetic.

Read Matthew 25:33-46

- 39. What did God give to the sheep that were separated and placed at His right hand?
- 40. What did the sheep do for those who were in need?
- 41. Were these things done directly to Jesus?
- 42. What is Jesus' explanation in verse 40?
- 43. Jesus went through the same scenario with the goats, and they asked the same question of when they saw Him naked, thirsty, and hungry. What was Jesus' response toward them in verse 45?

44. Can you see from this parable how our love and compassion for each other is the same as our love and compassion for Christ?

Read 1 Peter 4:8-11

45. What are we to have toward one another?

46. Why?

47. What are we to do with the gifts that the Lord has given to each of us?

48. Why are we to use these gifts according to the ability to which God supplies?

Read 1 Peter 2:21

49. Why did Christ leave us the example of Himself?

50. If we are to “follow His steps,” how are we to act toward one another?

Read Matthew 5:43-48

51. _____ your enemies.

52. _____ those who curse you

53. _____ to those who hate you

54. _____ for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.

55. Why must we act this way toward our enemies? (Verse 45)

56. Is there a reward for us if we only love the lovable?

57. If we love our enemies, what shall we be according to verse 48?

THE DIVINE FLOW
(Discipleship Answer Key)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. God will complete the good work in me | 21. That we may have boldness in the day of judgment |
| 2. When Jesus comes | 22. No |
| 3. Jesus – Saints | 23. Love |
| 4. Sharing his faith | 24. Torment |
| 5. By acknowledging every good thing in me in Christ | 25. Love |
| 6. Because Philemon refreshed the hearts of the saints | 26. Because He first loved us |
| 7. Because love is of God | 27. A sounding brass or clanging cymbal |
| 8. You don't know God | 28. Love |
| 9. Sent His Son to die on the cross for us | 29. To benefit and encourage others |
| 10. That we might live thru Him | 30. Nothing |
| 11. B. God loved us | 31. A. Patient
B. Kind
C. Doesn't envy
D. Is not proud
E. Not puffed up
F. Is not rude
G. Is not selfish
H. Is not provoked
I. Doesn't think evil
J. Does not rejoice in iniquity
K. Rejoices in truth
L. Bears all things
M. Believes
N. Hopes
O. Endures all things
P. Never fails |
| 12. Love | |
| 13. No | |
| 14. If we love one another | |
| 15. His love | |
| 16. That we abide in Him & He in us | |
| 17. His love | |
| 18. God | |
| 19. In God | 32. Faith – hope – love |
| 20. In us | 33. Love |

- 34. Compassion
- 35. Healed them
- 36. Yes
- 37. Your answer
- 38. Your answer
- 39. The Kingdom
- 40. Provided what they needed
- 41. No
- 42. Inasmuch as you did it to the least of my brethren you did it to me
- 43. Inasmuch as you did it not to the least of my brethren you did it not to me
- 44. Yes
- 45. Fervent love
- 46. Love covers a multitude of sins
- 47. Minister them to one another
- 48. So that Christ may be glorified
- 49. So that we should follow in His steps
- 50. With love
- 51. Love
- 52. Bless
- 53. Do good
- 54. Pray
- 55. That you may be sons of your Father in heaven
- 56. No
- 57. Perfect

THE DIVINE FLOW (Additional Information)

W. E. Vine describes agape love as “the love (that) can be known only from the actions it prompts. . .this is not the love of complacency, or affection, that is, it was not drawn out by any excellency in its objects (Romans 5:8). Christian love (agape), whether exercised toward the brethren, or toward men generally, is not an impulse from the feelings, it does not always run with the natural inclinations. . .(agape) seeks the welfare of all (Romans 15:2) and works no ill to any (Romans 13:8-10); (agape) seeks opportunity to do good to all men.”

It would be wrong to say I can't love my husband or wife because my feelings are not in it. I would be a hypocrite. Remember Jesus did not feel like dying, and He was no hypocrite. Agape love is the only kind of the four kinds of love that can be commanded, for it is not an emotion but rather the exercise of the divine will (of God) in deliberate choice (W. E. Vine). That is why the Apostle John says, “And this is love, that we walk after his commandments [ways, or principles]” (2 John 6).

Some scriptural examples of agape love being commanded and carried out by God's grace (Galatians 5:22) and deliberate choice (Romans 8:13) are:

1. Love your enemies. . .bless them. . .do good. . .and pray for them (Matthew 5:44);
2. Love thy neighbor as thyself (Matthew 19:19);
3. If ye love me, keep my commandments (John 14:15);
4. Let love be without hypocrisy (NASV) (Romans 12:9);
5. By love serve one another (Galatians 5:13);
6. Love is the bond of perfectness (Colossians 3:14);
7. And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins (1 Peter 4:8);
8. Let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth (1 John 3:18).

There is much confusion on the subject of love today, because we have only one English word (love) to describe a broad aspect of meanings. For example, if I said, “I love my wife, I love apple pie, and I love my dog,” obviously I am not talking about love in the same degree or definition.

In the New Testament, there are three major Greek words that describe the various kinds of love. One of these words, “eros,” was not actually used in the New Testament, but it was alluded to. The following is a brief definition of these three major words.

EROS: Sexual passion; arousal, its gratification and fulfillment. The Greek word is not used in the New Testament, probably because its origin came from the mythical god Eros, the god of love. It is implied in many scriptures and is the only kind of love that God restricts to a one-man, one-woman relationship within the bounds of marriage (Hebrews 13:4; Song of Solomon 1:13; 4:5-6; 7:7-9; 8:10; 1 Corinthians 7:25; Ephesians 5:31).

PHILEO: Friendly love based on feelings or emotions. We can describe PHILEO love as tender affection, delighting to be in the presence of; a warm or good feeling toward someone that may come and go with intensity.

This verb with its other related Greek words are found 72 times in the New Testament. Although PHILEO love is encouraged in the Scripture, it is never a direct command. God never commands us to PHILEO love anyone since this type of love is based on feelings. Even God did not PHILEO the world. He operated in AGAPE love toward us.

The following are some scriptures in which PHILEO or a form of it is used, (John 5:20; 11:3, 36; 12:25; 16:27; 20:2; Acts 28:2; Romans 12:10 [kindly affection]; 1 Timothy 6:10; 2 Timothy 3:4; Titus 2:4; 3:4; Hebrews 13:1; 3 John 9; Revelation 3:19).

AGAPE: God’s type of love; the highest kind of love. AGAPE seeks the welfare or betterment of others even if there is no affection felt (a paraphrase of happiness, explained by Bob Rigdon). AGAPE love does not have the primary meaning of affection nor of coming from one’s feelings.

Jesus displayed this AGAPE kind of love by going to the cross and dying even though He didn’t feel like dying. He prayed, “O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt” (Matthew 26:39; Mark 14:36; and Luke 22:41-43). Jesus sought the betterment of you and me regardless of His feelings.

We, too, can AGAPE love our enemies even though we don’t have a warm feeling of affection for them (Luke 6:35). If they are hungry we can feed them; if they thirst we can give them a drink (Romans 12:20-21). We can choose to seek the betterment and welfare of others regardless of how we feel.

The Apostle John said, “Let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth” (1 John 3:18). Jesus referred to His love for others (John 13:34; 15:9,12), but He never directly told anyone, “I love you.”

78. Are we able to carry out this Great Commission with our own strengths and abilities?
79. Can you see how the application and exercising of the gifts are vital to the carrying out of the Great Commission?

Read Acts 1:5, 8-9

80. What did John baptize with?
81. What else were the disciples to be baptized with?
82. What shall we receive when the Holy Spirit has come upon you?
83. What happens after we receive His power?
84. Can we be effective witnesses for Christ if we don't have the power of the Holy Spirit?
85. Whose power is it that operates the gifts within us?
86. If we don't receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, will we have any power?
87. If we don't have the Holy Spirit and operate in His power, will we be able to carry out the Great Commission as stated in Mark 16?

Gifts are not magical, they are SUPERNATURAL.

Gifts are not mystical, they are PURPOSEFUL.

Gifts are not to be hoarded, but are to BE GIVEN AWAY.

Gifts are not for you, but for GLORIFYING JESUS CHRIST.

Gifts are a BLESSING to both ends of the receiver. That means you and your brethren.

Do not despise the gifts given to you by Jesus Christ your Lord.

If you don't use them, you will lose them.

USING THE GIFTS TO MINISTER
(Discipleship Answer Key)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Love | 22. No |
| 2. Love | 23. Jesus |
| 3. Yes | 24. No |
| 4. Yes | 25. Spiritual gifts |
| 5. Yes | 26. Diversities - same |
| 6. Know – prophesy | 27. Differences - same |
| 7. Yes | 28. Diversities – same – all - all |
| 8. When that which is perfect has come | 29. Spirit – Lord - God |
| 9. Jesus | 30. Gifts – ministries - activities |
| 10. Yes | 31. Manifestation of the Spirit |
| 11. Yes | 32. No |
| 12. That we would come short in no gift | 33. All |
| 13. No | 34. A. Word of Wisdom
B. Word of Knowledge
C. Faith
D. Healing
E. Miraculous
F. Prophecy
G. Discerning of spirits
H. Different kinds of tongues
I. Interpretation of tongues |
| 14. Serious and watchful | |
| 15. Fervent love for one another | |
| 16. Love | |
| 17. Without grumbling | |
| 18. Minister it to one another | 35. No |
| 19. As the oracles of God | 36. Individually as He wills |
| 20. With the ability God supplies | 37. Many |
| 21. I will be most effective – God will get glory | 38. Many members |

39. Yes
40. Yes
41. Yes
42. He has bestowed great honor to these parts
43. Yes
44. No
45. No schism but have the same care for each
46. No
47. Suffer with them
48. Rejoice with them
49. No
50. Yes
51. Praise God!
52. Soberly
53. No
54. One body in Christ
Members of one another
55. According to the grace given to us
56. Use them
57. In proportion to our faith
58. A. Prophecy
B. In ministering
C. Teaching
D. Exhortation
E. Liberality
F. Diligence
G. Cheerfulness
59. Of the same mind
60. Christ's
61. Set our minds on high things
62. Proud
63. Ourselves
64. Holy Spirit
65. God's
66. Yes
67. Yes
68. Jesus
69. Grace
70. A. Apostles
B. Prophets
C. Evangelists
D. Pastors
E. Teachers
71. A. For the equipping of the Saints
B. For the work of the Ministry
C. For the edifying of the Body
72. A. Until we come to the unity of the faith
B. Come to the knowledge of the Son of God
C. To a perfect man
D. To the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ
73. It will come to no effect
74. In love
75. Into Christ who is the head
76. Causes growth in the body for the edifying of itself in love

- 77. A. Cast out demons
- B. Speak with new tongues
- C. Take up serpents
- D. Divine protection
- E. Heal the sick

78. No

79. Yes

80. Water

81. Holy Spirit

82. Power

83. We become witnesses

84. No

85. Jesus'

86. No

87. No

USING THE GIFTS TO MINISTER (Additional Information)

The gifts of the Spirit operating in someone are not meant to be a substitute for having our own faith in the Lord. We are not to depend so completely on some individual with a spiritual gift that we neglect our own spiritual growth and maturity. We can receive anything we need from the Lord without a gift of the Spirit operating through another individual, if we know how to believe. Dependence on the Lord directly is superior to dependence on the Lord indirectly through someone operating in one of these gifts.

If that is true, then why do we need the gifts of the Holy Spirit? Should we just all receive directly from God and cut out the intermediary? Well, that would be nice, but the truth is that our souls do not reach instant maturity at the time of our conversion. There is a growth process in the Christian life.

What if there were no gifts of the Spirit, and the Lord established that the only way we could receive from Him was through our own faith? There would be some individuals who would get born again who already had terminal diseases and didn't have enough time left to mature in their faith. They would die if it wasn't for others who interceded for them or who had the gifts of healing. That's why the Lord gave these gifts—to keep us encouraged and alive so we can mature (Ephesians 4:11-13).

However, if an individual doesn't mature in his personal faith in the Lord and becomes dependent on these gifts, that is wrong too. It is not beneficial for someone to receive miracles through a person with the gift of miracles and then struggle along until the next time that gifted minister came through town. The Lord wants us to receive through these gifts, but then He wants us to become mature ourselves so that we can walk in God's best on our own.

This does not mean that we can mature beyond the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We can mature beyond a total dependency on the gifts to where we can hear and receive from God directly. But none of us will ever reach such a level of maturity in the Lord where there is nothing left to learn or receive.

In 1 Corinthians 12:8 notice that the Spirit gives a “word” of wisdom and a “word” of knowledge. The Holy Spirit does not impart to an individual all of God's wisdom or knowledge about a person or situation. He gives just a word, a tiny portion of His ability to deal with the problem.

Some people who have not understood this point have thought that a person operating in the word of wisdom and the word of knowledge knows everything about them and is fearful that all might be revealed. That is not so.

On the other hand, some people who have sought to operate in these gifts and have not understood that the Spirit is giving them just a “word” of wisdom and a “word” of knowledge have spoken more than what the Lord inspired. The Lord gave them a word, and they made a paragraph out of it.

Corinthians 12:8 describes the gift of the word of wisdom. Wisdom involves understanding and the application of good judgment (American Heritage Dictionary). Therefore, the word of wisdom is a supernatural imparting of God’s understanding and direction for a given individual or circumstance. This gift of the Spirit is supernatural, that is, not based on human knowledge of the person or circumstances.

Jesus operated in this gift, although it is often so intertwined with the gift of prophecy and His personal teachings that it is hard to distinguish. Two examples are in Mark 1:44 and John 5:14.

The word of knowledge is a supernatural imparting of knowledge about an individual or about circumstances that the person operating in the gift did not discern naturally.

Jesus operated in this gift many times, even to the extent of telling people their names and things about them that He could not have known otherwise. One of the most miraculous examples of this gift in the life of Jesus is the time He sent His disciples to prepare for His last Passover (Mark 14:13).

The word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, and the gift of prophecy often work hand in hand. That is to say that when one of these gifts operates, the other ones will usually operate also to minister to the individual. For instance, the word of knowledge may reveal a problem, the word of wisdom may apply God’s wisdom to the situation, and the gift of prophecy will give the results of obedience. They complement each other.

All believers have faith. That’s how they got saved (Ephesians 2:8). They actually have the same faith as Jesus, but their souls have to be matured through the renewing of the mind to operate in that faith. That’s the reason the Scriptures speak of great faith (Matthew 8:10) and little faith (Matthew 8:26). We can use different amounts of faith.

The faith mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12:9, as a gift of the Holy Spirit, is different from the faith that we received at salvation. This gift of the Spirit is a supernatural imparting of faith that doesn’t come through the normal renewing of the mind process (Romans 12:2). It is a gift for helping those who are struggling in faith to believe.

Many things that we need are received directly, according to our faith (Matthew 9:29). If our faith is weak, we need to strengthen it and/or seek out a person with the gift of faith to help us.

In 1 Corinthians 12:9, gifts of healing are mentioned. Notice that it says, “gifts” (plural) of healing. According to verses 5 and 6, there can be different administrations and operations of the same gift that provide plenty of variety through just one gift. This verse specifically mentions a plurality of gifts of healing.

The gifts of healing are supernatural powers released through an individual for the purpose of bringing healing to others. All believers can lay hands on the sick and see them recover (Mark 16:17-18; John 14:12), but there are some people who are called to a ministry of healing the sick. These people are endowed with the gifts of healing, and this characterizes their ministry.

All believers can experience miracles as a result of their own faith, but some individuals have been given the gift of miracles. Miracles characterize their ministry.

A miracle is a supernatural intervention of God’s power over natural law. Healings occur within the boundaries of natural law, while miracles are not limited to natural law. A person with a high fever who receives prayer and then begins to recover, is experiencing a healing. The Lord intervened, but in natural ways. The virus, infection, or whatever was rebuked, left the body (Luke 4:39), and then the natural healing process that the Lord built into all of us took over. When something totally supernatural happens, that’s a miracle. When Jesus reattached the servant’s ear, and it was instantly whole after Peter cut it off (Luke 22:51), that was a miracle. It was a healing too, but it was a miraculous healing. Feeding the five thousand (Matthew 14:19-20), walking on the water (Matthew 14:25), translating a ship and all aboard to the other side of the sea (John 6:21)—all these are miracles. Miracles are usually instantaneous whereas healings are sometimes gradual.

The gift of prophecy is different from the ministry gift of a prophet (Ephesians 4:11). According to 1 Corinthians 14:3, this gift of prophecy is for edification, exhortation, and comfort. There have certainly been many prophets whose prophecies didn’t meet those standards (2 Samuel 12:1-14; 1 Kings 13:1-5; 21:17-24).

This simple gift of prophecy that operates in the church assembly is limited to general edification, exhortation, and comfort of the body (1 Corinthians 14:3). If a person begins to give an individual prophecy of personal direction to someone, that falls into the ministry of a prophet and is different from this simple gift of prophecy.

For example, believers wouldn’t allow a person called to the office of a teacher to interrupt a service and just start teaching. That would be out of order. The teacher should make himself known to the pastor and if given the authority, then he can teach. Likewise, for someone to minister direction or future events to an individual or the whole body and claim that it is a prophecy is out of order. That would be the ministry of a prophet and the prophet should be recognized by the pastor just as a teacher would have to be.

This simple gift of prophecy that Paul is describing here will never be a lengthy teaching, a rebuke, or a warning. That's the ministry of a prophet. It will just be words of encouragement from the Lord along the lines of, "Children, I love you. I've received your praise. I'm present to minister to you."

A lack of understanding the difference between this simple gift of prophecy and the ministry of a prophet has led to some strange things being called a word of prophecy in many churches. Some people actually prepare teachings during the week and deliver them as prophecies in church. Others vent their own prejudices or use prophecy as an opportunity to rebuke someone or put in their two bits about what the church should be doing. These things are not the gift of prophecy that Paul is describing here.

First Corinthians 12:10 describes the gift of discerning of spirits. Some people believe this gift is the supernatural ability to distinguish different kinds of spiritual beings (i.e. angels, demons) while others interpret spirits as being attitudes or emotions. Indeed the word "spirit" can be used to refer to things in the spiritual realm, or to attitudes such as school spirit.

Furthermore, 1 Corinthians 12:10 describes different kinds of speaking in tongues. This gift of speaking in tongues is a ministry gift that operates in church and differs from personal speaking in tongues that every believer who has been baptized in the Holy Spirit has (Mark 16:17). Only some believers are given the gift of tongues that operates in public (v. 30) and equals prophecy when interpreted.

The gift of interpreting the gift of tongues is not a translation but an interpretation. That is, it just conveys the thought of what was said into the known language. Therefore, the interpretation may be longer or shorter than the message in tongues and may differ in style, yet be the proper interpretation. When the gift of tongues and the gift of interpretation of tongues operate together, that is equal to prophecy.

It is important to recognize that all believers can operate in areas without having the specific gifts of the Spirit mentioned in 1 Corinthians, chapter 12. Every believer should have God's wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:30, Ephesians 1:8, 17, Colossians 1:9, 2:3), and knowledge (2 Peter 1:2-5), as well as His faith (Romans 12:3 with Galatians 2:20). All believing Christians can lay hands on the sick and see them recover (Mark 16:18), and we should all see the same type of miracles that Jesus did happen in our own lives (John 14:12). At times, every member of the body of Christ can prophesy, discern spirits, speak in tongues, and interpret tongues. Yet not every Christian has these things as a supernatural gift of the Spirit in his or her life.

All believers are to teach others about their faith in Christ, but that doesn't mean they have been called to be a teacher as mentioned in Ephesians 4:11. All believers are to evangelize, but that doesn't mean they have been called to be an evangelist as in Ephesians 4:11. Likewise, all believers can operate in these areas that are called gifts of the Spirit, but that doesn't mean they have that gift.

Not every Christian has the gift of speaking in tongues that operates in the church services, but every believer who has been baptized in the Holy Ghost has the personal gift of speaking in tongues that is for his own edification. A person with the gift of speaking in tongues is a person who stands in the assembly of believers and speaks out a message in tongues which, when interpreted, equals a word of prophecy.

The person who has a gift of the Spirit will repeatedly operate in this area, plus it will come relatively effortlessly compared to those who operate in that area without a gift. The person will also have a real love for or drawing toward the gift that is dominant in his or her life.

There are three main places in scripture where spiritual gifts are discussed: (1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12:4-8, and Ephesians 4:11). It is interesting to note that in each of these instances, the unity of the body of Christ is stressed in the same context.

In all three instances, Paul makes this point by comparing the different gifts to different parts of the physical body. Just as the human body has to have all its parts function together to get the proper results, so the body of Christ has to have each part function in unity to truly demonstrate the fullness of Christ to this world.

This is especially true with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Some of these gifts are more spectacular than others and might seem more necessary than another gift, but that's not true. We need all the gifts in their proper order and relationship to the other gifts to get the full impact of Christ's ministry.

Jesus was an apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher—all in one (Ephesians 4:11). It takes all these gifts functioning together in unity to reproduce the ministry Jesus had here on earth. It takes all of these gifts operating together in His body to see His power manifested as it was during His earthly ministry. Likewise, all the gifts listed in Romans, chapter 12, need to function together to release the fullness of His life.

Failure to see all these gifts function together in unity has been a tremendous hindrance to the body of Christ and has kept us from accurately representing Jesus to a lost world. Unity among believers will be the greatest testimony the church has ever given of the reality of Christ and will release such power that it will be one of the main factors that brings the second return of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:25).

