Sunday School
Student’s Manual
2015/2016
Australia/Pacific Edition

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August 2015
THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD
VISION/MISSION STATEMENT

THE FOLLOWING ARE OUR VISIONS AND GOALS AS MEMBERS OF THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD

1. To make heaven

2. To take as many people as possible with us

3. To have a member of the Redeemed Christian Church of God in every family of all nations

4. To accomplish No 1 above, holiness will be our lifestyle.

5. To accomplish No 2 & 3 above, we will plant churches within five minutes walking distance in every city and town of developing countries and within 5 minutes driving distance in every city and town of developed Countries.

We will pursue these objectives until every nation in the world is reached for…JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.
PREFACE

The Bible admonishes us to be diligent to present ourselves approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth. Our Sunday School Teachers are enjoined to seek the word of truth, know it, and study the Bible to discover the treasures in it. It is only by doing this that they can impart their students.

Students are to be guided into excellence. The teacher is expected to carry the presence of God always so as to be able to imbibe in the students an excellent spirit. Our teachers are to carry the awesome presence of God as they die to the flesh.

If you are versed in the original, thorough and balanced teaching of the unadulterated word of God, you are already on your way to dying to the flesh.

We pray that you excel and do exploit.

God bless you.

Pastor E. A. Adeboye
FOREWORD

Welcome to another Sunday school Year. I have no doubt that God has used past contextualized editions of this booklet to enrich and bless your spiritual life. This Edition will surely do more.

The 'trademark' of our God is holiness. It is the foundation and basis for the integrity of His eternal word. If there is anytime we as Christians and CHRISTIAN Workers need more of the Holy Spirit, IT IS NOW! He was indispensable to our Lord Jesus (Act 10:38). That is why this edition covers several topics on the Holy Spirit. Several issues that expose the evils of these end times are not left out but well discussed in this package. The purpose it to keep you and I informed, and to adequately equip us to take our stand so that Satan - the enemy of our soul - does not deceive and afflict us (IICOR 2:11; JOHN 8:32, 36).

Finally of course, regular topics on our role as mission-focused Church, as well as issues of the End-times are discussed. This is to especially keep our eyes on the finishing line - the soon return of our Lord & Saviour JESUS Christ (I John 2:28-29). As you prayerfully determine not to miss any Sunday school class this new Church Year, also determine to be a doer and not just a hearer of the WORD. I pray that God's Word will sanctify and empower you to please God in all things, AMEN. God bless you.

Abraham A. Haastrup
SATGO/PICR RCCG (Australia/Pacific) Region
Melbourne
3rd August 2015.
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QUARTERLY REVIEW
DATE: September 6, 2015.

LESSON ONE

A LIFE OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

MEMORY VERSE: “I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth” Psalm 34:1

BIBLE PASSAGE: Psalm 18:1-3

INTRODUCTION
Praise and thanksgiving should be our lifestyle. Just as we eat daily, so should our praise be unto God. He never ceases in doing good to us. So at all times and in everything, men ought to give praise unto God. 1 Thess 5:18; Eph 5:20

OUTLINES
1. GOD IS AWESOME
2. BLESSINGS IN PRAISING AND THANKING GOD

GOD IS AWESOME
God is awesome. Who He is and what He does reveal His greatness, goodness and wonderful works especially to man Ps 107:8. God is so mindful of man that He even visits man Job 7:17; Ps. 8:3-4. The Lord is our Rock and the source of our strength Ps 31:3; 27:1, 1Cor 10:4. He is our Fortress and Strong tower. He is the hope of our salvation Nah 1:7; Prov 18:10. He is our Buckler (defence) and Deliverer Dan 6:19-22, Ps 91:4. He is our great Provider Gen 22:8; Phil 4:19. For these reasons and many more, man should praise and give thanks to God.
BLESSINGS IN PRAISING AND THANKING GOD
If we do not praise and thank God, He has nothing to lose Luke 19:37-40. However, it is highly rewarding when we praise and thank God. It attracts the following blessings: Deliverance from all fears Ps 34:4, Divine presence Ps 95:2, 100:4, Joy of fulfilling God’s commandment Ezra 3:11-12, 1Thess 5:18, Destruction of yokes and bondages Acts 16:25-26, overwhelming victory 2 Chro. 20:22, forces in heaven will move beyond human expectation Jn 11:41-44.

CONCLUSION
God is awesome; praising Him opens us to the miraculous. However, for our praises to be acceptable to God, we must live a holy life Ps 24:3

QUESTION
1. Mention three ways in which God is awesome to man.
2. Mention three blessings in praising and thanking God.