MIRACLES GLORIFY GOD

Andrew Wommack

We've talked about walking in the power of God and ministering to other people through the gifts that He gives us. I'd like to share some things about how this really glorifies God, and how He expects us to use His supernatural ability. There are so many scriptures on this that I can only touch on a few. In Matthew 9 there's an instance where Jesus healed a paralytic man, and I'll deal with that in more detail in Mark 2. Matthew 9:8 says, "But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men." Did you know that the gifts of the Spirit—miracles—glorify God, and that's the reason He gave that miraculous ability to us?

When you start sharing with other people, there's a natural tendency for them to doubt and begin to question, "Well, how do I know what you're saying is true?" I once heard T. L. Osborne, a famous evangelist who led hundreds of thousands of people to the Lord, discuss his experience when he was first on the foreign mission field. He tried to witness to people, and they just didn't believe what he said. Finally, one day he was talking to a man saying, "But the Bible says," and the man said, "What makes your black book any different than my black book?" His black book was the Koran. When T. L. Osborne saw that, he thought, "Well, yeah, how do these people know the Bible is true? I have faith that the Bible is the Word of God, but how do I convince them?"

He left the mission field defeated and discouraged, came home, and began to seek God. The Lord told him that he had to use His supernatural ability. Signs and wonders are for the purpose of validating the Word of God, which is what will change people's lives. In 1 Peter 1:23 it says, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." God's Word is what changes people's lives, but how do you get them to believe it really is God speaking? Well, that's the purpose of miracles. When we preach and say that it's God's will for a person to be healed, then demonstrate it by speaking over them in the name of Jesus. Their blind eyes or deaf ears that are opened validate that it is God. Miracles aren't going to change people, but they will cause them to believe that the word you've spoken is the Word of God.

A scriptural example of that is Mark 2:1-9, where there is further detail on the paralytic who was healed: "And again he [Jesus] entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that he was in the house. And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them. And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four. And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only? And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts? Whether it is easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk?" The truth is both of those things are technically impossible. It's impossible for a man to forgive sins, and it's

also impossible for a man to heal another person of paralysis. So if God could do one, He could certainly do the other.

Jesus said in verses 10-12, “But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house. And immediately he arose, took up the bed and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.” Jesus made it very clear when He said, “But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy),” He produced the healing so people would know that if He could do things in the physical realm that they could see happen at His word, then spiritual things such as the forgiveness of sins could also take place. Jesus used miracles to validate His word.

This exact same thing is said in Hebrews 2:2-3. “For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him.” It says that God confirmed this word by the power of the Holy Spirit. Put this together with Mark 16:20, “the Lord working with them, and confirmed the word with signs following.” The point I’m making is that God wants you to use His supernatural ability and power to minister to other people. He uses the miracles that take place through the gifts of the Holy Spirit to confirm to people that He is actually speaking to them. Ultimately He wants people to be set free in their hearts, but sometimes the way to a person’s heart is through their bodies and their emotions. If you can deal with those areas and see a person set free, then they will open up and allow the Lord to touch the rest of their lives and literally commit their entire being to Him.

In 1 Corinthians 2:1 Paul was writing to the Corinthians, telling them how he first approached them: “And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.” He made it very clear that the reason he didn’t come emphasizing and using words only but came in demonstration of the Spirit and power, was so their faith would stand in the power of God and not in the wisdom of man.

Christianity has wonderful logic to it. Once you see the truth, you wonder how you ever missed it and why everybody doesn’t embrace it. But Christianity isn’t only logic . . . it is a real experience with a real God. He’s alive today, and He wants to manifest Himself in power exactly the same way He did in His Word. Hebrews 13:8 says, “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.” Jesus came and He was a man approved of God among us by signs and wonders and miracles. Acts 10:38 says, “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.” He had his word confirmed, and those miracles rang like a bell to draw people to His message. They glorified God. Many scriptures say that these miracles glorified God, and if Jesus had to use the power of the Holy Spirit to minister and to change people’s lives, how do we think that we can do better than He did? If Jesus drew on miracles to draw people to Himself to receive His message, how can we possibly think that we can convince the world today without operating in the supernatural power of God? The truth is that miracles

glorify God. They are a bell that draws people. It's like ringing the dinner bell—it's the food that will fill you, but it's the bell that gets your attention. Without the bell, some people are going to miss the meal. Without the miraculous power of God, many people are going to miss out on the fact that God is real and He can change their hearts and forgive their sins.

I encourage you to realize that God wants to flow through each one of us and work these miracles through us in other people's lives. Some of you may say, "But that intimidates me. What happens if I pray for a person and they aren't healed? How do I know this is going to happen?" You need to recognize it's not you doing the miracles; God is doing them. You don't take responsibility if the miracle works and the person gets set free, and you don't take the blame if it doesn't work. You just do the praying; God's the one who does the healing, but He has to flow through you. God wants to use you in miraculous ways. You need to get into God's Word and see how it worked for other people, apply those things in your life, and let the miraculous, supernatural power of God start flowing through you today.

MIRACLES GLORIFY GOD (Outline)

BIBLE TEXT: Matthew 9:8: “But when the multitudes saw it, they marveled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.”

Miracles glorify God. Example: T.L. Osborn on the mission field. Signs & wonders validate the Word of God.

1 Peter 1:23: “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”

Miracles cause people to believe that the word spoken is indeed the Word of God.

Mark 2:1-12: “And again he entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that he was in the house. ²And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them. ³And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four. ⁴And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay. ⁵When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. ⁶But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, ⁷Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only? ⁸And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts? ⁹Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? ¹⁰But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) ¹¹I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house. ¹²And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.”

Jesus produced physical results so that people might know that He could produce spiritual results (the forgiveness of sins).

Hebrews 2:2-4: “For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; ³How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; ⁴God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?”

Mark 16:20: “And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.”

1 Corinthians 2:1-5: “And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. ²For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. ⁴And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: ⁵That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.”

Our faith must stand in the power of God, not in man.

Hebrews 13:8: “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”

Acts 10:38: “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.”

God does the miracles, not you!

MIRACLES GLORIFY GOD (Teacher's Guide)

1. Read Matthew 9:1-8. What was the result of this miracle?
It brought glory to God.
2. In 1 Peter 1:23, what does the term "incorruptible seed" describe?
The Word of God.
3. A. In Mark 2:1-12, Jesus healed a man who was sick with palsy. According to verse 2, what did Jesus preach?
The Word.
B. What can we know about Jesus words in verse 10?
He has power to forgive sins.
C. What then is the purpose of miracles?
To validate that the Word of God is really the Word of God.
4. In Hebrews 2:2-3, it says, "The word . . . was confirmed unto us by them that heard him." In Mark 16:17-20 (especially verse 20), what will the Lord use to confirm His Word?
Signs.
5. In 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, Paul explained his method of preaching. In verse 4, what does the Bible say that Paul demonstrated and why?
Spirit and power so that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.
6. What does Hebrews 13:8 say about Jesus?
He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.
7. In Acts 10:38, what did Jesus do as a result of being anointed with the Holy Spirit?
He went about doing good and healing ALL that were oppressed of the devil.
8. If the Holy Spirit worked through Jesus that way, then He can work through us that way too! This is how we can bring glory to God.

MIRACLES GLORIFY GOD (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.

¹ A “miracle” is an extraordinary or unusual event that is considered to be a manifestation of divine power.

² Miracles are God's way of meeting the needs of those who seek Him in faith. Miracles will sometimes be used to demonstrate God's ability so that people may believe (Mark 2:10-11), but they will not happen to skeptics who are tempting God (Luke 4:9-12).

³ A miracle is also a supernatural intervention of God's power over natural law. Healings occur within the boundaries of natural law, while miracles are not limited to natural law. A person with a high fever who receives prayer and then begins to recover is experiencing a healing. The Lord intervened, but in natural ways. The virus, infection, or whatever was rebuked left the body (Luke 4:39), and then the natural healing process that the Lord built into all of us took over. When something totally supernatural happens, that's a miracle. When Jesus reattached the servant's ear and it was instantly whole after Peter cut it off (Luke 22:51), that was a miracle. It was also a healing, but it was a miraculous healing.

⁴ Feeding the five thousand (Matthew 14:19-20), walking on the water (Matthew 14:25), translating a ship and all aboard to the other side of the sea (John 6:21)—all these were miracles. Miracles are usually instantaneous, whereas healings are sometimes gradual.

⁵ “Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did . . . when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized” (Acts 8:5-6, 12 NKJV).

⁶ The Lord has never had anyone who was qualified working for Him. It's by God's grace that He uses any of us. Anyone who claims to be used of God because of his great holiness is either deceived or a deceiver. It's our faith in the grace of God that allows miracles to flow through us.

¹ What is a miracle?

² What did Jesus' miracle in Mark 2:10-12 demonstrate that He had power to do?

³ Does Mark 16:18 demonstrate a miracle or a healing?

⁴ What is the difference between a miracle and a healing?

⁵ According to Acts 8:5-8 and verse 12, how did the people respond to what was happening?

⁶ (a) What did the Apostle Peter say about his own holiness producing miracles? Acts 3:12

(b) How do miracles happen? Acts 3:16

MIRACLES GLORIFY GOD (Discipleship Questions)

Miracles: An extraordinary or unusual event that is considered to be a manifestation of divine power. God's way of meeting the needs of those who seek Him in faith. Used to demonstrate God's ability so that people may believe. A supernatural intervention of God's power over natural law.

Read Matthew 9:1-8

1. What did Jesus forgive of the paralytic?
2. Who took offense that Jesus was "forgiving sins"?
3. Did the Scribes voice their opinions out loud or did Jesus perceive their thoughts? (this is considered a word of knowledge)
4. Which is easier to say:
 - A. Your sins are forgiven you
 - B. Take up your bed and walk
5. What was the purpose for Jesus physically healing the paralytic (verse 6)?
6. How did the multitudes react after seeing this miracle?

Read Matthew 5:16

7. What are our good works supposed to accomplish?
8. Who are people supposed to follow, us or Jesus?

Read John 1:33-37

9. What did John the Baptist say to his disciples about Jesus?
10. After the disciples heard John speak, whom did they follow; John or Jesus?

When we speak, we need to make sure others would follow Jesus and not ourselves.

Read Hebrews 2:1-4

11. What must we "give the more earnest heed to"?
12. Why?

13. How was the word of the Lord confirmed?
14. Not only are we witnesses to the word of the Lord but God also. What did God do to validate His Word (verse 4)?
- A. _____ and _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____

Read Mark 16:17-20

15. What will follow those who believe?
16. Are the signs listed in verses 17-18 something man can do alone, or are they supernatural?
17. What did the disciples do after Jesus was received up into heaven?
18. How did the Lord work with them?
19. Do you recognize that the Lord will do the same for us because we are also His disciples?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

20. Did Paul speak with eloquence and wisdom?
21. What did Paul determine to know?
22. Was Paul strong and bold?
23. What did Paul's preaching demonstrate?
24. Where should we put our faith?
- A. In the wisdom of men
 - B. The power of God

Read Hebrews 13:8

25. Has God ever changed?

Read James 1:17

26. Is there any variation or shadow of turning with God?
27. Does He give good or bad gifts to His children?
28. Will this ever change?

Read Malachi 3:6

29. Does the Lord change?
30. Can we count on the Lord to work through us just as He did the disciples?

It's not about worthiness; it's about obedience. You are already worthy because of Jesus, but will you be obedient?

Read Acts 10:38

31. What did God anoint Jesus with?
32. Then what did Jesus do?
33. Who was with Jesus all the while He was doing good and healing?

Read Acts 1:8

34. What shall we receive from God if we wait upon Him?
35. What are we to do after we receive the Holy Spirit and power?
36. If the Lord doesn't change, do you see that everything God gave to Christ, Christ has given to us?
37. Do you now see how it is that we are able to fulfill the Great Commission?

Read Acts 3:12, 16

38. What was Peter trying to tell the people about whose power it was that made the man walk?
39. What was it that made the man strong according to verse 16?

Read Acts 8:4-8

40. What did those who were scattered do?
41. What did the multitudes do after hearing and seeing the miracles Philip did?
42. What was the result in verse 8 of their obedience?
43. What will be the result of your obedience? Are you ready?

MIRACLES GLORIFY GOD
(Discipleship Answer Key)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. His sins | 22. No |
| 2. Scribes (Religious) | 23. The Holy Spirit and power |
| 3. Perceive their thoughts | 24. B. Power of God |
| 4. A. Your sins are forgiven | 25. No |
| 5. We may know Christ has power to forgive sins | 26. No |
| 6. They marveled and glorified God | 27. Good gifts |
| 7. Encourage people to see Jesus | 28. No |
| 8. Jesus | 29. No |
| 9. He was the Son of God | 30. Yes |
| 10. Jesus | 31. Holy Spirit & Power |
| 11. The things we have heard | 32. Went about doing good, healing all |
| 12. Lest we drift away | 33. God |
| 13. By witnesses | 34. Power |
| 14. A. Signs – wonders
B. Various miracles
C. Gifts of the Holy Spirit | 35. Be witnesses |
| | 36. Yes |
| 15. Signs | 37. Yes |
| 16. Supernatural | 38. It was Christ's power |
| 17. They went out and preached everywhere | 39. Faith in the name of Jesus |
| 18. By confirming the word with signs following | 40. Preached the word |
| 19. Yes | 41. Heeded the word Philip spoke |
| 20. No | 42. Great joy |
| 21. Jesus Christ and Him crucified | 43. Your answer |

MIRACLES GLORIFY GOD
by Don Krow
(Additional Information)

Do you believe in miracles? May I tell you about one that happened to my family?

A “miracle” is an extraordinary or unusual event that is considered to be a manifestation of divine power.

My wife and I have been married 21 years. Since the time she was 4 years old, she has suffered from “asthma,” which is a respiratory disease that often arises from allergies and is characterized by difficulty in breathing, tightness of the chest, and coughing. This condition is incurable and is usually treated by the use of inhalators and other medications.

After we were married, we moved to west Texas, known for its notorious dust storms. It is not unusual to see a dark cloud form and within 20 minutes be in dust so thick that you have to turn on your car lights so that you can see to drive. It was in one of these instances that my wife could have died, or almost died, if it had not been for the miracle.

My wife, night after night, had to be propped up in bed, or on her hands and knees just to breathe. Night after night I prayed for God’s healing to come to her. After months of this, we were at the end of ourselves. It was at this time that we intensified our seeking God by adding fasting along with our prayers. Within a few days, some supernatural things began to happen. It was revealed to me through prayer that Wendy’s (that’s my wife’s name) real problem was not asthma but rather fear. There is a natural fear that is normal (like, “I can’t breathe”), and there is a supernatural fear that is abnormal that drives and torments people. The Scriptures declare “God hath not given us the SPIRIT OF FEAR; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind” (2 Timothy 1:7). When we discovered this was Wendy’s real problem, I immediately resisted and rebuked this foul spirit of fear (see James 4:7). Wendy was instantly healed and delivered from fear and asthma that day. It has been almost 20 years, and Wendy has remained healed.

A few weeks ago in Kit Carson, Colorado, a woman told me about her baby who, at 17 months, had brain damage and was partly brain dead. The baby was lifeless in the hospital with all kinds of tubes and things hooked up to him. This woman told me she got angry at God and began to curse. When she finally calmed down, she told God that she was sorry and would give her child to Him if He would heal him. Immediately the lifeless child stood up in the hospital bed with all of the different tubes attached to him. This lady began to say, “Jesus has just healed my baby!” She ran and called her husband proclaiming, “Jesus has just healed our baby!”

He said, “What?”

She said, “Jesus has just healed our baby!”

That baby is now grown up and is a college student with a 4.0 GPA.

Why am I sharing these true stories with you? When the Apostle John wrote down the true stories and miracles that Jesus did, he also gave the reason for doing this: “These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his Name” (John 20:31).

Isn't it time that you started thinking about spiritual things? ⁵“ Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ to them. ⁶And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did . . . ¹²when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, were baptized both men and women” (Acts 8:5-6,12 NKJV).

Have you ever considered turning to Him for the forgiveness of your sins? Accepting Him as your personal Saviour and following Him as your Lord? He loves you and wants to give you the miracle of His salvation!

THE POWER OF GODLY RELATIONSHIPS

(lesson not available)

THE POWER OF GODLY RELATIONSHIPS (Outline)

Relationships can either be destructive or empower us to serve and love God. Jesus in you is not enough to make it in this life as a Christian. The Jesus in other people, with their giftings, insight, and anointing of God will help you finish strong.

1 Corinthians 12:12-31: “For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. ¹³For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. ¹⁴For the body is not one member, but many. ¹⁵If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? ¹⁶And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? ¹⁸But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. ¹⁹And if they were all one member, where were the body? ²⁰But now are they many members, yet but one body. ²¹And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. ²²Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: ²³And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. ²⁴For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked: ²⁵That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. ²⁶And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. ²⁷Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. ²⁸And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? ³⁰Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? ³¹But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet show I unto you a more excellent way.”

For the body of Christ to function, all the members have to be in their places and understand each other's value. They are, in a sense, dependent on each other. Examples of people who are in unhealthy relationships are as follows:

1. People who are constantly critical of others
2. People who remind you of your past or try to pull you away from the things of God

3. Someone who tries to get you to compromise your convictions to live a godly life
4. Someone who is so insecure that they demand inordinate loyalty from you at the expense of other relationships
5. People who control or manipulate

2 Timothy 2:22: “Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.”

To make it in life, you need to connect yourself with others who love God and are pursuing faith, righteousness, and peace.

Proverbs 27:17: “Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.”

When you get around others who have a heart for God, they provoke you to love and have a heart for God.

Proverbs 18:1: “Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom.”

1 Corinthians 15:33: “Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.”

Not putting an importance on having godly relationships brings destruction in your life. If we give ourselves to people who love God and develop those relationships, it helps us maintain godly character. God has placed people in your life—someone to be a friend to you, to help you navigate through the storms of life and keep Jesus Lord. Begin to take a risk by investing yourself and your love in someone else’s life.

THE POWER OF GODLY RELATIONSHIPS (Teacher's Guide)

1. What does 1 Corinthians 15:33 teach us about relationships?
Bad company corrupts good character.
2. What does 1 Corinthians 12:12 show us about our Christian life?
We all need the other members of the body of Christ.
3. What can we learn about godly relationships from Hebrews 10:24?
Those in godly relationships spur on others to love and to good works.
4. What can we learn from Hebrews 10:25 about relationships?
We need to meet together, fellowship, and encourage one another.
5. Why must we guard our hearts from ungodly relationships?
Proverbs 5:23—Lest we be led astray by folly.
6. We are to pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace with whom?
2 Timothy 2:22—With them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
7. Who are we to remember and pattern our lives after?
Hebrews 13:7—Your leaders who have spoken the Word of God to you.

THE POWER OF GODLY RELATIONSHIPS
(Detailed Teacher's Guide not available)

THE POWER OF GODLY RELATIONSHIPS (Discipleship Questions)

Unity: State or fact of being one, something complete in itself, oneness, harmony, total agreement. A relation of all the parts of a work constituting a harmonious whole and producing a single general effect.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

1. What is every individual believer part of?
2. By one Spirit, what were we all baptized into?
3. Is the body one member or many?
4. How has God set each member in the body (verse 18)?
5. Are the weaker members of the body necessary?
6. Which parts of the Body have the greater honor and modesty?
7. How should we care for the other members of the Body?
8. How should we be with one who suffers?
9. And the one who is honored?
10. "Now you are the _____ of _____, and members _____."
11. Name the eight gifts mentioned in this verse.
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____
 - D. _____
 - E. _____
 - F. _____
 - G. _____
 - H. _____
12. Can you see how God appoints different gifts in the Body so that it may function as a whole?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:33

13. What wisdom is imparted in this verse about ungodly relationships?

Read Exodus 23:1-2

14. What shall you not circulate?
15. What shall you not put your hand with?
16. If you do put your hand with the wicked, what will that make you?
17. If a crowd is following evil, should you join them?

Read Psalm 1:1

18. You are a "blessed man" if you don't do the following:
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____

Read Proverbs 1:10

19. What are you commanded to do in this verse?

Read Proverbs 4:14-15

20. What are you instructed to do about evil in these verses?
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____
 - D. _____
 - E. _____

What has been your experience with walking with evil? Has it brought you peace and rest, or strife and contentions?

Read Hebrews 10:24-25

21. Since we are not to spur one another on to do evil, what does this verse exhort us to do?
22. What must we not forsake?
23. Can you see how assembling together encourages one another?

Read Proverbs 27:17

24. As iron sharpens iron, what do we do for one another?

25. Read Proverbs 17:17
How does a friend love?

Read Proverbs 18:24

26. What must you be to have friends?

27. Who is your friend who sticks closer than a brother?

Read 2 Timothy 2:22

28. What must you pursue? _____, _____, _____, _____

29. Who are you to pursue those things with?

30. If you are pursuing those things with Godly people, will you have time to commiserate with ungodly people?

Philippians 3:12-17 (The Amplified Bible)

12 "I press on to lay hold of (grasp) and make my own, that for which Christ Jesus (the Messiah) has laid hold of me and made me His own.

13 I do not consider, brethren, that I have captured and made it my own [yet]; but one thing I do [it is my one aspiration]: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,

14 I press on toward the goal to win the [supreme and heavenly] prize to which God in Christ Jesus is calling us upward.

15 So let those [of us] who are spiritually mature and full-grown have this mind and hold these convictions; and if in any respect you have a different attitude of mind, God will make that clear to you also.

16 Only let us hold true to what we have already attained and walk and order our lives by that.

17 Brethren, together follow my example and observe those who live after the pattern we have set for you."

Read Philippians 3:12-17 (Use AMP version above)

31. How are we to order our lives?

32. Whose example are we to follow and observe?

33. What will be the result of our lives if we order our lives by Christ?

Read Hebrews 13:7

34. Whom are we to remember?

A. _____

B. _____

35. Why are we to consider the outcome of their conduct?

Hebrews 13:7

(AMP) “Remember your leaders and superiors in authority [for it was they] who brought to you the Word of God. Observe attentively and consider their manner of living (the outcome of their well-spent lives) and imitate their faith (their conviction that God exists and is the Creator and Ruler of all things, the Provider and Bestower of external salvation through Christ, and their leaning of the entire human personality on God in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness).”