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Ps 27:1 - The lord is the strength of my life.
TUESDAY: Ps 34:1 - Praise God continually.
WEDNESDAY: Eph 5:20 - Never cease in praising God.
THURSDAY: Jn 11:41 - Always give thanks unto the Lord.
FRIDAY: 1Thess 5:18 - It is the will of God for us to praise Him.
SATURDAY: Ps 95:2 - Enter into God’s presence with thanksgiving.
SUNDAY: Prov 2:7 - The Lord is our buckler.
DATE: September 13, 2015.

LESSON TWO

THE FATHER SEEKS FOR WORSHIPPERS

MEMORY VERSE: “But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him”. John 4:23

BIBLE PASSAGE: Psalms 103:1-5

INTRODUCTION
God is seeking for worshippers because worship is precious to Him Exo 34:14. What are some of the experiences of David as a young man? God said that He found David, a man after His own heart Acts 13:22. What did God find in David? How can this experience help us today? It is our prayer that the Lord will help us to take very good decisions in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

OUTLINES
1. THE MAN DAVID
2. WHAT HE DID

THE MAN DAVID
David was a worshipper Ps 34:1. He was skilful in playing a musical instrument - the harp 1 Sam 16:18. He even became a deliverance minister to King Saul using praise and worship to cast away demons 1 Sam 16:23. He worshipped God with all that was within him Ps 103:1. All that is within includes lungs, intestine, liver, colon, etc. He therefore danced lavishly before the Lord 2 Sam 6:14-16. He appreciated that the heights he achieved in life were not a result of his ability or expertise but gave all the glory to God 2 Sam 7:18; 1 Chr 17:16.
WHAT HE DID
David refused to face Goliath with the armour of King Saul because he had not tried it 1 Sam 17:38-39. He rather went against Goliath with the name of the Lord of host Jer 17:5; 2 Chr.32:8; 1Sam 17:45. David understood the potency of the name of the Lord through praise and worship Pr 18:10; Ps 84:4. He worshipped God’s holy name Ps 103:1; Ps 145:21. Worship is a weapon of warfare 2 Chr 20:22; Phil 2:9-11 that every believer must use. This must be done in spirit and in truth Jn 4:23

CONCLUSION
How does the weapon of praise and worship work effectively? If it worked for David, it must work for us. Let us employ this weapon as from today.

QUESTIONS
1. Why do you think that a worshipper is precious to God?
2. What did David try?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Gen 29:35 - God is worthy of praise for the gift of life.

TUESDAY: 1 Chr 16:36 - The Lord must be blessed from generation to generation.

WEDNESDAY: Ezra 3:10 - You are the temple of the Lord and should be full of His praise.

THURSDAY: Ps 7:17 - The Lord should be praised for His righteousness.

FRIDAY: Ps 18:49 - The Lord should be praised among both believers and unbelievers.

SATURDAY: Isa 38:19 - Only the living can praise the Lord.

SUNDAY: Dan 2:19 - Our God should be praised for dreams and visions.
DATE: September 20, 2015.

LESSON THREE

THE INTEGRITY OF GOD

MEMORY VERSE: “God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? Or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?” Numbers 23:19

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 18:9-14

INTRODUCTION

Integrity is the quality of being honest and upright in character; adherence to moral and ethical principles. It simply means saying what you will do and doing what you say Num 23:19. There are fundamental questions to be asked about the integrity of God. Who is God? How reliable are His words or promises? Does He have the capacity to do what He has said? Are there testimonies to this fact?

OUTLINES

1. THE UNCHANGEABLE GOD AND HIS WORD
2. THE TESTIMONIES OF HIS INTEGRITY

THE UNCHANGEABLE GOD AND HIS WORD

God is unchangeable Mal 3:6a. He also upholds His integrity through His word because:

1. His word is True Jn 17:17
2. His word is Certain Isa 40:8; Ps. 119:89
3. His word is Pure Prov 30:5; Ps. 12:6
4. His word is Life Jn 6:63
5. His word is Quick and Powerful Heb 4:12
6. His word is Yea and Amen 2 Cor 1:20
THE TESTIMONIES OF HIS INTEGRITY
Our God remains the same yesterday, today and forever. Whatever He has done before He can do again. There are testimonies in the Bible that confirm His integrity.
1. God promised to make Abraham the father of many nations and He fulfilled it **Gen 17:4-5; Rom 4:17**.
2. God spoke about the captivity of the Israelites in a strange land and their deliverance after four hundred years **Gen 15:13; Ex 12:40-41**
3. God promised to establish the throne of David through his seeds **2 Sam 7:12-16; 1 Kgs 1:48**
4. God showed to Joseph a vision of his greatness and He fulfilled it **Gen 37:6-7; 41:39-41**
5. Jesus talked about “the temple” that will be destroyed and rebuilt after three days **Jn 2:19; 1Cor 15:4**

CONCLUSION
God cannot be bound by His word if the terms and conditions are not fulfilled by man **1 Sam 2:27-30; 3:12-13**

QUESTIONS
1. What is integrity?
2. Prove from the scripture the integrity of God
3.