Your life, to this point, is a reflection of whom you have observed and imitated. If you are not satisfied with the results of your walk, you need to seek the Lord and have Him set the pattern of your life for you. I encourage you to surround yourself with godly men and women who will encourage you and point you toward the cross in all that you do.

THE POWER OF GODLY RELATIONSHIPS
(Discipleship Answer Key)

1. Body of Christ
2. Into the body
3. Many
4. Just as He pleased
5. Yes
6. Those we think less honorable
7. Without schism – Members should have same care for one another
8. Suffer with him
9. Rejoice with him
10. Body of Christ – Individually
11. A. Apostles
B. Prophets
C. Teachers
D. Miracles
E. Gifts of healing
F. Helps
G. Administration
H. Varieties of tongues
12. Yes
13. Evil company corrupts good habits
14. A false report
15. The wicked
16. An unrighteous witness
17. No
18. A. Walk in the counsel of the ungodly
B. Stand in the path of sinners
C. Sit in the seat of the scornful
19. If sinners entice you, do not consent.
20. A. Do not enter the path of the wicked
B. Do not walk in the way of evil
C. Avoid it
D. Turn away
E. Pass on
21. Stir up love and good works
22. Assembling ourselves together
23. Yes
24. Sharpen the countenance of our friends
25. At all times
26. Be friendly ourselves
27. Jesus
28. Righteousness, faith, love, peace
29. Those who call upon the Lord with a pure heart
30. No
31. To what we have already attained
32. Those who live after the pattern set
33. Salvation = abundance and peace
34. A. Those who rule over you
B. Those who have spoken the Word to you
35. If they truly walk the walk or just talk the talk

PERSECUTION

Don Krow

Today we're going to look at the subject of persecution and the words of Jesus in Matthew 10:16-23. He wanted to prepare His disciples for opposition, so He wanted them to know, "Look, opposition is going to come." All those who live godly, Christ-centered lives will suffer persecution (2 Timothy 3:12). It's not something you can rebuke. The enemy may be behind it, but persecution is part of standing for righteousness. The Bible says those who live godly in Christ will suffer persecution. Jesus is preparing His disciples by saying in Matthew 10:16, "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves." The word "behold" is saying, "Listen to Me, guys. I want you to get this. I'm going to send you as sheep in the midst of wolves." Sheep are the most defenseless, dependent animals I know of. A sheep doesn't have fangs, doesn't have venom like a snake—it has no defense whatsoever. The only defense it really has is the shepherd.

A shepherd's responsibility is to keep wolves out of the flock of sheep, but Jesus is saying the very opposite: "I'm sending you out as sheep into a pack of wolves." Isn't that amazing? The reason He is saying it is that He's preparing them for opposition. Ephesians 6:12 says, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." There will be opposition. Part of the Christian life is opposition, and Jesus wants you to know that. He wants to prepare you for that, and He says, "Be ye therefore wise as serpents" (Matthew 10:16). That word "wise" means in every situation you will not needlessly incite problems but will have wisdom that you carry with you. Be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

Then He says in Matthew 10:17, "But beware of men." The enemy is going to use men. Ephesians 2:2 says that there is, "the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." Satan is going to use men to oppose us, to oppose the purposes of Jesus Christ, and to oppose the Word of God. "Beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues" (10:17). Paul said, "Five times I was scourged, five times I was beaten with thirty-nine lashes, because of Jesus Christ, and the message of Jesus Christ, and the message of the gospel" (2 Corinthians 11:23-24). Jesus said you will be brought before governors—even the government will sometimes be used to oppose the purposes of Jesus Christ. You'll be brought before governors and kings for His sake, for a testimony to them or against them.

I'm a teacher at Charis Bible College, and in teaching a course on evangelism, I was showing the students how they could use an evangelism letter, a personal testimony of what God has done in their lives to reach out to the lost. I did one myself and sent it out to 50-100 people. Just a couple of days after that, I got a phone call from a woman in town named Marianne. She said, "You're not going to get away with it; you can't tell me about Jesus Christ; you can't get away with this. Where did you get my name anyway?" I said, "Well, I got it right out of the phone book." She said, "You're a liar! My name and address are not in the phone book!" I said, "Well, that's where I got it." She said, "Tomorrow the police will contact you." I thought to myself, "Is the Bible really true?" And the police did contact me the next day. I spent about two hours with a policeman, Captain Shields, trying, in a sense, to interrogate me.

Do you see what I'm saying? When there are criminals out on the street, they spent two hours of their time. Why? For the sake of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the Gospel. Is the Word of God really true? If you stand on the Word of God, if you're bold to witness, if you're bold to proclaim Jesus, if you're bold to live a righteous life before men, is the Bible true? It's exactly true. There will be opposition, because there are forces of evil, just like there are forces of good. And Jesus wanted His disciples to be prepared.

He said in Matthew 10:19, "But when they deliver you up, take no thought [be not anxious] how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak." With God's Spirit you'll have wisdom like Stephen of old. The people couldn't handle the wisdom by which he spoke. Jesus says in verses 22-23, "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved. But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another." Opposition against righteousness, against the purposes of Jesus Christ, is a reality if you're a doer of the Word and not just a hearer.

I was in a park a while back, and I saw an elderly lady sitting in the swing. I thought to myself, "She's harmless; she can't hurt me!" I asked her if I could sit down in the swing with her, and I sat down and began a conversation with her. I found out her name was Jane, and I said, "By the way, Jane, what do you do?" She said, "Oh, I'm an old lady; I don't work any more. I'm retired." Then she said, "And, by the way, what do you do?" I said, "I work for a parachurch ministry, a parachurch organization." Suddenly, her countenance changed, and she said, "Don't you tell me about God! Don't you tell me about Jesus!" I said, "Oh, Jane, you shouldn't talk that way," and she said, "If Jesus Christ was in front of me, I would spit in His face!" I said, "Jane! You shouldn't say things like that! You must have had a lot of people hurt you in churches, or whatever, for you to talk like that. Jane, you shouldn't talk like that! Let me tell you about my family." She said, "No! I said you can't talk to me. You're going to tell me about Jesus Christ and what God did in your family, and I'm not going to let you. You cannot speak." I said, "Jane, please. I've got to tell you about Jesus." She said, "No! I'm telling you to SHUT UP!"

She had a little dog on a leash, and she just pulled that little dog until he was sitting there going, "Arrgh," and away she went. Here was a woman out of control, because a spirit rose up in her, the spirit of disobedience. She was controlled by the enemy. I thought to myself, "I'm not used to having people yell at me. I'm not used to people getting in my face." But I had nothing but compassion, nothing but love for Jane. She was out of control, and I was totally in control. I went home and said, "Lord, you know what? The greatest miracle is that I was in control. When someone was in my face, I had nothing but love and compassion."

Persecution and opposition will come when we go out in the name of Jesus. The same Spirit of God that gives boldness to proclaim Jesus, when we're rejected for His sake, that same Spirit will give us comfort and strength in any situation. God bless you as you continue to meditate on the sayings and the words of Jesus.

PERSECUTION (Outline)

Persecution will come!

Matthew 10:16-23: “Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. ¹⁷But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; ¹⁸And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. ²⁰For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. ²¹And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. ²²And ye shall be hated of all men for my name’s sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved. ²³But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.”

Jesus wanted us to know that all who live godly will suffer persecution (2 Timothy 3:12). Persecution is part of standing for righteousness; it’s part of the Christian life.

Ephesians 6:12 says, “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

The enemy will use men to oppose the Word of God.

Ephesians 2:2: “Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.”

Even the government will oppose you.

PERSECUTION (Teacher's Guide)

1. According to 2 Timothy 3:12, those who live a godly life will experience what consequences?

They shall suffer persecution.

2. According to Mark 4:16-17, affliction and persecution come for what reason?

For the Word's sake (that is to take away the Word).

3. In Acts 8:1 and 4, persecution resulted in what?

The preaching of the Word everywhere. (Notice that according to verse one, it was not the apostles who did the preaching!)

4. A. According to Matthew 5:11-12, what are the consequences for truly following Jesus?

People will insult you, persecute you, and falsely say things against you.

- B. What kind of reward does persecution result in?

A great reward in heaven.

5. A. According to Acts 9:4-5, who is it that Saul was persecuting?

Jesus.

- B. In reality, who was Saul persecuting? (Acts 9:1)

The church—God's people.

6. A. Can Christians move away from the true Gospel? (Galatians 1:6-7)

Yes.

- B. How do we fall away from grace according to Galatians 5:4?

Trying to be declared righteous by keeping religious laws.

- C. Preaching the true Gospel results in what? (Galatians 6:12)

Suffering persecution for the cross of Christ.

PERSECUTION (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.

¹ Persecution is an inevitable part of the Christian life (John 16:18-20; Philippians 1:29-30). The only Christians who don't suffer persecution are those who aren't living a godly life (2 Timothy 3:12). Persecution is from Satan and is designed to uproot God's Word in our lives (Mark 4:16-17) by taking our eyes off Jesus (Hebrews 12:1-3), and therefore causing us to fall into strife or despondency (James 3:16).

² There are many forms of persecution. Having your life threatened because of your faith in Jesus is one way you can be persecuted, but it is not the most damaging. History shows that the church has always flourished under persecution with increased numbers and zeal. During intense, life-threatening persecution, people's priorities get straightened out, and the Lord assumes His rightful place. This always works for our good, regardless of what our outward circumstances might be.

³ A far more deadly form of persecution is simply men speaking evil of you or separating you from their company as Jesus mentions in Matthew 5:11-12. It's more deadly because it's more subtle. Many who would never directly deny the Lord will fall into self-pity or strife because of someone's criticism. This will render you just as ineffective as would a negative reaction to your life being threatened.

⁴ It helps to recognize that it is not you that they are persecuting but rather Christ in you (Acts 9:4). You are actually becoming a partaker of His sufferings (Philippians 3:10) and will share His rewards (Romans 8:17-18; 2 Timothy 2:11-12; Hebrews 11:26). With this in mind, you can actually shout and leap for joy in persecution (Luke 6:22-23; Acts 5:41). God takes the persecution of His children personally (Luke 17:2). In Acts 9:4, when Jesus appeared to Saul on the road to Damascus, He spoke to Saul and said, "Why persecutest thou me?" Judgment against those who persecute God's children will not always come in time to prevent their harm, but as this warning makes very clear, God will avenge His own (Romans 12:19).

¹ (a) According to 2 Timothy 3:12, those that live a godly life will experience what consequences?

(b) According to Mark 4:16-17, affliction and persecution come for what reason?

² Persecution resulted in what? According to Acts 8:1,4.

³ According to Matthew 5:11-12 what are the consequences for truly following Jesus?

⁴ (a) According to Acts 9:4-5, who is it that Saul was persecuting? Jesus

(b) In reality, who was Saul persecuting?

⁵Luke 21:19 states, “In your patience possess ye your souls.” The context of this statement is about persecution (verses 12-17), and the compensation for enduring it that we will receive in the resurrection. So the patience that Jesus is speaking of here is the calm assurance that God knows every hurt that we feel, and He will abundantly recompense us in the resurrection (Hebrews 11:26). This knowledge enables us to dominate our emotions in the face of persecution (i.e. possess our souls), instead of letting our emotions of fear dominate us.

⁶ Paul said in Galatians 5:11 that if he preached righteousness by the law, then the offense of the cross would cease. Grace is offensive to religious people. Legalism is not. The suffering that Paul is referring to the Galatians enduring was persecution for preaching the Gospel of Christ.

⁵What kind of reward does persecution result in? Matthew 5:11-12

⁶ (a) Can Christians move away from the true Gospel? Galatians 1:6-7

(b) How do we fall away from grace according to Galatians 5:4?

(c) Preaching the true Gospel results in what? Galatians 6:12

PERSECUTION (Discipleship Questions)

Persecution: to pursue with harassing or oppressive treatment; harass persistently. To oppress with injury or punishment for adhering to principles or religious faith. To worry, badger or vex.

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-14

1. What did Paul commend Timothy for following?
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____
 - D. _____
 - E. _____
 - F. _____
 - G. _____
 - H. _____
 - I. _____

2. Of the persecutions and afflictions that Paul experienced, from how many did the Lord deliver him?

3. What will happen to you if you desire to live godly in Christ Jesus?

4. What will happen to evil men?

5. Even though evil men become worse, what must we continue to do?

6. Based on this, are we to fear evil and persecution?

Read Mark 4:5-6, 16-17, 20

7. What happens when seed is sown on stony ground?

8. What happens when the sun comes out?

9. Why did the plant wither away?

10. What is the sun compared to in verse 17?

11. Why did the persecution and tribulations come?

12. Because the people had no root or foundation in Christ, what happened to them when they were persecuted?

13. How important is it for you to establish a root system in Christ Jesus?

14. What three steps take place for the seeds sown on good ground? (Verse 20)

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____

15. Does the sun still shine on the ones sown on good soil?

16. What do you think the difference is between the ones sown in good soil and the ones on stony ground?

Read Matthew 5:10-12

17. What is your reward if you are persecuted for righteousness sake?

18. What other things will happen to you for Jesus' sake?

19. What is our response to be toward the persecution?

20. Our reward in heaven is:

- A. Great
- B. Minimal
- C. A token gesture

Read John 15:18-23

21. Who did the world hate first, you or Christ?

22. Why does the world now hate you (verse 19)?

23. If a servant is not greater than his master, what can we expect from the world, based on what happened to Jesus?

24. Why will we experience persecution?

25. If people hate Jesus, whom else do they hate?

Read John 16:33

26. Why has Christ spoken these things to you?

27. Even though we will have tribulations, why are we to have cheer?

Read Romans 12:14, 17-21

28. Who are we to bless and not curse?

- 29. Are we to retaliate against evil?
- 30. How are we to live with all men?
- 31. Why aren't we to avenge ourselves?
- 32. How are we to treat our enemy according to verse 20?
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
- 33. How are we to overcome evil?
- 34. What does the end of verse 20 say will happen to our enemy if we repay evil with kindness?
- 35. Can you see where the cliché "kill 'em with kindness" comes from?

Read Matthew 10:16-22, 26

- 36. How does Christ send us out?
- 37. What are we to be wise as?
- 38. And harmless as
- 39. Jesus warns us about what will happen to us. When we are delivered up, Who is it that speaks through us?
- 40. If Jesus is speaking through us, have we need to worry?
- 41. Why will we be "hated by all"?
- 42. What happens if we endure the persecution?
- 43. Why are we not to fear (verse 26)?

Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-9

- 44. What is the treasure we have in earthen vessels?
- 45. We are:
 - A. Hard-pressed but NOT _____
 - B. Perplexed but NOT in _____
 - C. Persecuted but NOT _____
 - D. Struck down but NOT _____

Read 1 Peter 4:12-19

46. What are we not to think it strange of?
47. What are we to do instead?
48. If we partake in Christ's sufferings, what will happen when His joy is revealed?
49. What are we blessed with if we are reproached for the name of Christ?
50. On whose part is Christ blasphemed?
51. On whose part is He glorified?
52. What are we not to suffer as?
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____
 - D. _____

53. (Did you notice that a busybody was ranked right there with a murderer?)
54. How are we to respond if we suffer as a Christian?
55. What are we to do if we "suffer according to the will of God"?

Read Acts 4:17-20

56. What did the Jewish leaders decide to do if anyone shared the miracles and Gospel of Christ?
57. What did they command the people in verse 18?
58. What was Peter and John's response to them in verse 19?
59. What should your response be when you are persecuted and told to not speak in Jesus' name?

Read Galatians 1:9-10

60. What is to happen to the man who speaks another Gospel that is not according to Scriptures?
61. If you continue to be a man pleaser, what are you not?
62. If you want to serve God, whom will you have to stop bowing down to?
63. Can you see how you can be a servant of Christ and through that can serve man, but you cannot serve man and be a servant of Christ?

Read Hebrews 10:32-36

- 64. Why is it we are to endure all the persecution and sufferings (verse 34)?
- 65. Why do we have need for endurance?

Perdition: a condition of final spiritual ruin or damnation; future state of the wicked, hell.

Read Philippians 1:27-30

- 66. How are we to conduct ourselves, whether anyone is looking or not?
- 67. Why are we to not be terrified of our adversaries?
- 68. What has been granted to us on behalf of Christ?

Read Acts 18:9-10

- 69. Write out this scripture.
- 70. What are we promised if we do not fear man and continue to speak the Gospel?

Read 2 Kings 6:16

- 71. Why are we not to fear?

Deuteronomy 31:6

“Be strong and of good courage,
Do not fear nor be afraid of them;
For the Lord your God,
He is the One who goes with you.
He will not leave you nor forsake you.”

PERSECUTION
(Discipleship Answer Key)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. A. Carefully followed the doctrine
B. Manner of life
C. Purpose
D. Faith
E. Patience
F. Love
G. Perseverance
H. Persecutions
I. Afflictions | 16. The root system |
| 2. From them all | 17. The kingdom of heaven |
| 3. You will suffer persecutions | 18. Be reviled, persecuted, and falsely accused |
| 4. They will grow worse and worse | 19. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad |
| 5. Continue in the things we have learned
and been assured of | 20. A. Great |
| 6. No | 21. Christ |
| 7. It springs up | 22. Because Christ chose me out of this world |
| 8. It is scorched | 23. We can expect persecution |
| 9. It had no root | 24. For Christ's namesake |
| 10. Tribulation and persecution | 25. All who belong to Him, including me |
| 11. For the Word's sake | 26. So that in Christ I may have peace |
| 12. The immediately stumbled | 27. Christ has overcome the world |
| 13. Very important if you want to survive
and thrive | 28. Those who persecute us |
| 14. A. Hear the word
B. Accept it
C. Bear fruit | 29. No |
| 15. Yes | 30. Peaceably |
| | 31. Vengeance belongs to God |
| | 32. A. Feed him
B. Give him drink |
| | 33. With good |
| | 34. Coals of fire will be heaped on his head |
| | 35. Yes |
| | 36. As sheep among wolves |

37. Serpents
38. Doves
39. The Holy Spirit
40. No
41. For Christ's namesake
42. We will be saved
43. There is nothing covered or hidden that won't be known
44. The excellence of the power of God
45. A. Crushed
B. Despair
C. Forsaken
D. Destroyed
46. The fiery trial and persecution that will come upon us
47. Rejoice
48. That we may be glad with exceeding joy
49. The Spirit of glory and God
50. The persecutors
51. Mine
52. A. Murderer
B. Thief
C. Evil doer
D. Busybody
53. Yes
54. Be not ashamed, but to glorify God
55. Commit our souls to God in doing good
56. Severely threaten them
57. Not to speak or teach in the name of Jesus
58. You decide whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you or Him?
59. The same
60. He is accursed
61. A bondservant of Christ
62. Man
63. Yes
64. Because we have a better and enduring position in heaven
65. So that after I have done the will of God I may receive the promise
66. Worthy of the gospel of Christ
67. Because it proves to them their perdition and confirms our salvation
68. To believe in Him and suffer for His sake
69. Write out scripture
70. Christ is with me
71. Those who are with us are more than those who are with them

PERSECUTION (Additional Information)

The first great persecution for religious opinion of which we have any record was that which broke out against the worshipers of God among the Jews in the days of Ahab. That king, at the instigation of his wife Jezebel (“a woman in whom, with the reckless and licentious habits of an Oriental queen, were united the fiercest and sternest qualities inherent in the old Semitic race”) sought in the most relentless manner to extirpate the worship of Jehovah and substitute in its place the worship of Ashtoreth and Baal. Ahab’s example in this respect was followed by Manasseh, who “shed innocent blood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another” (2 Kings 21:16, comp, 2 Kings 24:4). In all ages, in one form or another, the people of God have had to suffer persecution. In its earliest history, the Christian church passed through many bloody persecutions. Of subsequent centuries in our own and in other lands, the same sad record may be made. Christians are forbidden to seek the propagation of the gospel by force (Luke 9:46-54, Romans 14:4, and James 4:11-12). The words of Psalms 7:13: “He ordaineth his arrows against the persecutors” ought rather be, as in the Revised Version, “He maketh his arrows fiery [shafts].”

(Easton Bible Dictionary)

PERSECUTION:

1. Christ suffered. Psalms 69:26; John 5:16
2. Christ voluntarily submitted to. Isaiah 50:6
3. Christ was patient under. Isaiah 53:7
4. Saints may expect. Mark 10:30; Luke 21:12, John 15:20
5. Saints suffer, for the sake of God. Jeremiah 15:15
6. Of saints, is a persecution of Christ. Zechariah 2:8; Acts 9:4-5
7. All that live godly in Christ, shall suffer. 2 Timothy 3:12
8. Originates
 - A. Ignorance of God and Christ. John 16:3
 - B. Hatred of God and Christ. John 15:18, 24
 - C. Hatred to the Gospel. Matthew 13:21
 - D. Pride. Psalms 10:2

- E. Mistaken zeal. Acts 13:50; 26:9-11
- 9. Is inconsistent with the spirit of the gospel. Matthew 26:52
- 10. Men by nature addicted to. Galatians 4:29
- 11. Preacher of the Gospel subject to. Galatians 5:11
- 12. Is sometimes to death. Acts 22:4
- 13. God forsakes not his saints under. 2 Corinthians 4:9
- 14. God delivers out of. Daniel 3:25, 28; 2 Corinthians 1:20;
2 Timothy 3:11, Psalm 34:19
- 15. Cannot separate from Christ. Romans 8:35-39
- 16. Lawful means may be used to escape. Matthew 2:13; 10:23; 12:14-15
- 17. Saints suffering, should
 - A. Commit themselves to God. 1 Peter 4:19
 - B. Exhibit patience. 1 Corinthians 4:12
 - C. Rejoice. Matthew 5:12; 1 Peter 4:13
 - D. Glorify God. 1 Peter 4:16
 - E. Pray for deliverance. Psalm 7:1; 119:86
 - F. Pray for those who inflict. Matthew 5:44
 - G. Return blessing for. Romans 12:14
- 18. The hope of future blessedness, supports under. 1 Corinthians 15:19, 32;
Hebrews 10:34-35
- 19. Blessedness of enduring, for Christ's sake. Matthew 5:10; Luke 6:22
- 20. Pray for those suffering. 2 Thessalonians 3:1-2

21. Hypocrites cannot endure. Matthew 4:17
22. False teachers shrink from. Galatians 6:12
23. The wicked
 - A. Addicted to. Psalms 10:2; 69:26
 - B. Active in. Psalms 143:3; Lamentations 4:19
 - C. Encourage each other in. Psalms 71:11
 - D. Rejoice in its success. Psalms 13:4; Revelation 11:10
 - E. Punishment for. Psalms 7:13; 2 Thessalonians 1:6
 - F. Illustrated. Matthew 21:33-39
24. Spirit of—Exemplified
 - A. Pharaoh. Exodus 1:8-14
 - B. Saul. 1 Samuel 26:18
 - C. Jezebel. 1 Kings 19:2
 - D. Zedekiah. Jeremiah 38:4-6
 - E. Chaldeans. Daniel 3:8-30
 - F. Pharisees. Matthew 12:14
 - G. Jews. John 5:16; 1 Thessalonians 2:15
 - H. Herod. Acts 12:1
 - I. Gentiles. Acts 14:5
 - J. Paul. Philippians 3:6; 1 Timothy 1:13
25. Suffering of—Exemplified
 - A. Micaiah. 1 Kings 22:27
 - B. David. Psalms 119:61
 - C. Jeremiah. Jeremiah 32:2

- D. Daniel. Daniel 6:5-17
- E. Peter. Acts 4:3
- F. Apostles. Acts 5:18
- G. The Prophets. Acts 7:52
- H. The Church. Acts 8:1
- I. Paul and Barnabas. Acts 13:50
- J. Paul and Silas. Acts 16:23
- K. Hebrews. Hebrews 10:33
- L. Saints of old. Hebrews 11:36

(New Topical Text Book)

DISCIPLESHIP

Andrew Wommack

Today I'd like to share some things I believe will radically change the way people approach ministering to others about their relationship with the Lord. Traditionally speaking, we have always emphasized the forgiveness of sins. The emphasis has been on getting people born again. Other things in the Christian life—the baptism in the Holy Spirit, healing, prosperity, joy, peace, intimacy—have been add-ons or optional. We preach and focus on the forgiveness of sins, and I don't believe that is how God intended it to be. The very word we use for salvation, "sozo," literally means not only forgiveness of sins but healing, deliverance, prosperity, and forgiveness of sins.

When Jesus died for us He did it as a package deal, not only for the forgiveness of sins. In a way, you can say forgiveness of sins is the most important part, because it's the front door, the beginning place without which you can't progress. I agree with that, but the Lord never intended us to break salvation up into parts, present only a portion of it, and try to get people to commit to that. Let's look at the very last instruction Jesus gave to His disciples before He ascended back into heaven. In Matthew 28:19-20, what we call the Great Commission, He said, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." The New International Version says go and make disciples of all nations. This scripture doesn't say, "go and make converts." Don't go get people converted to Christianity. Don't get them to just accept a belief system or make a one-time commitment. Jesus said to go make disciples.

If you study the word "disciple," it means "a learner, a follower, a person who does more than make a one-time commitment." Again, don't misunderstand me; forgiveness of sins is essential to salvation. It's a non-negotiable part, but it is not the only part. I believe we should go to people where their need is. For example, if they are struggling and have a need in their marriage or their finances, if they are struggling in any area of life, we should present Jesus to them as the way to get their need met, as the One who loves them and wants to participate in their lives. When we minister to and teach them what the Lord has to say about how to prosper in their situation and how to see His power manifest, it will invariably point out that they need to make a commitment of their life to Him. For instance, if you're teaching on the subject of finances, how do you get a person to understand: "give and it will be given unto you"? This is completely contrary to the way the world thinks: "I've got to hoard, I've got to save, I've got to keep." Yet God says, "give." It's the opposite of human nature, and for a person to really tap into that system of belief, they would have to have an encounter with the Lord that changed their heart; the things of the Spirit are foolishness to the natural, physical man.

If the struggle is in their marriage, as you disciple them, talk about how God says to love your mate as Christ loved the church. It's a great opportunity to talk about how Christ came, bore our sins, and took our punishment. When you talk about how love is kind and all these things, the human nature can't do that. They have to have a divine encounter with God to change their hearts. I believe if we just started trying to teach people about how God loves them and wants them to prosper, start trying to disciple them and get them to where they can flow in the blessings of God in any area, regardless of how you do it, they would have to realize, "But I can't do that. This is beyond my ability." Then you would have them in a place where

you could say, “See, you need to be born again. You need to have God’s nature placed on the inside of you. You need to be forgiven yourself before you can turn around and forgive somebody else. How can you give God’s kind of love if you’ve never received it?” And on and on it goes.

I really believe, if we would focus on becoming a disciple of the Lord, being like Jesus, growing up in His nature, and walking like Him, it would drive every single person to make a personal commitment to Him, receive forgiveness of their sins, and be born again. But it wouldn’t leave them there. Salvation has traditionally been presented as the object or goal of the whole scheme, to get your sins forgiven so you won’t go to hell. Because of this, that has been what people’s faith has been out there for. That was their goal, their object. Once they reach that and gain assurance of their salvation, multitudes of people today lose the motivation to really go on with God. All they want is to maintain enough of a relationship with Him to be assured that they will go to be with Him. They don’t really have the motivation to seek God. Scripture says in Romans 10:17 that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

If all that was presented to them was faith for forgiveness of sins, that’s what they have faith for. Once their faith obtains forgiveness, they are basically contented, just trying to hold on until it’s time to go be with the Lord. They don’t see Him as interested in every single aspect of their lives, but if we presented the Christian life as making an absolute commitment to the Lord, following Him, becoming mature, established people who are able to reproduce the life of Christ in every areas of their lives they would be brought to the point of salvation and born again. But they wouldn’t stop there. They would still have the goal of becoming disciples. It says in Matthew 28, you go teach them to observe ALL things, not teach them to just put faith in Christ but teach them how to prosper, how to have relationships, how to minister to other people. This is the commission the Lord gave people. He never commissioned His church to go preach only the forgiveness of sins. That was an important part, but it is not the whole message of the Gospel.

There is an interesting passage in John 6 where Jesus was teaching His disciples and saying some really strong things to them, basically claiming He was the Messiah: “I am the bread of life, I am the one you have to put your faith in.” John 8:30 says, “As he spake these words, many believed on him.” This is interesting. They believed on Him, they believed His message, they believed Jesus was the Christ. But in verses 31-32, Jesus said to those Jews who believed on Him—the ones who believed His message—“If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” He said “if you continue in My Word [that is if you continue to grow], then you can become My disciples.” He made a distinction between a person who believes on Him and a disciple.

A disciple is a person who does more than just believe Jesus is the Christ. It is someone who makes a commitment to Him that they will grow to the point of following Him in every area, and surrendering their lives to Him. I believe this is what the Lord wants. I’m not saying that a person who confesses Jesus as their Lord and doesn’t go on to maturity is not born again. I’m not saying they aren’t going to heaven, but I am saying that this is not what Jesus intended. He never intended for us only to acknowledge him as Messiah, receive salvation, have a secure eternity, and then struggle through this life. He never intended for His church to be people who are forgiven, but unable to live a victorious life and, therefore, have a sorry testimony to the world.

I’ve heard it expressed that if most people today who confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior were arrested for being Christians, there wouldn’t be enough evidence to convict them. That’s not the way God intended it. As you study the New Testament, those who were believers in Jesus were called Christians,

and that word “Christian” means “little Christ.” Originally this was a derogatory term for Christians that were acting just like Jesus did. They are little Christs. Most people today who claim the name of Christian would not be accused of being a little Christ. The word has taken on a different connotation to what it meant in New Testament days. We should be like they were, and the only way we can is to become disciples. The divine plan, the scheme God originally intended, was for Christians to become disciples. I believe when the church says, “No, a disciple is a super saint, elite, a special saint. What we have to do is preach forgiveness of sins and get people born again—that’s the important thing,” then the influence of Christianity has been lessened. So many people today claim the name of Christian, but they aren’t true disciples. Because of that, they have a negative testimony. Probably everyone reading this has said or heard something about the hypocrites at church. Mahatma Ghandi, the great Hindu leader, was convinced that Christianity was true after studying the Bible. He went to a Christian meeting in South Africa, intending to become a Christian, but because he had dark skin, they separated him. They were a white group and wouldn’t allow blacks to meet with them. Because he saw the actions of people who professed Christianity but were not disciples, he turned against it and led an entire nation away from Christianity. Today the nation of India suffers because of that. That negative influence came because we have emphasized salvation, the forgiveness of sins, but not discipleship.

That is not the message of the Gospel, not what God intended. He intends for us to be full-fledged mature disciples who are following Him and able to reproduce our faith. That is God’s plan for us. I pray this has encouraged you to recognize that He wants you to go beyond just receiving forgiveness of sins. We are going to begin to share how you can be a disciple and especially how you can raise up disciples.

DISCIPLESHIP (Outline)

“The Hebrew and Greek words for salvation imply the ideas of deliverance, safety, preservation, healing and soundness. Salvation is the great inclusive word of the Gospel, gathering into itself all the redemptive acts and processes.”

(The Scofield Reference Bible, p. 1192)

Matthew 28:19-20: “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” (KJV)

Matthew 28:19-20: “Therefore go and MAKE DISCIPLES of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (NIV)

Greek: “MATHETES, lit., a learner, indicating thought accompanied by endeavor, in contrast to a teacher; hence is denotes ONE WHO FOLLOWS ONE’S TEACHING.”

(Vine)

Romans 10:17: “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

John 8:30-32: “As he spake these words, many believed on him. ³¹Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; ³²And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

DISCIPLESHIP (Teacher's Guide)

1. According to Acts 11:26, what were Christians originally called?

Disciples.

2. What does Matthew 28:20 say we should teach?

To observe all things that Jesus commanded.

3. Besides being taught, what are the things we should do? (See Luke 6:46, James 1:22 and 27)

We should not only take in information but actually do the things that Jesus commanded.

4. To be Jesus' disciples, we must do what, according to John 8:31?

Continue in God's Word.

DISCIPLESHIP (Detailed Teacher's Guide)

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

¹ In Matthew 28:19-20 are the words of Jesus, referred to as the Great Commission. He said, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." The New International Version says, "Go and make disciples of all nations."

The scripture doesn't say to "go and make converts, go and get people converted to Christianity, get them to just accept a belief system or make a one-time commitment." Jesus said, "to make disciples."

² I believe that we need to put the focus on becoming a disciple of the Lord. Discipleship (being a follower, becoming like Jesus, growing up in His nature and walking like Him), should be our focus.

Matthew 28:20 states that we should teach others "to observe all things" that Jesus commanded—not just teach them to put faith in Christ. This is the commission that Jesus gave. He never commissioned His church to preach only the forgiveness of sins. Now that's important, but it is not the whole message of the Gospel.

³ A disciple is a person who does more than just believe that Jesus is the Christ. A disciple is a person who goes on and grows to the point that he follows Jesus in all areas of his life. Now, I am not saying that people who confess Jesus as their Lord, but don't mature, aren't born again or won't go to heaven. I am saying that this is not what God intended. He never intended for His church to be people who were forgiven, but unable to live victorious lives.

I've heard that if most people today who confess the Lord as their Savior were arrested for being a Christian, there wouldn't be enough evidence to convict them. You know, that's not the way God intended it.

¹ According to Acts 11:26, what were Christians originally called?

² What does Matthew 28:20 say we should teach?

³ Besides being taught, what are the things we should do? See Luke 6:46; James 1:22, 27

⁴In the New Testament, the people who were believers in the Lord were people who were called Christians. The word “Christian” means “little Christ.” This originally was a derogatory term applied to them, saying that these people acted just like Jesus did. They are “little Christs.” Most people today who claim the name of “Christian” would not be accused of being “little Christs.” The word “Christian” has taken on a connotation different from what it was in the New Testament days. We should be like those in the New Testament, and the only way we can become like that is to become disciples. This is the divine plan. God originally intended for Christians to become disciples.

⁴ To be Jesus’ disciples, we must do what according to John 8:31?

DISCIPLESHIP (Discipleship Questions)

Disciple: “Indicating thought [teachings] accompanied by endeavor [a strenuous effort or attempt]. One who follows ones teachings. Those who manifest that they are His “disciples” by abiding in His word. Those who believe upon Christ and confess it. A “disciple” is not only a pupil, but an adherent [a supporter or follower who sticks, adheres to, or supports his teacher]. Imitators of the teacher.” (W. E. Vine)

Read Acts 11:19-26

1. What did the disciples do after they were scattered after the persecution?
2. What did they preach?
3. What was the result of the hand of the Lord being with them?
4. What was the “purpose of heart” that Barnabas encouraged the people with?
5. How is Barnabas described in verse 24?
6. What did Barnabas and Saul [Paul] do for an entire year?
7. What were the first disciples called?

Read Matthew 28:18-20

8. Who has all authority in heaven and earth?
9. After clarifying to us that Jesus has all authority, what did He command us to do?
10. What are we to do when we “GO”?
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____
11. Based on the definition above and the commission to “make disciples,” can you see how discipling is more than merely making converts?
12. Baptism is a full submersion under water. Can you see that besides the literal meaning of baptism, it also means full submersion into ALL the things of God, the whole spectrum?
13. What are we to teach people?
14. What is the promise that the Lord leaves with us?

15. Does this mean that we are discipling on our own, by our own means and strength?

Read Joshua 1:9

16. What does God command us in this verse?

17. What assurance do we have that we don't have to be terrified, and that we can be strong and courageous?

18. If God says that He is with us wherever we go, does that mean only sometimes?

Read Mark 16:15-20

19. Where did Christ command the disciples to "GO" in this verse?

20. Who are we to preach the Gospel to?

21. What are you if you are baptized [fully submerged in Christ]?

22. If you choose not to believe, what are you?

23. What will follow those who believe?

24. Mark 16:17-18 says to "teach them to observe all things that I have commanded you." List the signs that Christ said would follow the Word.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

25. After the disciples received their instruction, what did they do in verse 20?

26. Who was with them?

27. How did Jesus "confirm the word"?

28. Who was obedient to the call?

29. And through their obedience, what did Jesus do?

30. Do you believe that if you are obedient to the call, Christ will also confirm His word through you by accompanying signs?

Read Romans 4:20-21

31. How did Abraham give glory to God, according to verse 20?
32. Regarding the promises of God he was
 - A. Fully convinced
 - B. Partially convinced
 - C. Doubtful
33. About what was he fully convinced?

Read Luke 6:46-49

34. What was the inconsistency Jesus questioned in verse 26?
35. What is the man like who hears His sayings and does them?
36. How far did the man dig to build his foundation?
37. What happened to his house when tribulation rose against it?
38. What is the man like who heard the Word and did nothing?
39. Whose house would you rather be in during a storm?
40. Have you been digging deep to lay your foundation in Christ?

Read James 1:21-22

41. What are you to lay aside?
42. What are you to receive with meekness?
43. What is this implanted Word able to do?
44. What is the implanted Word?
45. What are we if we only “hear” the Word?
46. What are we commanded to “do” with the Word?

Read John 14:12-14

47. If we believe in Jesus, what kind of works will we do?
48. Why will we do the “greater works”?
49. Why will Jesus do whatever we ask of Him in His name?

50. Christ reemphasizes a point in verse 14. What is it?
51. Is there any gray area about whether or not Christ will follow through on His promise?

Read John 14:21-23

52. How does Christ determine if we love Him?
53. He who loves Jesus will be loved of _____
54. Is God's love conditional?
55. How does Christ manifest Himself to us?

Read John 15:6-8

56. What must we do in order to receive those things that we ask for?
57. How is the Father glorified?
58. If we are bearing much fruit, what will we be?
59. Can you bear fruit if you are not abiding in His Word?
60. What happens to those who don't abide in Christ (verse 6)?

Read John 2:5

61. What did Jesus' mother say to the servants?
62. Is this a command or an option?
63. Do you think this command also applies to us?

Read Luke 9:35

64. What are we commanded to do in this verse?
65. Who is commanding us to "hear Him"?
66. Is this an optional request or a direct command?

Read Proverbs 8:32-36

67. What are we commanded to do in verse 32a?

68. What is the promise that follows?
69. What are we commanded to do in verse 33?
70. What are we if we listen and are watchful?
71. If we find God, what do we have?
72. Who do we wrong, or hurt, if we sin against God?
73. What do we love if we hate God?
74. For whose benefit is it if we listen, hear, receive, and do as the Lord commands?

Read John 8:11-12

75. What did Christ command the woman who was caught in the act of adultery?
76. Who is the light of the world?
77. What must we do in order to not walk in darkness?
78. If we follow Christ, what will we have?

Read John 8:31, 36

79. What does Christ call us if we “abide in His Word”?
80. If we are abiding in His Word, what shall we know?
81. What will knowing the truth do for us?
82. What happens if the “Son makes you free”?

Read Ephesians 5:1

83. Who are we to be imitators of?

Read 1 Peter 2:21

84. Whose steps should we follow in?

Philippians 3:17 (AMP)
“Brethren, together follow my example
and observe those who live
after the pattern we have set for you.”

DISCIPLESHIP (Discipleship Questions)

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| <p>1. Preached the Word</p> <p>2. Jesus Christ</p> <p>3. A great number believed and turned to the Lord</p> <p>4. Encouraged them to continue with the Lord</p> <p>5. A good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith</p> <p>6. Assembled with the church and taught</p> <p>7. Christians</p> <p>8. Jesus</p> <p>9. Go</p> <p>10. A. Make disciples of all the nations
B. Baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
C. Teach them to observe ALL things Christ commanded</p> <p>11. Yes</p> <p>12. Yes</p> <p>13. All things Christ commanded</p> <p>14. He will be with us always</p> <p>15. No</p> <p>16. Be strong and courageous</p> <p>17. The Lord is with us wherever we go</p> <p>18. No</p> <p>19. Into all the world</p> | <p>20. To every creature</p> <p>21. Saved</p> <p>22. Condemned</p> <p>23. Signs</p> <p>24. A. Cast out demons
B. Speak new tongues
C. Take up serpents
D. Lay hands on sick</p> <p>25. They went out and did what was instructed</p> <p>26. Jesus</p> <p>27. Through accompanying signs</p> <p>28. The disciples</p> <p>29. Confirmed His Word</p> <p>30. Yes</p> <p>31. He did not waiver at the promise of God thru unbelief</p> <p>32. A. Fully convinced</p> <p>33. That what God promised, He was able to perform</p> <p>34. They called Him Lord, but were disobedient to the calling</p> <p>35. Like a man who built on a rock</p> <p>36. Dug deep</p> <p>37. It could not shake it</p> |
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38. Like a man who built his house without a foundation
39. The first
40. Yes
41. Filthiness and wickedness
42. Implanted Word
43. Able to save your soul
44. The Word of God
45. Deceived
46. Be a doer
47. The same as Christ
48. Christ is with God
49. God may be glorified
50. If we ask anything in His name, He will do it
51. No
52. If we keep and do His commandments
53. God the Father
54. No
55. Through His word, and His indwelling presence
56. Abide in Christ
57. That you bear much fruit
58. His disciples
59. No
60. Cast out, thrown in the fire and burned
61. Whatever He says to you – DO IT!
62. Command
63. Yes
64. Hear Him
65. God
66. Direct command
67. Listen to God and keep His ways
68. We will be blessed
69. Hear instruction and be wise
70. Blessed
71. Life and favor
72. Ourselves
73. Death
74. Our own
75. Sin no more
76. Jesus
77. Follow Christ
78. The light of life
79. His disciples
80. The truth
81. Set us free
82. We are free indeed
83. God
84. Christ's

DISCIPLESHIP (Additional Information)

The Greek word for “disciple” is “MATHETES” and literally means, “a learner, or follower.” A disciple is not only a pupil but also a devoted follower and imitator of his teacher. Jesus said, “a student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher” (Luke 6:40, NIV). A disciple is taught to observe (or do) all the things that Jesus commands (Matthew 28:19-20).

Being a disciple is not taking the easy life. The Scriptures state, “Let’s please the other fellow, not ourselves, and do what is for his good and thus build him up in the Lord.” Christ didn’t please Himself. As the psalmist said, “He came for the very purpose of suffering under the insults of those who were against the Lord” (Romans 15:2-3, The Living Bible).

Jesus said a disciple must love Him more than his closest relatives on earth and even more than his own life (Luke 14:26). One who wants to be a disciple must take up the cross daily and follow the path that Christ followed (Luke 9:23).

A disciple is one who believes Christ’s teaching, rests in His sacrifice, and imitates His example (Matthew 10:24, Luke 14:26, 27, 33, and John 6:68-69).

DISCIPLESHIP EVANGELISM

Andrew Wommack

Today we're going to continue to talk about being a disciple and how to make disciples of other people. I want to remind you that the Lord gave us a command not to go make converts, not to just get people to confess Jesus as their Lord and receive forgiveness of sins, but to make disciples. Although those first two are vital, and I'm not minimizing that at all, the real purpose has to be to go beyond being born again and to go on to maturity. The goal of a Christian, who is a disciple, should be to go and make disciples of other people.

I want to share some things specifically concerning our Discipleship Program that you've been going through. We've been ministering to you about how you can mature in the Lord and receive all these things. Now we want to shift our emphasis somewhat to how you can make disciples of other people, which was the Lord's command. Let me show you the necessity for this. First of all, He told us to go and make disciples, to bring people to maturity and able to reproduce. Our church world today hasn't done this. We've put the responsibility of getting people born again and their relationship with the Lord on what we call the clergy or ministers. We have evangelists who travel around, hold large crusades, and see tens of thousands of people make decisions for the Lord. Though some of them are not really born again but are just experiencing emotions, I'm sure there are people who are truly born again and have a relationship with the Lord. Most of the time, however, there's not an emphasis on going on and becoming a disciple, and that's not the way God intended it to be.

I compare this to a person who loves babies. It would be totally irresponsible to have a baby, be excited about it, but only like seeing it born. When you have a child, you have to assume responsibility to train and raise it. The Child Welfare Services would come after a person who had a child, rejoiced, threw it aside, and wanted to have another one. That's irresponsible, but in a sense, it's what the church has done. We tell people, "The main thing is to get born again, to confess Jesus as your Lord." When that happens, we pat them on the back and say, "Now you're a Christian. Believe God, study the Bible, and everything will be okay." That is not the Lord's emphasis.

Because of this we've produced people, many of whom have made heartfelt commitments to the Lord, but have no maturity. They are unable to reproduce their faith, because there is no material to help them. Instead of being positive witnesses for Jesus, they actually become negative witnesses. He intends us to go out and reach people in the way that they become full-fledged disciples and are able to reproduce their faith in others.

When I first got turned on to the Lord, I had such an excitement to share my faith with other people that I knocked on doors and started witnessing to everything that moved. I saw people born again, some of them just went through the motions to get me off their back, but I believe others had a real heartfelt conviction. But when I went back in a month or two, they would be right back in the same problems. They didn't have any maturity. I could see that if they really were born again, they certainly weren't ever going to be a reproductive, strong member of the body of Christ, able to reproduce their faith. I became frustrated.

At that point I came across some people who were emphasizing discipleship, and one of the illustrations they shared with me was this: If you led one person to the Lord every six months, separated yourself and discipled them to the point that they became a mature Christian who could reproduce their faith, at the end of six months there'd only be two Christians. Then if each one of you led one person to the Lord, separated yourselves and discipled them for six months, at the end of a year there'd be four Christians. This doesn't look comparable to a person who could lead a thousand people to the Lord in a crusade and get them to confess Jesus. Most people would say, "Well, this discipleship method only produces four converts in the first year, whereas the other method would produce a thousand converts. We have to go with the other one." The man who could lead a thousand people to the Lord would have led 35,000 people to the Lord. That's good, and nobody would criticize it; but it's just a drop in the bucket compared to the world population. Basically, that's the way the church has been functioning.

If we emphasize discipleship, the person who leads one person to the Lord every six months and those two do the same, in just a little over twelve and a half years they would evangelize more than the population of the world—over five and a half billion people. Some people think, "That can't be," but I challenge you to figure it out. I've multiplied it out, and in a little over twelve and a half years, one person discipling another person every six months, making them a reproducing member of the body of Christ, could evangelize five and a half billion people versus twelve and a half thousand people with the other method.

If we could use this Discipleship Evangelism Program to bring you to a place of maturity, if we could get you to where you not only experienced victory and maturity yourself but have a desire to go out and reproduce it in other people, if you became the trainer instead of the trainee, here are some of the things that could happen if only one person got a hold of this concept, followed the Lord to a place of maturity, and started discipling another person. If you only did this with one person per year, at the end of one year there would be you and the person you discipled—two. At the end of two years, there'd be four. But, if you could continue to follow that, at the end of ten years there'd be 1,024 people who had been discipled and were reproducing members of the body of Christ. If you continued, with only one person originally receiving this, at the end of twenty years there'd be over a million people. That's awesome. This is the method of multiplication the Lord established—going and making disciples, not going and making converts. It's by far the best way to expand the kingdom to reach people, but our mindset is looking for the quick fix. We're looking at statistics.

The statistics that very few people ever count are the negative statistics. What about the tens of thousands of people at a crusade who make a commitment to the Lord, how many are truly born again? I've heard Billy Graham, probably the premier evangelist of our day, say that eighty-five percent of the people in America who claim to be Christians are not truly born again. They've gone through the motions, but there was no heartfelt conversion. That amazes me. That story was secondhand, so I can't quote it as authoritative, but I don't have any reason to believe the person who reported it was wrong. Whether or not it's eighty-five percent, I certainly believe there's a large percentage today who profess Christianity, but don't possess it. There wasn't genuine, heartfelt faith in their heart. How many people go to large crusades, make commitments, go proclaim to be Christians, still have anger, bitterness, and jealousy, and become negative witnesses? If we want to count statistics, how many people have been turned away from the true Gospel because they saw someone who proclaimed Christianity and thought, "I'm as good as the hypocrites down there at church. I don't need it."

We count these statistics, and by anybody's estimation not all of them are heartfelt conversions. Even if every single person who claims to be a Christian was truly born again, we don't have this multiplying effect. We have placed the burden of converting people on just a few people, and that's never the way God intended it. He meant for every single member of the body of Christ, not only to receive salvation but to go on to maturity and become a reproducing member who is able to disciple other people. If ten people took this and did it, the statistics would be ten times as much. If a hundred people used this program, not only to be discipled, but to disciple other people, within ten years they would reach 102,000 people who are disciples, and in twenty years, 105,000,000 people. That's nearly half the population of the United States, and if they were not only professors but possessors of true Christianity, able to reproduce their faith, what a difference that would make.

The whole point is that discipleship is the method God set down for evangelizing the world. It not only blesses you, but as John 8:31-32 says, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make your free." The truth doesn't make you free until you continue in the Word. That's what God wants for each individual so they can experience His fullness, but it's also the method of evangelism that He set down. Whoever decided that was not the way to do it and substituted another method, it hasn't worked.

This is God's system, and that's the reason we call it Discipleship Evangelism. If you want to evangelize the world and see people come to the Lord, take people who are already professors and get them to live the abundant life and become positive witnesses, able to reproduce their faith and disciple other people. In a very short period of time we could be out of here, if we would follow God's plan.

I pray today that God speaks this to your heart to show you the value of His method. Over a twenty-year period of time, one of you getting a hold of this and becoming faithful could reach over a million people. Your life can count. You're important to God, and I encourage you to go on and become a disciple and a discipler of other people.

DISCIPLESHIP EVANGELISM (Outline)

The goal of each disciple of Jesus should be to go and make more disciples of Jesus.

Matthew 28:19-20: “Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (NIV).

If one man led 1,000 people to the Lord each year, in 35 years there would be 35,000 converts through his ministry. However, if the same man only led one person to the Lord every six months, then discipled that convert so that he too could share his faith the same way, then in 10 years, he would have made 1,048,576 converts. In 15 years, he would have evangelized over 1,000,000,000 people and in just over 16 years, he would have evangelized the present population of the entire world. Jesus’ plan of discipleship is the best.

DISCIPLESHIP EVANGELISM (Teacher's Guide)

1. What does the Greek word "MATHETES" (disciple) mean?
A learner—indicating thought accompanied by endeavor—a follower.
2. A. According to John 8:31, what is required to be Jesus' disciple?
To continue in His Word.
B. Then what will happen? (John 8:32)
You shall know the truth and the truth will make you free.
3. A. What is Jesus' commission in Matthew 28:19-20?
To make disciples of the nations.
B. In the process of discipling, what will happen? (Matthew 28:19)
People will be converted and baptized.
C. Will you accept Jesus' commission to disciple others?

DISCIPLESHIP EVANGELISM (Detailed Teacher's Guide)

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

¹The Greek word for “disciple,” “mathetes,” means “a learner—indicating thought accompanied by endeavor.” Jesus had more than twelve disciples, and the statements made in John 8:31-32 are intended for anyone who wants to be a follower of Jesus. True biblical faith in Jesus produces salvation, but being a “disciple” comes only through maturing in the knowledge of, and acting on, the Word of God.

²Notice that teaching is mentioned twice in the Matthew 28:19-20—the Great Commission. We have not been commanded to proclaim only, but we must explain also, and provide training. This is the cornerstone of Jesus' plan of evangelization.

The present day church has put the majority of its evangelistic efforts into just proclaiming the gospel with little or no thought to discipleship. The consequences have been that people have responded and been born again, but as a whole these new believers don't mature to a place where they can reproduce their Christian faith in others. This has placed the burden of evangelism on a few individuals and mass crusades.

If one man led 1,000 people to the Lord each year, in 35 years there would be 35,000 converts through his ministry. However, if the same man only led one person to the Lord every six months, then discipled that convert so that he too could share his faith the same way, then in 10 years, he would have 1,048,576 converts. In 15 years, he would have evangelized over 1,000,000,000 people, and in just over 16 years he would have evangelized the present population of the entire world. Jesus' plan of discipleship is the best.

¹(a) What does this Greek word MATHETES (disciple) mean?
(b) According to John 8:31, what is required to be Jesus' disciple?
(c) According to John 8:32, then what will happen?

²(a) What is Jesus' commission in Matthew 28:19-20?
(b) In the process of discipling, what will happen? (Matthew 28:19, people will be converted and baptized).
(c) Will you accept Jesus' commission to disciple others?

DISCIPLESHIP EVANGELISM (Additional Information)

The Greek word “EVAGGELION” means “good news” or “gospel.” God Himself was the first great evangelizer or bringer of good news. After the fall, God brought good news to Adam and Eve concerning the seed that would crush the serpent’s head (Genesis 3:15). Again God brought good news to Abraham declaring, “And in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed” (Genesis 12:3). John the Baptist did the work of an evangelist in Luke 3:18, “John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them” (NIV).

The most extensive discipleship and evangelizing yet to come, must be carried out before the end comes. Matthew 24:14 states: “And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.” Christians have the command to preach the Word and make disciples of all nations (2 Timothy 4:2; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15). Will you help us in this endeavor? “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10).

HOW TO USE YOUR TESTIMONY

Don Krow

Today I want to talk to you about using your personal testimony. Acts 5:42 says, “And every day in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ” (NASB). Notice that the disciples of the early church met in the temple every day and from house to house they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ. Many people feel a house to house or door to door type of approach is unnatural or uncomfortable. I want to share a few things we’ve learned in actually going out, having doors open for discipleship training, and seeing people converted, turning to Jesus Christ.

It’s not nearly as hard as you’ve been told, and one of the things I noticed in the Scriptures is that the Apostle Paul used his personal testimony three times when talking to an unconverted person. In Acts 9, 22, and 26, he gave his testimony, his experience, and what happened to him as he talked to unbelievers. One of the best approaches we have found in bringing the message of Jesus Christ to other people is what we call “prayer-walking.” We go to a door, knock, and tell them, “We’re just in the area praying for people. We believe God hears and answers prayer, and we wondered if you’re having any problems in your family—health or other problems—and would like for us to pray for you.” Sometimes they say, “Well, yes, I have a problem,” and want us to pray; other times they feel a little uncomfortable or embarrassed and say, “No, we don’t have any prayer requests at this time.” Then we just begin to tell them our personal testimony.

I say, “I notice you have children. I have three of my own—two sixteen year old daughters and a boy who is 20 years old. I’ve been married 22 years, and on December 14, 1981, my second child was stillborn.” They reply, “Oh, I’m so sorry to hear about that.” Then I say, “Don’t be sorry, let me tell you what happened.” I begin to tell the story about how our first child was born perfectly normal in every way. My wife wanted to have a home birth, and we had a midwife who had worked at a high risk maternity center in El Paso, Texas. My wife became pregnant with twins, and when our second child, the second baby of the twins, was born, she was a breech birth. She was born feet first, but was stillborn, or dead. She was as dark as my jeans and blue from lack of oxygen, which had been cut off some time during the birth process.

The midwife picked her up, slapped her (hitting her as hard as she could), suctioned her lungs in case fluid had filled them, did everything she could, and finally gave up. I was like any other father. I just lost my daughter—what am I going to do? At this point I say to the people at the door, “I would like to ask you, have you ever read much of the Bible?” They say, “Well, I’ve read a little bit,” or sometimes, “No, not really.” I explain, “The reason I’m asking is because the Bible says in Acts 10:38 that Jesus went about doing good, healing all who were oppressed of the devil, for God was with Him. I’m just going to tell you the story. You can take it or leave it for whatever it means to you, but my baby was dead, and I was thinking that in a few days we would bury her.”

Back to the story, I thought, “I just want to hold her.” As I went to pick her up, there was an evil presence over her, which the Bible calls a demonic spirit. It physically attacked me and paralyzed me momentarily. Immediately when that happened, I said, “In the name of Jesus Christ, I command you,

unclean spirit, to get off this baby, and I command life into this child in Jesus' name." That little baby, who had never breathed, gasped, took one breath, and then ceased to breathe. I said again, "In the name of Jesus Christ, you unclean spirit, I command you off of this child right now." This time she gasped several times, breathed, and continued to breathe.

I call the person I am talking to by name and say, "You know, after a period of about three minutes, a person without oxygen to the brain has brain damage. My daughter is perfectly normal in every way. We named her Vita, which in Latin means "life," because we wanted to tell the story of what God did for her. He brought life back into her. From that time on I've studied the Bible a lot, and this is what I've discovered. Like the unclean spirit over my child, there is a kingdom of darkness, a dominion of Satan and his rule, and there is a kingdom of God's dear Son.

"When Jesus came to the earth, He began to call people out of the kingdom of darkness into His own kingdom through repentance—receiving the forgiveness of sins and turning to follow Him. I don't know what you believe, but I'm just telling you what happened in my family and in my life. I want to tell you the real reason we're at your door. Jesus told us to go make disciples. I realize a lot of people are busy and can't go to church or don't want to. If you have a question there, you can't raise your hand and say, 'Pastor (or priest), what does what you just said mean?' So this is why we're coming to your door. In ten minutes we have a concentrated teaching from God's Word on a cassette tape or video, and we'd like to play it for you. We'll supply an outline, and then we'd like to go to the Scriptures and ask you some questions to make sure you understand. It's really a dialog that goes back and forth. We're not preaching at you or telling you what the Bible says but trying to help you discover what it says by asking you a few questions and letting you listen to this ten minute cassette or video.

"Would that interest you? We'll set up a time at your convenience, come here to your home, and just talk to you and give you the lesson. If you don't get something out of the very first lesson, if it doesn't help, encourage, and build you up, you'll never see our faces again. We're not here to bug you, to get you to join a church or organization, or anything like that. We're only here to tell you what Jesus Christ did for you personally and help you come to understand the Word of God for yourself. There are a lot of things in the Bible we don't know or understand completely, but we're here to offer you a study, ask a few questions, for just ten minutes on a cassette at your convenience. Would you be interested in that?" A lot of people have said, "Yes, I would be interested," so we set up a time to go into their home and begin these discipleship lessons. We're not there to do what I call "microwave evangelism," twist their arm, and get them to say a prayer when they don't even understand what they're doing. We follow the discipleship lessons to help them understand Christ and Him crucified.

I told a pastor about our discipleship lessons, and he said, "Don, what happens after the first lesson?" After the first lesson, a person understands what they need to do to respond to Jesus Christ and to receive the mercy and pardon He offers. We're not high-pressure salesmen. That's not our approach, but through the first lesson they'll come to a realization of what they need to do from their heart. He then asked, "Well, what happens after lesson 15?" I said, "After lesson 15, if a person has stayed with us, they will have repented of their sins and been water-baptized and baptized with the Holy Spirit. We're seeing that kind of thing happen, not after lesson 15, but even after lesson 6."

In Matthew 28 Jesus said to go into the nations and make disciples and, in the process, baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In the midst of discipling, we bring understanding of

Jesus Christ and Him Crucified to the unbeliever. In bringing that understanding week after week, we build a relationship with them, a friendship. They come to love and trust us. We're bringing God's Word to them, not coming to preach at them. We're reading the Scriptures, getting them to read them, and asking questions in a way that they see the answers from God's Word for themselves. Week after week, we see people come to a place where they're willing to openly confess Christ because they know what it means to accept Him, to follow Him, and to be committed to Him. It's much different than many of the evangelism approaches today.

The way we go out to reach the lost is first of all by personal testimony, and each of us has a personal testimony. Many times we write our own tracts. I wrote one called "The Death of My Daughter," which I leave it at the door many times. Other people on our Discipleship Evangelism team have written tracts, like "A Slave Set Free" by Joe Rose who was bound by alcohol and drugs. "The Death of a Dope Fiend" by Rocky Forry who was bound by drugs since he was fifteen years old, and Jesus set him free. We tell these testimonies at people's doors.

Some people say, "But I don't have a dynamic testimony. I didn't see my baby raised from the dead after eight minutes." I realize a lot of people don't have those kinds of testimonies. You might have a testimony like Andrew Wommack who had the power of God sustain his life which, throughout his childhood, kept him out of the sin, filth, and ungodliness most people deal with. Each one of us has a testimony, and if you don't think yours is dynamic enough, use mine. When we first began our Discipleship Evangelism teams and started reaching out to people, Joe Rose used my testimony. After a while, he gave it better than I did, so I'd just say, "Hey, Joe, go ahead and tell them what happened to me."

If the Apostle Paul used his personal testimony three times in the New Testament in reaching the lost, you can do it too. We have computers today with all kinds of programs: Word Perfect, Microsoft Word, or whatever. It's very easy to set up a tract of your own personal testimony. It's much more effective to say, "This is not something I bought at a Bible book store. It's what happened to me that I'm sharing with you."

For the first part of our discipleship training, that is what I would like you to do. For the rest of the sessions, please have a pad of paper, and a pencil or a pen, and begin to take notes. We will supply notes, but it's better to take your own and add them to ours. I'd like for you to sit down and begin to write your personal testimony—what happened to you—how you came to Jesus Christ. Then give your testimony to your trainer as if you were presenting it at someone's door. Your trainer will give you tips on how to approach people. If you can't be with your trainer after you have written it, give it to another person as if you were presenting it to the trainer.

We have supplied additional information, "Tips on Sharing Your Faith." Before you go to the next session, write your personal testimony, practice presenting it, and study "Tips on Sharing Your Faith." It is very important that you study it—not just read it—as you go out and evangelize the nations, one person at a time. God bless you.

HOW TO USE YOUR TESTIMONY

THE DEATH OF MY DAUGHTER

by Don Krow

I have the same basic needs that you have—the need for love, acceptance, communication, a solid faith in God, and a purpose in life.

I had a most unusual experience happen to me on December 14, 1981, that I would like to share with you. On that day, my wife gave birth (it happened to be a home birth) to identical twins. The firstborn was perfectly normal in every way. The second was, what is known to the medical profession as stillborn. Of course you probably know that stillborn means dead. At this point I HESITATE TO TELL YOU THE REST OF THE STORY, BECAUSE IT IS SO UNUSUAL AND ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE.

Regardless of what our natural minds tell us, there is a spiritual realm that is involved in this world. Before God, what I am telling you is the truth.

A midwife who had worked at a high-risk maternity center in El Paso, Texas, tried to revive my second child with every known medical procedure, and she eventually gave up. At this point, I accepted my daughter's death, but wanted to hold her. As I reached to pick her up, I WAS SUDDENLY KNOCKED BACK AND PARALYZED momentarily by an evil force. The Bible calls these evil forces demons. I KNOW IT SOUNDS BIZARRE, but I took authority over this demon in Jesus' name and commanded it to leave. I then began to command life to come into the child. At this point the child took a breath and then ceased to breathe. Again I said, "I command you to leave and life to come into this child in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ." AT THAT MOMENT THE CHILD BREATHED AND THIS TIME CONTINUED TO BREATHE. SHE WILL BE 18 YEARS OLD on December 14, 1999. Because I had a tape recorder going during this birth, I was able to time the events that took place. MY DAUGHTER WAS NOT BREATHING ON HER OWN FOR OVER EIGHT MINUTES. You know and I know that even though she is alive today, SHE SHOULD HAVE HAD BRAIN DAMAGE. I want you to know that she is perfectly normal in every way and excels in her school work.

Since the time of the twins' birth I've studied the Bible a lot. I have discovered that there is a conflict between two kings and two kingdoms (Colossians 1:13-14). What do you think a person needs to do to enter God's kingdom? Keep God's law? Live the best he can? If that is your answer, then tell me, why did Christ die? The Simple English New Testament states, "If the law could have made us right with God, then Christ died for nothing!" (Galatians 2:21). According to this verse, do you see any other way to heaven except through Jesus Christ? Jesus said "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

Would you consider turning to Him today for the forgiveness of your sins and the newness of life that He offers? (2 Corinthians 5:17).

I would like to talk to you about this because I care about you.

You may contact me at my website:

www.krowtracts.com or www.delessons.org

or call 719-577-7775

HOW TO USE YOUR TESTIMONY

A SLAVE IS SET FREE

A True Story by Joe Rose

When I was fourteen I stole a bottle of Taylor's port wine from my grandmother's bar, drank it in my bedroom, and then passed out on the floor. My drinking soon progressed to smoking marijuana, and when I was fifteen, I tried hash, acid, and many other drugs. Getting drunk and high was my way of gaining acceptance. I knew I could always find somebody to be with and party with, if I was getting stoned or wasted. Besides, I liked the way it felt getting buzzed.

I'd get up on the weekends and have to ask one of my friends where we were the night before, because I blacked out much of the evening. I continued this lifestyle through my twenties, and in 1986, after 16 years of "just a couple more beers," a failed marriage, and job burnout, I was tired of life and considered suicide.

IS YOUR LIFE A MESS TOO?
ARE YOU UNHAPPY WITH WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW?
ARE YOU SAYING, "THIS IS STUPID, WHY AM I EVEN READING THIS?"
WOULD YOU LIKE TO JUST TAKE A PILL
AND WAKE UP ON THE OTHER SIDE?
IF YOU ANSWERED "NO" TO THESE QUESTIONS,
DON'T READ ANY FURTHER—
IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS,
PLEASE CONTINUE READING.

I met a man named Brooks who told me how God had helped him many years ago, to overcome personal failures in his life. He asked me if I was saved. I asked "saved from what?" He then asked me if I believed in heaven. I answered, "Yes." He asked, "Are you going there and why?" I answered, "Yes, because I am basically a good person and never killed anyone."

He explained to me that the problems I was facing in my life were only symptoms of a greater problem. This greater problem was that I was a sinner and not in touch with God. I was spiritually dead and as a result I kept making mistake after mistake in my life. Brooks explained that Jesus says I need to be born again to escape future judgment for my sins and come into friendship with Him. Accepting Jesus as my Savior and repenting for my sins is the only way I will get to heaven (John 3:3, 14:6).

I thought that he was a fanatic, and I would leave in a couple of days (I was staying with him for a few days while looking for a place of my own). But the more he talked, the more I realized that the things I saw as my problems were really only symptoms of a greater problem: THAT I NEEDED JESUS IN MY LIFE. I needed to be born again. I decided to call on Jesus and accept Him as my Lord and Savior; then I was born again.

Once I called on Jesus as my Savior, a funny thing happened. God removed the desire for alcohol and drugs from my life. I felt like I had been a slave to drugs and alcohol for seventeen years and now, because of Jesus I was free from this bondage. I have lived in this freedom for eleven years.

FRIEND,
IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS IN YOUR LIFE
THAT ARE STOPPING
YOU FROM MOVING FORWARD,
IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING SUICIDE,
IF YOU ARE BURNED OUT IN YOUR JOB,
MARRIAGE, OR LIFE IN
GENERAL,

PLEASE CONSIDER CALLING ON JESUS
AND ASKING HIM
TO BE YOUR LORD AND SAVIOUR.
HE DESIRES FOR YOU TO ESCAPE THE WRATH TO COME
AND RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE WITH HIM.
ALL WHO CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.
(Romans 10:9-10,13).

HOW TO USE YOUR TESTIMONY

THE DEATH OF A DOPE FIEND

by Rocky Forry

At the age of fifteen, I smoked my first joint. I was intrigued by the way pot made me feel. As time went by, I kept a bag of dope on me wherever I went. First thing in the morning everyday, I needed that RUSH to start the day. Throughout the day, I took hits to keep me BUZZED. This kept up for fourteen years. I told people “I CAN QUIT WHENEVER I WANT TO—I JUST DON’T WANT TO!” When my baggie was low, I became nervous, anxious—finding a high was all I could think about. I couldn’t relax until I could replenish my supply. If other drugs were available (coke, hash, mescaline) I COULD NOT RESIST THEM. I WAS IN BONDAGE! Webster’s dictionary defines bondage as “SERVITUDE TO A CONTROLLING PERSON OR FORCE.”

The Bible says in Romans 6:16 “that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey.” I WAS A SLAVE! I was controlled by an EVIL FORCE. I was a slave to an ADDICTIVE SPIRIT. I willed to be loosed from it but could not break free. Is something holding you in slavery? (DRUGS, ALCOHOL, PORNOGRAPHY, GLUTTONY—the list goes on). Are these spirits destroying your life, marriage, health?

John 10:10 says “the thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

In John 8:36 Jesus says “If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.” Jesus helps everyone who comes to Him. Are you ready to come to Him? His delivering power is available to take away the fiendish desires and control the devil has over your life. How bad do you want to be free? Jesus wants to start your life over, fresh with Him (2 Corinthians 5:17). He loves you; He died for you. CRY OUT TO HIM. Acts 2:21 says, “Whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be saved.” I did. I’ve been free the last fifteen years. Nothing evil controls me anymore.

Jesus Christ and the Word of God will not only set you free, but will keep you free!

Are you ready?

Jesus is!

For prayer call (719) 577-7775

“GO!”
(Discipleship Questions)

Read Matthew 12:34-35

1. What compels the mouth to speak?
2. Where do good things come forth from?

Read Luke 6:43-45

3. Can a good tree bear bad fruit?
4. Can a bad tree bear good fruit?
5. How is a tree known?
6. What kind of a tree are you?

Read John 15:7-8

7. What are you commanded to do in this verse?
8. If we are abiding, what does Christ promise us?
9. How is the Father glorified?
10. What are you if you are abiding in Christ and bearing much fruit?
11. Do you see yourself as one of His disciples?

Now that you have Jesus on the inside of you and have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, what are you going to do about it?

Suggestions:

1. Ask the Lord to place someone (or many) in your life that you would be able to disciple.
2. Write to us so that we can send them (or you) information on our discipleship materials.
3. Encourage, love, teach the person (s) in seeking out the things of God.
4. Spend time with them studying, reading, and discussing the Scriptures.
5. Support them and encourage them that you will be with them every step of the way.

6. Use the gifts the Lord has placed on the inside of you to minister to them.
7. When they have completed all three levels of the Discipleship Evangelism program, send them out to disciple others.
8. Remember that Christ is with you and will never forsake you!
9. Remember that the Holy Spirit will lead and guide you in all understanding, and will even give you the words to say.
10. Remember that the Lord will provide a way for His children, and aren't you glad He chose you?!

If you need any help or encouragement in any way, please feel free to contact us.

Now, in the name of Jesus Christ, go to the nations, preach the Gospel to every creature by the power of the Holy Spirit so that His Kingdom comes and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Blessings to you in the name above all names, Jesus Christ.

GO!
(Discipleship Answer Key)

1. The abundance of the heart
2. The good treasures of his heart
3. No
4. No
5. By its own fruit
6. A good tree
7. Abide in Christ
8. Receive the desires of our heart
9. That we bear much fruit
10. Being His disciple
11. Yes

HOW TO USE YOUR TESTIMONY

TIPS ON SHARING YOUR FAITH

by Don Krow

(Additional Information)

EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD WITNESS

One of the first things that Jesus said to His would-be followers was “Follow Me, and I WILL MAKE YOU BECOME fishers of men” (Mark 1:17, NASB).

This command was expanded upon as we see that evangelism and discipleship was the real mission of Jesus Christ when He was on this earth: “Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: FOR THEREFORE CAME I FORTH” (Mark 1:38).

Christ not only began His earthly ministry with evangelism and discipleship in mind, but He also ended it with the command of the Great Commission. ¹⁵“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel TO EVERY CREATURE. ¹⁶He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. ¹⁷And these signs shall follow them that believe” (Mark 16:15-17). Verse 20 tells us that the disciples obeyed that command as “they went forth, and PREACHED EVERYWHERE, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.”

WHAT IS EVANGELISM?

The phrases “preach the Gospel” and “bring glad tidings” refer to the Greek word “euaggelizo,” which means “to evangelize.” Success in evangelism is not seeing how many people we can win, but rather it is sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and trusting God for the results. Jesus said, “No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him” (John 6:44).

WHO REACHED THE LOST?

Ephesians 4:11-12 states, “It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹²to prepare God’s people for works of service” (NIV).

This must mean that the true purpose of God in giving the apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher is to prepare God’s people to do the work of the ministry.

In Acts 8:4 it states, “The believers who had fled Jerusalem went everywhere preaching the good news about Jesus” (LB). In comparing this with Acts 8:1, it is clear that everyone, including the apostles, went everywhere and evangelized. Such was the result that within 300 years the whole Roman Empire was exposed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Why? Because everyone was preaching the good news!

WHERE DID EVANGELISM TAKE PLACE?

Where did the believers evangelize? In the temple area, common to the Jews (Acts 2:1-46); in the synagogue (Acts 14:1); throughout entire cities (Acts 8:5); in the desert (Acts 8:26); on the bank of a riverside (Acts 16:13-15); in jail and prison (Acts 16:23); according to Acts 20:20, publicly and from house to house. A paraphrase of Acts 1:8 would state that evangelism begins in your own home town, then surrounding cities, your state, country, and then the world. Evangelism and discipleship begin where you live—anywhere there are people.

WHAT WAS THE METHOD AND APPROACH TO DISCIPLESHIP EVANGELISM?

By studying Jesus' methods of discipleship evangelism, we can conclude that true evangelism and discipleship use all the scriptures and the whole counsel of God in reaching people. The reason one set of scriptures or one approach does not work with everyone is that men's hearts are in different spiritual conditions (see Matthew 13:18-23; Mark 4:14-20; Luke 8:9-15). Jesus' approach to the woman caught in adultery was pure grace (John 8:3-11). Jesus' approach to the woman at the well required a word of knowledge (John 4:16-18; 1 Corinthians 12:8). For Zaccheus it took a dinner invitation (Luke 19:1-10). To the rich young ruler, Jesus ministered the law (Matthew 19:16-22; Mark 10:17-27; Luke 18:18-27). It took the law to show this man the need for a Saviour (see Galatians 3:24).

SALVATION IS FROM THE HEART

The idea that reaching the lost is a method, such as a salesman's approach, is false. Jesus allowed the rich young ruler to walk away (Mark 10:21-22). We are not after quick decisions, but want converts who will go on to become true disciples. Bill Fay, in his excellent booklet on witnessing, states, "We need to get away from a 'win them' mentality. People do not put their faith in Christ because we cleverly force them to believe. We must realize that if we 'win' someone to Christ, he's probably not saved. D.L. Moody, the evangelist, was riding on a train when a drunk came up to him and said, 'Mr. Moody, I'm one of your converts.' Moody replied, 'I'm afraid you are, because you're obviously not a convert of the Lord's'" (How Can I Share My Faith Without an Argument? by Bill Fay, p.6).

R.A. Torrey said, "One of the great faults of Christian work today is haste. We are too anxious for immediate results and therefore do superficial work. Many of those who followed Christ came to Him slowly. Nicodemus, Joseph of Arimathea, Peter, and even Paul—although the final step in Paul's case seems very sudden—are cases in point. Three days after Jesus appeared to Paul on the way to Damascus, Paul came out into the light and openly confessed Christ (see Acts 22:16). One man, with whom a slow but thorough work has been done, and who at last has committed his life to Christ, is better than a dozen who are rushed through a sinner's prayer and think they have accepted Christ when in reality they have not. It is often wise to plant a truth in a man's heart and leave it to work. The seed on rocky ground springs up quickly, but it withers just as quickly" (How to Bring Men to Christ, by R.A. Torrey, pgs. 87-88).

Scripture reveals a vast difference between trying to twist someone's arm to get him to say a sinner's prayer and one crying from the heart (without manipulation) for mercy from God and forgiveness of sins.

Notice the following scriptures reveal that salvation results from the freewill heart response of people (resulting in conversion) and not by well meaning people pressuring others to make premature decisions.

“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ. ³⁷When the people heard this, THEY WERE CUT TO THE HEART and said to Peter and the other apostles, ‘BROTHERS, WHAT SHALL WE DO?’” (Acts 2:36-37, NIV). Notice who asked what to do? It was the people under conviction.

“And Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he PREACHED JESUS to him. ³⁶And as they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, ‘Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?’ ³⁷And Philip said, ‘If you believe with all your heart, you may.’ And he answered and said, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.’” (Acts 8:35-37, NASB). Notice that when Jesus was preached, the eunuch asked how he may respond. His heart was open and wanted Jesus.

“And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to a riverside, where we were supposing that there would be a place of prayer; and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had assembled. ¹⁴And a certain woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshipper of God, was listening; and THE LORD OPENED HER HEART TO RESPOND to the things spoken by Paul” (Acts 16:13-14, NASB). Notice that the Lord opened Lydia’s heart to respond and she did!

A jailer said to the Apostle Paul, “What must I do to be saved?” (Acts 16:29-31). Again, a man under conviction who had just witnessed an earthquake realized his need for salvation. It was the unbeliever who asked how to be saved. Again this is evidence of an open heart that wanted Jesus. No manipulation was involved.

A rich man asked Jesus, “Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?” (Mark 10:17). This man asked the right question to the right person.

A thief knew he was a sinner and under just condemnation. Out of his heart’s need he cried to Jesus for salvation. “Lord, remember me when you enter into your Kingdom.” And Jesus said, “Today (at your death) you will be with me in paradise” (Luke 23:42-43, LB).

A tax collector humbled himself before God, beat his breast, and cried, “God be merciful to me a sinner!” God accepted him, forgave his sins and declared him in right relationship with God (Luke 18:9-14). This man’s heart was open and prepared to receive God’s grace, because he knew his need for a savior.

Anyone who has done a lot of evangelism is aware of the problem I am addressing. Reaching the lost takes discernment and skill, using God’s Word. It also should not stop short of an invitation to receive Christ as both Lord and Savior. But it should never be manipulative (see the informative booklet, Prayer, Repentance & Salvation at: www.krowtracts.com).

SOME HELPFUL METHODS OF APPROACH

If we ever needed discernment and the power of the Holy Spirit, it is in evangelism and discipleship (Acts 1:8). I hesitate to give a method lest it is turned into a formula, but I also believe that through prayer and reliance upon God, that these methods may be very helpful in beginning a life of fulfillment by obeying the Great Commission.

APPROACH NUMBER 1:

Approach Number 1 is what I call “prayer-walking.” Prayer-walking is when you knock on doors and ask people if they have any prayer requests. It is non-threatening because you are not presenting some form of dogma, but rather showing that you care about them and want to pray for them and their families. We have had great success with prayer-walking. One example happened around Christmas, when I was knocking on doors and asking people if they had any prayer requests. A lady named Debra answered the door and said that she had just lost her job, her car had been stolen, she had no money to give presents to her children, and she was living with her sister. I told her that it was no coincidence that we met. I prayed with her, told her that Jesus was calling her to Himself, offered her some literature, which she took, and then I left.

A few days later I returned and gave her some money. She was overwhelmed that anyone cared.

After Christmas, I returned to find that she was in the hospital. When I visited her in the hospital, she immediately recognized me and thanked me for helping her and her children. I told her of God’s love and the Gospel. She immediately wanted to be saved. I told her, “Why don’t you tell Jesus what you have just told me!” She called out to Christ from her heart for the salvation that He offers. And I was the one to witness this. The key to true soul-winning is to get people to go directly to God for themselves through Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their sins and not to mimic someone else’s prayer.

Lately we have seen some good results through prayer-walking as a local church, and I have gone out on Saturday mornings. Several people have turned to Christ.

APPROACH NUMBER 2:

Approach Number 2 is using a tract. The real purpose of a tract is to open a conversation with a stranger so that you may talk. The most effective tract that I use for this purpose is the testimony tract about the death of my daughter. Some people have said, “Well I don’t have a testimony as powerful and dynamic as that.” I say, “You don’t have to—use mine!” Joe Rose, one of my friends and companions on our Discipleship Evangelism ministry team, tells my testimony better than I do, and with great results! You can do it too!

This is the way I usually start: “Hi! My name is Don Krow, and we are in your neighborhood today praying for people’s needs. By the way, are there any needs that you have that you would like us to pray about or a prayer request that you have that we could take back to our homes and pray for?”

“No, not at this time,” they may answer.

“I would like to leave you this pamphlet about my daughter. I have two daughters, twins actually, and they will be 18 years old in December. One of them was stillborn, you may know what that is? Well, she is alive today and perfectly normal in every way. She was dead for around eight minutes. This pamphlet tells you how this miracle took place. Would you like to have it? In fact, if you have a few moments, I’ll tell you the story.” (See the tract “The Death of my Daughter” for the full story www.krowtracts.com)

I then proceed to give the Gospel. The story is the open door to present the Gospel. I usually say something like this: “Since the time that happened with my twins, I’ve studied the Bible a lot. This is what I discovered. There is a kingdom of darkness, and there is a kingdom of God’s dear Son. When Jesus came to earth, the Jews thought He was going to be a political Messiah that would put down their enemies and destroy Roman rule. But Jesus said, ‘My kingdom is not of this earth.’ Jesus was calling people into His kingdom and rule by repentance (having a change of heart and mind) and turning to Him for the forgiveness of their sins through His shed blood. I don’t know where you are in all of this—have you ever heard this message before?” Depending on how a person responds at this point will determine if I leave or go right into the Word. I always leave tracts to reinforce the message.

PRESENTING THE DISCIPLESHIP PROGRAM

At this time we usually present the discipleship program. Jesus’ real commission is to make disciples. We are here at your home today to offer you, in just a 10-15 minute presentation on video or audio cassette, a concentrated teaching on various Bible topics. A dialogue will follow that will take you to the Bible for answers. It’s not like going to church. If you have a question you can’t stop the pastor and ask a question. We go directly to the Bible and use no additional books or magazines. I’ll tell you what! If you would like to try the first lesson, and if you are not helped, encouraged and spiritually strengthened, you won’t see our faces anymore. We are not here to waste your time or ours. Would you like to try our first lesson?” If they say “yes,” we schedule a time to return and meet where they are most comfortable—in their home. We are not after a high pressure decision. We are building relationships, friendships, and are bringing them God’s Word. It is only after weeks of establishing relationships that we begin to ask for a response. People then are coming into Christ with an understanding and commitment. They are ready to become Jesus’ disciples.

USING THE SCRIPTURES

I recommend reading R.A. Torrey’s book, “How to Bring Men to Christ” to give you many examples of how to use the Scriptures in winning souls. Let me give you just one: “Many years ago, I noticed a white-haired , in a meeting who did not stand up to acknowledge that he was a Christian. At the close of the service, I walked over to him and asked, ‘Are you a Christian?’ He said he was not. I was sure he was interested, so I asked him the direct question, ‘Would you become a Christian tonight if I showed you the way?’ He said that he would.

“I opened my Bible to Isaiah 53:6 and read the first part of the verse, ‘ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way.’ I then said to him, ‘Is that true of you?’ and he answered, ‘Yes.’

‘Now,’ I said, ‘let us read the rest of the verse. ‘And the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.’ What has the Lord done with your sins?’

He thought a moment and said, ‘He has laid them on Christ.’

‘What then,’ I said, ‘is all that you have to do to be saved?’

He replied promptly, ‘Accept Him.’

‘Well,’ I said, ‘will you accept Him tonight?’

He said, ‘I will.’

“Let us kneel down and tell God so.’ We knelt down, and I led in prayer. He followed in a simple way, telling God that he was a sinner, but that he believed that God had laid his sins on Jesus Christ. He then asked God for Christ’s sake to forgive his sins.

“When he finished, I asked him if he thought God had heard his prayer and that his sins were forgiven. He said, ‘Yes.’ I then asked him if he would begin to lead a Christian life at once, set up the family altar, and openly confess Christ before the world. He replied that he would. Some months later, I met his pastor and found that he had gone to his home in a distant city, set up the family altar, and united with the church. Apparently all that this man was waiting for was for someone to make the way of salvation plain to him” (How to Bring Men to Christ, by R.A.Torrey, pp. 27-29).

APPROACH NUMBER 3:

Approach Number 3 is similar to Number 2, in that it uses a testimony. People may argue with your theology but not with your personal experience or testimony. I use my testimony, but also use others. That’s why I wrote tract number 11 “Do You Believe in Miracles.” This is a testimony of how my wife received a healing. I find that these testimonies work similarly to the accounts recorded in the Gospels, except that they are modern-day miracles. The whole point is, as John’s Gospel states, “these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name” (John 20:31).

I encourage my Discipleship Evangelism partners to write their own testimonies in tract form. A friend (Joe Rose) has written three tracts that I have on my website, and I often use his testimony in conjunction with mine. Sometimes he shares mine. Use your testimony in conjunction with others and always “salt and pepper” it with Scriptures in between. Real success in Discipleship Evangelism results from using God’s Word. Testimonies and tracts are only a means to an end, that is, to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

How to Bring Men to Christ by R.A Torrey, Whitaker House Publishers. (This book takes you step by step in using the Scriptures in leading others to Christ).

What the Lord God Has to Say About Prayer, Repentance and Salvation by James Brand. (You may read this booklet at www.krowtracts.com).

Evangelism A Concise History by John Mark Terry. Broadman & Holman Publishers, Nashville, Tennessee USA (A great book that gives evangelism history throughout the church).

DISCIPLESHIP FOLLOW-UP RESULTS FORM

PREPARING TO TEACH DISCIPLESHIP LESSONS

Don Krow

In the second part of our training session we're going to talk about preparing to teach the discipleship lessons. Turn to Ephesians 4:11-12. This was after Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection: "And he gave some apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry." I think one of the things we've failed to understand is that the real purpose of the apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher is to perfect the saints so that they do the work of the ministry. The New International Version says, "to prepare God's people for works and service."

I asked once, "What do you think the purpose of an evangelist is?" Some said, "An evangelist goes out and wins souls for Christ, etc., etc." According to the Ephesians passage, the real purpose of the evangelist is to prepare God's people for works of service, to prepare them to win the lost. The same is true for the pastor, apostle, and prophet, to prepare people so people can do the work of the ministry. That is what we are trying to do in these discipleship lessons, to prepare you to actually do the work of the ministry—not to take in knowledge or another teaching but to prepare you to teach and reach out to other people.

Paul says a very interesting thing in 2 Timothy 2:2, "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." He says, the things you've heard me minister, the things you've heard me share, commit to faithful men. I pray that through these discipleship lessons we are reaching faithful men who will be able to teach, and in turn those they teach will teach others.

The basis for teaching these discipleship lessons is in Mark 16:15-16: "And he [Jesus] said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Notice how they responded to the commission of Jesus Christ to go into the world and preach the Gospel in verse 20: "And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following." The word *them* is in italics in the Bible, which means it's not in the original koine Greek. What this verse actually says is that they went forth and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed the Word with accompanying signs. God works with the Word. He didn't just work with them; He worked with the Word, and confirmed the Word with accompanying signs.

The whole thrust of our discipleship lessons is to bring a person to the Word and help them understand it for themselves. We have supplied an outline, "Preparing to Teach Discipleship Lessons." Here are the seven points I want to bring out in this training session.

Point 1: We have an outline of the material on the video or cassette tape that you will give to each person you do the discipleship lesson with so they can follow along, hear what's being said, and look up the verses in their Bible. For you as the teacher we have a Teacher's Guide—questions we've put together from the Scriptures you can ask at the end of the video or audio cassette that will stimulate an answer directly from the Bible.

Another thing we're putting together is Additional Information. The best way to prepare people to teach, is to familiarize them with the material. For example, if you're teaching on repentance, not only do you need questions to ask but also the additional teaching we're supplying in written form, so you can study the subject in more detail and understand it thoroughly. Then when someone asks you a question, you will be prepared to answer. It's very important not only to use the Teacher's Guide, but to study the additional material so you will be very familiar with the information.

Point 2: When we minister, we are trying to bring people to the Scriptures, and we want them to read them aloud. You might say, "John, would you turn to Romans 5:17?" We might have to help him find Romans—he may not know where it is. "John, would you read Romans 5:17 out loud, please?" "They which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ." "Great, John! According to that verse, what kind of righteousness is God offering you and me? Now, John, I'm not trying to trick you. The answer is right in that verse. Do you know?" He might say it's by grace or by Christ. "John, read the verse out loud again, and when it comes to the part I want to emphasize, I'll stop you right there." John reads, "They which receive abundance of grace and of the . . ." "Stop right there, John! And the what? The gift! The gift of what, John? The gift of righteousness! God offers people righteousness, right standing with Him! As a gift!" You can do that with any Scripture.

What you want to do is get them to see that the Bible says the gift of righteousness, not you telling them what it says. You're trying to get them to see for themselves what the Bible is saying. Then when they say, "What it's saying here is that God offers us the gift of righteousness." "That's right, John, that's exactly right!" Always compliment, edify, and build them up, and when they see something from the Bible themselves, their whole expression changes because you haven't told them what the Bible says—it's been revealed to them by God, by His Spirit. You just helped by asking questions. There is often controversy between translations, but we use a lot of translations. If we have two or three people in a lesson, I'll say, "Now, John, would you please read it in King James?" He reads it aloud. "Okay, Sally, I notice you have the New International Version. Would you please read it from your Bible?" As each one reads it from the version they have, they hear it two or three times, and it comes across clearer each time emphasizing a point. Have them read aloud and question them until they are giving the correct answer from the Scripture.

Point 3: Question that individual. Don't give them the right answers from the Scriptures. Don't tell them the answers, but help them to see from the Scriptures.

Point 4: If possible, illustrate your point with examples such as, "John, that's right! It is a gift of righteousness, a gift of right-standing, as it says in Romans 5:17. If I bought my children bicycles for Christmas and asked them to start making payments in January, was that really a gift?" "Well, of course not!" "John, that's it. You get the point; you see what a gift implies, don't you?" It may be a gift, but if you can get them to understand what a gift means, it brings the point across to them. So try to use examples when you're drawing understanding from the Scriptures for them.

Point 5: Illustrate your point with a story, a story from Jesus, a story from the book of Acts, or maybe a story from the Old Testament. This is where I've seen most revelation come—through a story. I could say, "John, will you please read Titus 3:5?" "Not by works of righteousness which we have done." I could point him to that and ask, "What does that say?" He could say, "It says it's not by the works of our righteousness." "But, John, have you heard? There was a thief who was nailed to a cross

beside Jesus. He turned to the other thief, and said, 'You are reviling Him, but we are wicked and deserve this condemnation. He's an innocent man; He hasn't done anything.' Then he turned to the Lord and said, 'Lord remember me, when you come into Your Kingdom.' Jesus said, 'Today you will be with Me in Paradise.' John, do you see it? It's not by works of righteousness we have done. The thief didn't offer any works, any goodness, anything that He had done for the Lord. He just asked Jesus for mercy, and Jesus said, 'Today you will be with Me in Paradise.'" Always use stories to try to make the point being made in the Scripture even stronger.

Point 6: Put feeling into what you say when doing these discipleship lessons. Don't just say, "In Luke 18 the guy said, "God, be merciful to me a sinner." Say, "GOD! Be merciful to ME, I'M A SINNER!!" Put yourself in the place of the tax collector, become the tax collector.

Point 7: Trust the Holy Spirit to guide you. We're giving you all the material we can to help you teach a lesson in the minimal amount of time—a Teacher's Guide and Additional Information—but don't fall into the error of trusting a teacher's guide, a method, or a formula. Trust God's Spirit. Everybody's different, and if you try to make a formula out of these discipleship lessons, you will bring the deadness of the letter of the law that will kill. It's only the Spirit that can give life.

Take your outline on Preparing to Teach Discipleship Lessons and go over the seven points with your trainer. If you're just listening to this on video or cassette tape, then take these seven points and go over the material until you understand what we're trying to bring out to actually teaching a discipleship lesson.

God bless you. We'll be looking forward to the next session.

PREPARING TO TEACH DISCIPLESHIP LESSONS (Trainer Video Lesson)

1. In teaching discipleship lessons, ALWAYS TAKE THE PEOPLE YOU ARE MINISTERING TO, TO THE SCRIPTURES (Mark 16:15,20). HAVE THEM READ IT OUT LOUD (Acts 8:30).
If available, you may want to use different translations to help bring out the meaning of a passage.
IF THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND A POINT, HAVE THEM READ IT OUT LOUD AGAIN FROM THE SCRIPTURES UNTIL THEY ARE SEEING THE TRUE MEANING.
2. QUESTION THE PEOPLE UNTIL THEY ARE GIVING YOU THE RIGHT ANSWERS FROM THE SCRIPTURES. Try not to tell them the answers, try to help them see it for themselves.
3. Illustrate the point of the scriptures with examples if possible.
4. ILLUSTRATE THE POINT OF THE SCRIPTURES WITH A STORY FROM JESUS' TEACHINGS: The Book of Acts, the Old Testament, etc., if possible. THIS IS WHERE MOST REVELATION COMES TO THE INDIVIDUAL!
5. Put feeling into what you are saying. Interject yourself into the story you are telling.
6. Trust the Holy Spirit to guide you, give you direction and wisdom (James 1:5). Don't depend upon a tape or teacher's guide to do the work.

GENERAL OVERVIEW SALVATION BY GRACE

Don Krow

In this session we have an outline that is an overview of the lesson. I have chosen to give you an actual session on how to teach the discipleship lessons using “Salvation by Grace” as an example. When we finish, I hope you will understand and have a concept of how to teach the other lessons. First of all, on the outline there are three main points in the overview before we get into the actual teaching:

Point 1: In Romans 5:17, righteousness is a gift. That’s what you’re trying to get the individual to say and to see. You’re trying to get him to see that right-standing, right relationship with God has been provided through Jesus Christ as a gift.

Point 2: The main point, where the thrust of the lesson will be, is in Luke 18:9-14. We want a detailed account with questions that you ask the individual from each verse. In the training we’re going to show you how to mark and underline in your Bible so you will know where there is a question you need to ask because you have it marked at that particular point. The main thrust here is verse by verse. The best way to prepare for the lesson in this particular passage is to read it over and over. Meditate on each phrase and each word, what it really means and what it’s really saying. That will be the best way to prepare for this lesson.

After this whole process of training is over, we’re going to teach you in small segments and then ask you to teach back to the trainer or, if you don’t have a trainer, to another person who is listening to this cassette. We’d like you to teach the lesson until you get to where you can go through all the questions and everything we’ve told you, and then we want you to teach it to your children, your spouse, and your friends. After you’ve taught it four or five times, then you’re ready to teach the lesson to an individual who is lost, a person who is without Christ, a person you really want to reach out and disciple, whether that be a backslider, a Christian who needs more understanding or a lost person.

If you understand the concepts of this lesson, you can then go on to the other lessons in the discipleship series. You will have a very good idea of how to present the other lessons and of the concepts we use as we reach out in these discipleship lessons. You need to go through verses 9-14, pause, and explain each verse. We’ll show you how to do that in the next session.

Point 3: This point is the conclusion. You’re going to ask a question, and the conclusion of the lesson is this: “John, if you got down on your knees right now and cried out to God from your heart, ‘God! Be merciful to me, I’m a sinner’ would God treat you the same way He treated the tax collector? He went down to his home justified. If you humbled yourself and cried out like the tax collector did from your heart, would God treat you the way he treated him?” If John says, “I don’t know” or “No,” then he hasn’t understood the lesson. You haven’t taught the lesson correctly, you haven’t prepared for the lesson, something’s wrong here, because if a person has understood the lesson correctly, they will say or may even hesitate a minute and then say, “Well . . . Well, yes.” “That’s exactly right! In His mercy and grace, God

would treat you the same way He treated the tax collector!” If you don’t get that response from the lesson on “Salvation by Grace,” it hasn’t been understood correctly. You need to go back through your materials, through your questions, until the person gets the point.

Right now I want you to take a minute and look at the three main points of this lesson as an overview to the lesson of “Salvation by Grace.”

GENERAL OVERVIEW OUTLINE
SALVATION BY GRACE
(Trainer Video Lesson)

1. Romans 5:17 - Righteousness is a GIFT.
2. Luke 18:9-14 - Pause and explain each verse.
3. Conclusion:

If you got down on your knees right now and cried out to God from your heart, “God be merciful to me, a sinner” would God treat you the same way He treated the tax collector?

Answer: YES!

(If the person says, “yes,” the lesson has been understood correctly).

TEACHING THE LESSON
PART 1
SALVATION BY GRACE
Romans 5:17

Don Krow

We're getting into the heart of our training session now. We're actually going to train you to teach a lesson—"Salvation by Grace"—to help you learn and understand the principles of teaching a lesson. After you've gone into an individual's home, played the cassette, and passed out the outline, turn off the cassette player and begin.

Before I get into this, however, do you have your pad? Are you taking notes? At the end of this session, I'm going to ask you to teach back to a trainer what I'm teaching you right now. If you don't have a trainer, make groups of two and teach the material back. Take thorough notes, because you're going to take the material that I give you now and teach it back. Through doing this process of role-playing in segments, we will put the entire lesson together. Then you're going to practice it with your spouse, your children, and your friends. After you are able to teach it well, you will use it to reach the lost in a Bible study situation or however you've chosen to use it in your discipleship.

Let's say that the tape has been played, the outline has been produced, and you've turned the tape off. Begin your lesson in this way:

"John, would you turn to Romans 5:17 and read it aloud, please?"

"Okay. 'For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.'

"Now, John, I'd like to ask you a question. According to this verse, what kind of righteousness does God offer you and me and Rocky sitting here and Jim. What kind of righteousness does He offer us according to that verse? Now, I'm not trying to trick you; the answer is right in the verse."

Usually John, or whoever, will say something like, "Well, um, it's, uh, by grace."

"That's right! It is by grace! And we understand that grace is the unmerited favor of God toward us. That's a good answer, but it's not exactly what I'm looking for. What else would you say? What kind of righteousness is God offering you and me according to this verse?"

"Well, it's by Jesus."

"That's right, it is by Jesus! But I tell you what, John. I'm trying to get a particular point across and in order to do that, I'm going to ask you to read the verse again aloud. When you get to the point I'm trying to emphasize, I'll stop you. Okay?"

“For if by one man’s offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace, and of.”

“Stop, John! And the what?”

“And the gift.”

“That’s right! The gift of what? What do the next couple of words say there, John?”

“The gift of righteousness.”

“The gift of righteousness! That’s right, John! God offers you and me and whoever will, because of the shed blood of Jesus—righteousness, right-standing with God, acquittal, forgiveness—just as if you’d never sinned, as a gift. It’s a gift of righteousness. Now, John, I’d like to ask you a question: What does the word “gift” imply?”

“Well, a gift is free, I guess. Somebody might buy me something, maybe I don’t even deserve it.”

“That’s right, John; it’s a gift! Righteousness, right-standing with God is a gift! John, if at Christmas I told my children I was going to buy bicycles for them, I bought the bicycles, and then I told them in January they could start making payments, is that a gift?”

“Oh, no, that’s not a gift. You’re making them pay for those bicycles.”

“That’s right, John, but anytime someone gives you a gift, it costs something. It cost God everything; it cost His very own Son. In giving His Son on the cross for your sins, He offers you righteousness and right-standing with Him as a gift, but if you don’t receive it as a gift, if you have to work for it, it won’t be a gift. John, I was teaching this lesson to a girl named Becky. There were actually two girls and a guy. When we first met Becky on a door to door Evangelism Discipleship outreach, we found she was in need, bought her some groceries, and brought them to her. We said, ‘Rocky bought you some groceries. They’re free, because you told us you had need of food. But, Becky, tonight when we leave after our lesson, we want you to give us \$23.50. What do you think of our free gift?’”

Becky said, “It wouldn’t be a gift if you ask me to pay for it!”

“That’s exactly right, Becky! If it’s a gift, it’s offered free, but it does cost the person that gave you the gift something, and it cost God the death of His own Son to offer you, as a gift, right-standing with Him.”

I want you now to turn off your cassette tape and take the teacher’s guide outline to help you in today’s study. When you become familiar with it, you can teach directly from it. Get the additional teaching information, the pages we supplied on lesson 2, “Salvation by Grace.” Go through this first part and read it several times with the illustrations, thinking about what I said and also the notes you took. When you have studied for a few moments, give this portion of the lesson to your trainer. The trainer will help you by letting you know how you’re doing and give you some suggestions. If you don’t have a trainer today, give it to the person next to you. I believe you will do well. You are preparing to give people information that will change their lives. God bless you.

TEACHING THE LESSON
PART 1
SALVATION BY GRACE
Romans 5:17
(Trainer Video Lesson)

Turn to Romans 5:17. Have the person you are discipling read the verse out loud.

“For if by one man’s offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the GIFT of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:17).

1. What kind of righteousness, according to this verse, is God offering you?

“I really don’t know” (common answer).

Okay. Let’s read the verse again, and I’m going to stop you when you get to the part of the verse that I want to emphasize. (You can do this with any verse to help people see a particular point that you want to bring out.)

2. What does the word “gift” imply? (Let the person respond; then you can answer and illustrate.)

Illustration: If I bought you some groceries as a gift and then asked you to give me \$23.50, would that be a gift?

No.

Illustration: If you bought your children bicycles as gifts for Christmas and then asked them to make payments, would that be a gift?

No.

Conclusion: A gift does cost something, but not to those who receive it! God’s gift of righteousness cost God the death of His Son, but is offered freely as a gift to those who will receive it.

TEACHING THE LESSON
PART 2
SALVATION BY GRACE
Luke 18:9-10

Don Krow

In this teaching session, we're going to Luke 18:9. After you've taught the first part of the lesson from Romans 5:17 say: "Let's turn to Luke 18:9 and, John, would you read that aloud?"

"And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others."

"Now, John, do you know what a parable is?"

"Well, I think it's some kind of story or something, isn't it?"

"Yes, that's right. A parable is a story, and Jesus used these stories to illustrate spiritual truths. Now, if you notice in the verse you just read out loud, He spoke this parable to whom? To whom was He aiming this story?"

"Well, to certain who trusted in themselves."

"That's right, John! To those who trusted in themselves. They trusted in themselves that they were what? What do the next few words say?"

"Well, it says those which trusted in themselves that they were righteous."

"You're right, John! They trusted in themselves that they were righteous. What kind of person would you call someone who trusts in himself that he's righteous? You know, 'Don't touch me, I'm righteous. I'm so holy, I do all these things.' What kind of person would you call one who trusts in himself?"

"Well, they'd be self-righteous."

"Yes, John, they're self-righteous! Jesus is telling a story, a parable, to people who trust in themselves that they're righteous. In other words, they're self-righteous people. Now, John, I want to ask you this question. Those who trust in themselves that they're righteous, self-righteous people, always have an attitude towards other people. According to this verse, what kind of attitude do self-righteous people have towards others? Look right in the verse."

"He spoke to certain people that trusted themselves that they were righteous and despised others."

“That’s right, John! They despise others. They look down on others, ‘I am better than you, don’t touch me, I’m so holy!’ They despise and look down on others. Jesus is telling a story to this kind of self-righteous people. Let’s go to verse 10, and would you read it aloud, please?”

“Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.”

“John, two people went to do what?”

“Well, they went to pray.”

“That’s right, they went to pray, and where did they go to pray?”

“It says the temple.”

“Okay, John, if we were using modern day language, where did they go?”

“Well, they went to the church.”

“That’s right! They went to the church, John! Two people went to the church to pray, and who were these two people? Would you look at that verse?”

“One was a Pharisee, the other a publican.”

“Right! A Pharisee! Do you know what a Pharisee is?”

“Man, I don’t know, it’s just a common person.”

“No, John. A Pharisee is a religious person. The word means a separated one, somebody that is very religious, and you see from what Jesus said in verse nine how he despised others, looked down on them, thought he was better than everyone else. He was a Pharisee, a separated one. ‘I’m not like other people.’ Very, very religious, John. Now what was the other person?”

“He was a publican.”

“Do you know what a publican is?”

“No, I...”

“John, a publican was a tax collector. I just want to ask you how you feel about the IRS?” Most people don’t have a really good opinion of the IRS, but in Jesus’ day tax collectors were looked down upon more than the IRS is today. The Roman government had authority over Israel, and tax collectors were usually Jews. They were taking as much as they could from the people, cheating and defrauding through all kinds of ungodly, wicked means and pressure. They would give some of the money to the Roman government and stick the rest in their pockets. They were very wicked, evil people, these tax collectors.”

We're going to stop now. Notice the questions I asked in this particular part of the teaching, because I'm going to ask you to teach them back. This is what I want you to do: In Luke 18:9-10, mark your Bible. Underline the words "parable" and "despise" and the phrase "trusted in themselves, that they were righteous" in verse 9. Then underline the words "pray" and "temple" and underline or circle the words "Pharisee" and "publican" in verse 10. After you become familiar with this lesson, all you will have to do is look at your Bible and it will be the outline. You'll look at the word "parable" and think, "Oh, I need to ask them what a parable is. You'll see the words "trusted in themselves" and remember to ask, "Who is Jesus directing this parable to?" You'll see the word "despise" and ask "What is the attitude of those who are self-righteous, who despise others."

The Bible itself is becoming your outline. In verse 10 the word "pray" will generate the questions, "What do they go to the temple to do? In modern language what would you say for the word "temple"? Do you know what a Pharisee is? Do you know what a publican is?" Those are all underlined, and will be keys in your Bible of what to ask.

Now I want you to take your Additional Information, "Salvation by Grace" by Don Krow. Start with Luke 18:9-10 and study those questions. Then turn to your trainer and actually teach this part of the lesson back to the trainer. If you don't have a trainer, then teach it to a friend. Go over the material until you are familiar with it.

TEACHING THE LESSON
PART 2
SALVATION BY GRACE
Luke 18:9-10
(Trainer Video Lesson)

Read aloud Luke 18:9: “And he spake this PARABLE unto certain which TRUSTED IN THEMSELVES THAT THEY WERE RIGHTEOUS, and DESPISED others” (Luke 18:9).

1. What is a parable?

It is a story that illustrates a spiritual truth.

2. To whom did Jesus direct this parable?

Certain people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous.

3. People who trust in their own righteousness are what kind of people?

Self-righteous.

4. People who are self-righteous always reveal an attitude towards others. According to this verse, what is that attitude?

They despise others.

Read aloud Luke 18:10: “Two men went up into the TEMPLE TO PRAY; the one a PHARISEE, and the other a PUBLICAN” (Luke 18:10).

1. According to this verse, two people went to pray. In modern language, where did they go to pray?

The church.

2. Who are these people?

A Pharisee and a publican.

3. What is a Pharisee?

A separated one.

4. What is a publican?

A tax collector.

5. How do you feel about the IRS? In Jesus' day, the tax collector was considered a very ungodly and evil person. He worked for the Roman government and was considered a traitor by his own countrymen. He collected taxes through pressure, scheming and cheating. Tax collectors were considered wicked and evil people.

TEACHING THE LESSON
PART 3
SALVATION BY GRACE
Luke 18:11-12

Don Krow

“John, would you read Luke 18:11 aloud please?”

“The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.”

“Okay, John, I want to ask you, this Pharisee, this very religious, self-righteous person that Jesus is talking about, who did it say he was praying with?”

“Well, it said he stood and prayed thus with himself.”

“That’s right! He prayed thus with himself. God wasn’t acknowledging his prayer, John. He was saying the right words, but God wasn’t paying attention to him, because he was praying with himself. We’ll find out later why he was praying with himself. Okay? Now, what was his prayer—what was he praying? Would you read that from the verse?”

“The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I’m not as other men.”

“Yes! He was saying ‘I’m not like other men! I’m not sinful, I’m not an adulterer, I’m not this, and I’m not that.’ He didn’t think he needed a Savior, John, because he was self-righteous. You know, one time Jesus said, ‘I’ve come for sinners, to save sinners, not the righteous, because there are none of us who are righteous.’ Jesus Christ came to save sinners, and this man thought he didn’t need a Savior. ‘I thank God I’m not like other men!’ Always despising, always looking down on others, he said, ‘I’m not an extortionist, I’m not unjust, I’m not even like this tax collector.’ When you all are teaching this lesson, the point really comes across if you point at the person next to you and say, ‘I’m not even like you!’ This man was self-righteous, and he looked down on other people. Now, John, would you read the next verse?”

“I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.”

“John, do you know what it means to fast?”

“Well, uh, I think it means to go without food, doesn’t it?”

“That’s right, to go without food. This man went without food twice a week. What else did he do according to this verse?”

“He gave tithes.”

“Do you know what it means to tithe?”

“I think it means like to give ten percent.”

“That’s right, John! He gave ten percent of his income, and who’d he give it to?”

“Probably the church.”

“You’re right, he probably gave it to the church. He was very religious. He prided himself that he wasn’t like other people. He fasted and gave money to the church. Have you ever met people like that, who say, ‘I don’t need God. I don’t need what you’re talking about. I give money to charity and to the church, I’m a good person, and I live a good life’? That was this Pharisee.”

You people being trained now are trying to target two kinds of individuals in this lesson—a person who is sinful and knows it and a self-righteous person. When you witness, you find a lot of self-righteous people who say, “I don’t need what you’re talking about. I live a good life, I’m a family man, I give money to charity and/or the church.” That’s the way this man was. We’re trying to pinpoint both kinds, break down the error in both, and point them to a Savior. Tell them we all need a Savior.

Now take your outline, “Additional Information on Salvation by Grace” by Don Krow, and go through verses 11-12 in the material. Read the questions, see how I’ve underlined the passage, and underline your Bible. Spend some time thinking about it, meditating on it, and then teach it back to your trainer. If you don’t have a trainer, then teach it to the person next to you.

TEACHING THE LESSON
PART 3
SALVATION BY GRACE
Luke 18:11-12
(Trainer Video Lesson)

Read aloud Luke 18:11: “The Pharisee stood and PRAYED THUS WITH HIMSELF, God, I thank thee, that I am NOT AS OTHER MEN are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or EVEN AS THIS PUBLICAN.”

1. According to the King James Version, whom did the Pharisee pray with?

With himself! In other words, God was not acknowledging his prayers.

2. What was the Pharisee’s prayer?

“God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men.” In other words, he thought himself better than others, saying “I am not even as this publican.” He did not consider himself a sinner.

Read aloud Luke 18:12: “I FAST twice in the week, I give TITHES of all that I possess.”

1. Do you know what fasting means?

To go without food.

2. Do you know what it means to give tithes?

To give ten percent of all your income to God.

3. Who were they giving their tithes to?

The church.

TEACHING THE LESSON
PART 4
SALVATION BY GRACE
Luke 18:13-14

Don Krow

“John, would you read Luke 18:13 aloud please?”

“And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.”

“I want you to notice the body language of the tax collector. In the last lesson we looked at the Pharisee. He was very self-righteous, despising others, looking down on them. He said, ‘I fast, I give money to the church, I do all these things.’ He thought he was better than everyone else, but I want you to notice the tax collector; notice his body language first of all, John. What is the very first thing it says about the way he was standing? Would you read the first part of that verse please?”

“And the publican, standing afar off.”

“Where was he standing, John?”

“Well, he was standing afar off”

“That’s right, John, he was standing afar off. In other words, he was so ashamed, he wouldn’t even go all the way up to the church. Yes, he went to the church to pray, but he was so ashamed of the life he lived, and the things he was doing that he held back and stood afar off. What else does it say about his body language; what does it say about his eyes there? Would you read that?”

“And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven.”

“You’re right. He wouldn’t even lift his eyes to heaven. In other words, he wouldn’t lift his eyes to God. Because he was so ashamed of the things he had done, he just hung his head. Then, John, he did something else. What else does the Bible say there in the next part of that verse?”

“And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast.”

“That’s right, John. He smote his breast. What does that mean? I’ll just tell you that in the Bible when people smote their breast, many times it was accompanied by tearing their clothes. It was a sign of repentance, of a broken heart, a contrite heart which God will not despise. In other words, this man humbled himself. He was so sorry for what he did that he smote his breast. Then he prayed a prayer. John, what did he pray? Would you read that aloud please?”

“but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.”

“That’s right, John, but I’ll bet he didn’t just say, ‘God be merciful to me a sinner.’ I’ll bet he said it with excitement—‘GOD BE MERCIFUL TO ME, I’M A SINNER.’ And I’ll bet tears rolled down his face. He had a repentant heart that wanted to turn to God and knew he wasn’t at all like the Pharisee. He wasn’t self-righteous; he knew he had no righteousness to offer God, but he hung his head and cried from his heart for mercy. Now, I want to ask you, the next verse says that of these two men, one went down to his house justified—just as if he’d never sinned—in right relationship with God, forgiven, acquitted. One man went down to his house right with God. Which one was it? Would you read that verse?”

“I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other.”

“Which man was justified—who was in right-standing with God when he went home?”

“Well, it was, uh, it was the tax collector.”

“That’s exactly right. It was the tax collector who was right when he went home, and my question to you, John, is why? Why was he right, and the Pharisee wasn’t in right-standing with God when he left? Why?”

“I guess because he prayed and asked God to forgive him.”

“That’s exactly right, John. Would you read all of verse 14?”

“I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for everyone that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.”

“He did what, John?”

“He humbled himself.”

“That’s right. He humbled himself. He knew he had no standing before God, no righteousness that would give him acceptance before God. So he cried out for God’s grace, His unmerited favor, His salvation. He humbled himself before God. The Bible says in James 4:6 and 1 Peter 5:5 that God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. You see, the Pharisee was proud and self-righteous, and God resisted him, but the tax collector who knew he was sinful and needed a Savior, humbled himself and cried out for mercy. God accepted him there, justified him just as if he had never sinned, and forgave his sins. John, I’m going to ask you a very, very important question. If from your heart you got down on your knees right now like the publican, looked up to heaven, and said, ‘God be merciful to me, I’m a sinner,’ do you think God would treat you the same way He treated that tax collector?”

“Well, yes.”

“That’s exactly right, John. Did this teaching help you? Would you like us to come back next week and do another lesson with you?”

“Yes it did, I understood some things I didn’t understand before. Yes, I would like for you to come back.”

“Tuesday night at 7:30, shall we come back then?”

“Yes, come back and help me some more.”

This is what we see happening all the time. We’re not pressuring people, we’re not twisting their arms, we’re not using a salesman-type approach, but we’re trying to bring them understanding. The first few lessons are giving a foundational understanding of Jesus Christ and Him crucified—what it means to commit your life to Jesus. So when a person does cry out to God and turn to Him for salvation and the forgiveness of sins, they’re not doing it ignorantly. They’re not doing it because someone has pressured them or twisted their arm, but freely from the heart just as the tax collector did.

Now with your outline, “Additional Information” by Don Krow, take verses 13 and 14 and read the questions asked. After you have studied for awhile, teach that part of the lesson to your trainer. If you don’t have a trainer, turn to another person and teach it to him. Teach the lesson to your children, your spouse, your friends, or maybe to yourself in a mirror. Teach it several times until you’re very familiar with the material.

Take your Bible and mark the parts we’ve talked about. Mark words and phrases such as “the Pharisee prayed with himself, fast, tithes, publican, afar off, wouldn’t lift his eyes, smote his breast.” Talk about the body language of the individuals. There are keys such as the word “justified.” Most people don’t know what that means, so tell them what it means: just as if you’d never sinned, acquitted. Then mark the word “humble” because it’s humble people who receive God’s grace and mercy. That is the teaching on “Salvation by Grace.”

Notice another example you can use at your discretion about the word “Savior.” I’ve used that many times to emphasize what it means to have Jesus save you, and if you want to use it, please do. After you’ve taught this short segment back to your trainer, go back and study the entire material until you can teach the whole lesson. Teach it to some friends and then to your trainer. After you’ve taught it several times, you’ll be able to use it in an actual setting where you are ministering to either a lost person, a backslider, or a new person in Christ who needs this additional information.

Finally, go back to the outline we supplied with the seven points. The way I taught this lesson will show you the principles of teaching. We made the person read aloud. We caused him to see the answer for himself through the Scriptures. We illustrated with examples and stories from Jesus and Acts. We put feeling into the lesson.

Always trust the Spirit of God. Don’t let these lessons become a formula, because if you do, they will become the deadness of the letter. If you will trust God and take this material—the teacher’s guide and the additional information—to help you teach the lessons, if you will meditate, pray, seek the Lord and ask Him to lead you, He will help you teach the lessons. It was Jesus that gave the commission of Matthew 28 and Mark 16 to go and make disciples of the nations, teaching them to observe all things He commanded.

I pray that God will use this method all over the world to win villages, cities, and countries to Jesus Christ. Pray for us here as we prepare these tools. God bless you, and go make disciples of the nations.

TEACHING THE LESSON
PART 4
SALVATION BY GRACE
Luke 18:13-14
(Trainer Video Lesson)

Read aloud Luke 18:13: “And the publican, STANDING AFAR OFF, would not lift up so much as HIS EYES UNTO HEAVEN, but SMOTE UPON HIS BREAST, saying, GOD BE MERCIFUL TO ME A SINNER” (Luke 18:13).

1. Notice the body language of this publican. Where was he standing?

Afar off. In other words, he was so ashamed that he didn't even approach the temple (church).

2. What was his facial expression?

He wouldn't even lift his eyes to heaven.

3. Why was he hitting himself?

Smiting the breast and sometimes tearing your clothes was a sign of humility, repentance, a contrite heart, and a broken spirit, in which God will not despise.

4. What was this tax collector's prayer?

“God be merciful to me a sinner.”

Read aloud Luke 18:14a (The first part of the verse), “I tell you, this man went down to his house JUSTIFIED” (declared right before God, just as if he had never sinned, acquitted of his sin, declared innocent before God).

1. Which one of these two men was declared righteous before God when he went to his home?

The tax collector.

2. Why?

Read aloud Luke 18:14b (The last part of the verse), “For every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that HUMBLETH himself shall be exalted.”

The answer is that he humbled himself and cried out for God’s mercy.

3. Did God forgive this tax collector?

Yes.

4. If you got on your knees right now and cried out to God from your heart, “God be merciful to me a sinner!” Would God treat you the same way He treated the tax collector?

Yes! (If the person says “yes!” the lesson has been understood correctly.)

(Here is an additional example to be used at your discretion).

“What is a savior? Suppose you are drowning. There you are out in the middle of the ocean. Suppose someone throws you a book, “THREE EASY LESSONS ON HOW TO SWIM.” Would he be a savior? No! Perhaps he could be called an ‘Educator.’” (Handbook of Personal Evangelism, Dr. A. Ray Stanford, pp. 26-27).

“Now suppose a man got out of his boat, jumped in alongside you, demonstrated various swimming strokes, and showed you just how you ought to do it. Would he be a savior? Of course not! He would merely be an example”

“A Savior is one who takes you into the boat and safely to the shore. Christ is the true Savior. If you do not trust Him to take you all the way to heaven, then you have not trusted Him as your Savior.”

USING THE DETAILED TEACHER'S GUIDE

TRUSTING JESUS ALONE

Don Krow

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

¹ 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?"

² 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."

³ 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).

⁴ 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."

¹ What do you think a person has to do in order to go to heaven?

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

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

⁴ (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!

⁵ 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?

⁶ 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!

⁷ "All we, like sheep have all gone astray, we have turned ever yone 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).

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

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

⁷ (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?"

⁸ 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).

⁹ 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."

⁸ (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).

⁹ 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?

¹⁰ 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).

¹¹ 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).

¹⁰How does the Greek language define “faith” or “believing?”

¹¹(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?

USING EVERYONE'S GIFTS TO DISCIPLE

Don Krow

Today we want to talk about using everyone's gifts to disciple. They can be used. We've been working with this discipleship program for many months with great success, seeing people's lives changed by being born again, baptized in the Holy Spirit, and water-baptized. One day I was talking to a friend and said, "We're missing some things—they're falling through the cracks." He said, "I thought everything was working great. What do you mean?"

What I'm going to share with you is how to bring an inward church, where people just sit, listen to the pastor, and go home, to be an outward church where they reach beyond the four walls of the church building. These are the real statistics: 95 percent of all Christians have never led anybody to the Lord and 90 percent of evangelism is directed towards Christians. The church building is the most evangelized area in the world. We evangelize the Sunday school rooms and we evangelize the sanctuary. The way we evangelize the building, you would think the church needs converting.

It wasn't until the third century under Constantine that church buildings came into being. Since that time, as far as reaching out to the lost, the church has gone inward and hid behind the walls of the church buildings. We want to talk about reaching out beyond those walls to turn an inward church into an outward church. Statistically, there are only 0.5 percent (less than one percent) of programs that reach beyond the four walls of our buildings. That says there is no major denomination in the United States today that has a plan to really reach the lost. Reaching and discipling people outside our church buildings is a part of Christianity that needs to be rediscovered.

Through the Reformation, Martin Luther brought the revelation of justification through faith to the church's attention. In the 1800s mass evangelism came through John Wesley. But it seems that personal one-on-one discipling and evangelism has not been rediscovered since the Apostles. You may say, "I don't know how." Through this program, we definitely will show you how—it's very easy. We'll show you how easy it is to work with people and to meet new people at the door through using your testimony. This is what I want to focus on now. This is the good news.

How would you like to do just what you want to do, not what somebody else wants you to do (that you really don't want to do), but exactly what you want to do. That's what we're talking about. When I show people how Discipleship Evangelism works saying, "Look, this is what we're doing, we're touching people's lives, they're being saved, born again, filled with the Holy Spirit, and water-baptized." People say, "That's great!" But if I said, "Now, how many of you want to go with me," there would be maybe three of you out of two hundred, because the rest of you are scared or don't know how to do it. Or if I said, "Now, forget about it. Don't worry about it; you don't have to be afraid. We'll go out and get the Bible studies and set up discipleship lessons for you." How many would want to teach? There would be more than—about ten or twelve—saying, "Yes, I want to teach," but it wouldn't go beyond that.

What we want to do is show you how every gift in the body of Christ can be used to reach the lost, to love and disciple them. It will take every gift, and those gifts are found only in the body of Christ, the local church. Some of you say, “I like to pray for the baptism of the Holy Spirit, healing, and things like that.” Well, there’s a time in our discipleship when we can bring you in just for that purpose. Other people say, “I’m not comfortable with that,” but can you bake a pie? Can you send a card? Can you make a phone call? Can you paint a fence? Can you baby-sit for a single mom we’re ministering to and give her an hour to herself so she can get out of the house? Can you do the practical things? What about intercession? Some of you are called to intercede, to pray. We’ll show you the people we’re ministering to, give you their names, and you can be praying and interceding, alone or in groups, for them and for the discipleship evangelism teams that go out each week.

There is room for everyone to reach out to others, to disciple. We have a program where every gift can be used. We’re developing teams of a teacher and a teacher’s assistant who go out in a discipleship capacity to minister. Then two people in the helps ministry come in behind them to do practical things like giving food, baking a pie, or calling to see how things are going. We also have people who are interceding for us and the people we minister to.

Do you know what we’re seeing? We’re seeing God change people’s lives because they are being pastored and cared for, because His love is being shown to them. And do you know who is doing the work of the ministry? It’s being done by the ones who are supposed to do it—the people. Ephesians 4:11 says the apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher are given to perfect the saints so they can do the work of the ministry. The church is doing the work of the ministry, not only the man at the front called “the pastor.” When the pastor teaches and equips the church for works of service and they go and do them, that is true success.

Let me illustrate. If we declared war on another nation and our president said, “We lose too many men in war, so I have decided to do away with the army and send just the generals out there to fight.” The rest of the world would laugh at us, and really that’s what’s happening. The devil is laughing at us because we have sent the generals, the five-fold ministry, to do it all. Let them do it—we’re paying them to do it. We have failed to develop an army. God wants to develop that army, and every one of your gifts can be used in Discipleship Evangelism.

If it were possible we would come to your church to help you set up the program and a team. What we really want is to help you raise up leadership. We want to reproduce ourselves in others. But coming to you in person is not always possible, so, a video message by Jill Reece has been produced explaining how to implement the Discipleship Evangelism Program in your church. We want to help create an army, equipped with powerful tools to disciple—not just here in our city—but reaching around the world. It can be done through the tools we have developed, the Detailed Teacher’s Guide, the Discipleship Lessons, and all of the strategies God has given us. If you have any questions feel free to contact the Discipleship Evangelism Ministry and we will be glad to help you as much as we can. Write to: DKM, 10065 Sun Ridge Circle, Rogers, AR 72756, or visit our website delessons.org.

God bless you as everyone comes together to use their gifts to minister to the lost, to the new believer, and to keep Jesus’ commandment to go and disciple the nations.

USING EVERYONE'S GIFTS TO DISCIPLE (Trainer Video Lesson)

HERE ARE THE FACTS!

These facts come from three different sources:

1. The book "Where do we go from Here" by Ralph W. Neighbour.
2. "How to have a Soul Winning Church" by Gene Edwards.
3. "Christianity Today."

1. 95 PERCENT OF ALL CHRISTIANS HAVE NEVER LED ANYONE TO CHRIST.
2. 90 PERCENT OF ALL EVANGELISM IS DIRECTED TOWARD CHRISTIANS (Church Building Evangelism).

After the Third Century, Christians moved almost all of their activities of evangelism and discipleship inside the church building. Think about it! Almost every Sunday, we attempt to evangelize the world—by evangelizing the people in the church building. We evangelize in every classroom and every pew. The way we work at it, you'd think that the building needed converting.

Think about it: The only people who can be won to Christ are the lost people who will deliberately get up, get dressed, go down to the auditorium, and willingly expose themselves to the preaching of the Word. The only problem is that MOST PEOPLE WILL NOT DO THIS!

The lost world has been telling us: "Please make sure your pastor has a Theology Degree; an air conditioned building, and cushions on your pews. Invite us to church via radio, TV, phone calls, letters, bulletins, newspapers ads, AND WE STILL WILL NOT COME!" ("How to Have a Soul Winning Church")

3. IF EVERYONE IN AMERICA GOT UP ONE SUNDAY MORNING AND DECIDED TO GO TO CHURCH, ALL OF OUR CHURCHES IN AMERICA WOULD ONLY HOLD 4 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION—THAT MEANS 96 PERCENT OF THE LOST ARE OUT THERE!
4. IF THE LOST WON'T COME TO US, HOW DO WE REACH THEM? CURRENTLY ONLY 0.5 PERCENT OF OUR EVANGELISTIC PROGRAMS ARE DESIGNED TO REACH THEM.

That means there is not a denomination in America that has a program to reach the people who will not come to church. There is at least 80 percent of unconverted people in America who will not go to church under any circumstance!

5. CHRISTIANITY TODAY RESEARCHED THE GREAT REVIVAL OUTBREAK IN AMERICA, AND DISCOVERED THAT THE GREAT MAJORITY OF ACTIVITY WAS DUE TO CHURCH TRANSFERRING - NOT WINNING THE LOST.
6. AFTER 1,900 YEARS, FROM THE TIME OF THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH AND THE APOSTLES, THE CHURCH HAS NOT REALLY REDISCOVERED PERSONAL EVANGELISM DISCIPLESHIP.

In the 1500s and 1600s, through the Reformation and Martin Luther, justification through faith was re-discovered. In the 1790s William Carey brought back missions to the forefront. In the 1800s mass evangelism reappeared through John Wesley. It is incredible that less than 70 years ago, the first book on soul winning was written (R.A.Torrey). It is talked about, and written about, but there are only isolated cases of people doing it. One thousand years of church history does not show evidence of what would really happen if large numbers of Christians in a mass movement began to evangelize and disciple others. (Ibid).

USING EVERYONE'S GIFTS TO DISCIPLE
(Trainer Video Lesson)

HERE ARE THE FACTS!

THE GOOD NEWS!

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO ONLY WHAT YOU DESIRE TO DO?

1. Evangelism
2. Teaching
3. Praying for people to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, deliverance and healing
4. Kindness Evangelism: Giving food, phoning people, painting a fence, baking a pie, baby-sitting, helping a single mom, sending a card, loving people
5. Intercessory Prayer
6. Organization
7. Agape love feast

THERE IS A PLACE FOR EVERY GIFT IN
REACHING THE LOST!

SAMPLE

HERITAGE FAMILY LIFE CENTER
Discipleship Evangelism Outreach
Senior Pastor: Dan Funkhouser

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: Home _____ Work _____

This is what I am interested in doing: (Check one or more)

- _____ Contacting new people at their door
- _____ Teaching discipleship lessons
- _____ Intercession: Praying for the lost and the discipleship evangelism teams
- _____ Praying for the others to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, healing ect.
- _____ Giving food or other items to families in need
- _____ Contacting others by phone
- _____ Kindness Evangelism: Baking a pie, sending a card, helps
- _____ Working with single moms and children
- _____ Providing Transportation to church, ect.
- _____ Organization
- _____ Other: I want _____

I am willing to make a six month commitment to the church for this outreach.

_____ Yes _____ No _____ Maybe (Undecided)

I need more information

_____ Yes _____ No

I would like training on how to contact others at the door.

_____ Yes _____ No

I would like training on how to teach the Discipleship lessons.

_____ Yes _____ No

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS:

**DISCIPLESHIP FOLLOW-UP
RESULTS FORM**

Date of visit: _____
Trainer's name: _____
Trainee(s): _____
Name(s) of person(s) visited: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Age Group: Adult _____ Teenager _____ Child _____

Marital Status: Single ___ Married ___ Divorced ___ Unknown ___ Widowed ___

Children at Home: _____

Occupation: _____

Church Affiliation: _____

Location of Presentation: _____

Lesson No.: _____ Subject of Lesson: _____

How did study go? _____

(Use back of page if needed)

Appointment made for next study? Yes _____ No _____

Appointment Date and Time: _____

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