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

**MONDAY: Num 23:19** - God cannot lie
**TUESDAY: Jn 17:17** - God’s word is true.
**WEDNESDAY: Isa 40:8** - God’s word abides forever.
**THURSDAY: Mal 3:6a** - God does not change.
**FRIDAY: Ps 12:6** - God’s word is pure.
**SATURDAY: 2Cor 1:20** - God’s word is ever sure.
**SUNDAY: Gen 18:14** - There is nothing too hard for the Lord.
DATE: September 27, 2015.

LESSON FOUR

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

MEMORY VERSE: Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17

BIBLE PASSAGE: 2 Corinthians 5:16–21

INTRODUCTION
Before the new, there was old. However, the old was not in Christ, as there is no old life in Christ. The old life therefore must definitely be in Satan. Before a man can experience a new life in Christ, such person must have first experienced salvation of his soul. What then is salvation? Salvation is freedom from sin which leads to a change of life as a result of repentance and faith in the atoning blood of Jesus Christ. Such person enjoys forgiveness of sins which now reconciles him with God Eph 4:24

OUTLINES
1. WHAT TRANSPRIRES BEFORE THE NEW LIFE?
2. CHARACTERISTICS OF A NEW LIFE

WHAT TRANSPRIRES BEFORE THE NEW LIFE?
Even though the thought of God towards man at creation was the thought of peace and not evil, however, Adam, the first creature, changed the course of the human race by falling into sin. Satan succeeded in making Adam to believe the following about God:
1. That God was a liar. Gen 2: 17; 3: 4. Ever since, the natural man’s life has been characterised with the lusts of his father - Satan, since he is the father of all lies. Man
abides not in truth because there is no truth in him. Jn 8:44; 1 Jn. 3:8

2. That God was deceitful and does not have the love of His creatures at heart. Deceit has been the nature of man ever since. Hos 12:7; Jer 9:6, 8

3. That God is unfair by not giving them that which was for their ultimate good. James 4:3; Prov 1:28-29

Also:
- Satan blasphemed and spoke irreverently about God and painted Him in bad light Ezek 36:20, Rom 2:24
- Man has a natural selfish and lustful will Luke 12:17-20
- Jealousy characterises the nature of a man Gen 4:3-8
- Man exhibits unforgiving spirit and often seeks retaliation Matt 6:12; 18:23-34

CHARACTERISTICS OF A NEW LIFE
New birth is a spiritual experience that transforms you from the kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of God. It is also, the receiving of God’s life and righteousness. Therefore, new life in Christ portrays a true follower of Christ, that is united to Him by faith, and that truly derives grace and strength from Him, as the branch does from the vine.

The following are some of the characteristics of a man with new life:
- He is by regeneration made a new man 2 Cor 5:17; Eph 4:24
- All the faculties of his soul are renewed Rom 12:1-2
- The old life is reformed Ezek 11:19 & controlled by the spirit of God Rom 8:9
- Living and working by faith in Christ Jesus Gal 5:6; 2 Cor 5:7, Absolute dependence on God Jn 15:2-4
• Thirsty and hungry for the word of God Matt 5:6
• Willingness to fellowship with God and brethren Acts 2:42; Ps 133:1
• Zealous for the work of God Jn 2:17; Gal 4:18
• Desire to live a righteous life and shun worldliness Gen 39:6-9; 1 Jn 2:15, 29

CONCLUSION:
It is expected that a new life in Christ will transform believers into real image of God which is characterized by purity, holiness and righteousness Eph 4:24

QUESTIONS:
1. What is new life in Christ?
2. Mention some of the characteristics of a man with new life in Christ?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Num 23:19 - Let all men be liars; God remains faithful.
TUESDAY: Eph 5:5-6 - Sinners have no place in the kingdom of God.
WEDNESDAY: Jn 1:14 - If you can embrace the Word, you will be liberated fully.
THURSDAY: Matt 11:29 - Cast your burden on Jesus and wholly depend on Him.
FRIDAY: Isa 59:12 - Run away from sin to obtain mercy from the Lord.
SATURDAY: Ezek 36:23 - Lord, let your name be glorified in my life.
SUNDAY: 1 Thess 5:18 - Give thanks always.
DATE: October 4, 2015.

LESSON FIVE

GOD’S EXPECTATIONS FROM THE NEW MAN

MEMORY VERSE: “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” 2 Corinthians 5:17

BIBLE PASSAGE: Ephesians 4:17–24

INTRODUCTION
In our last lesson, we learnt about new life in Christ and what transpired before the new life. This week we want to look at what God is expecting from the new man and the benefits of a new life in Christ.

OUTLINES
1. GOD’S EXPECTATIONS
2. BENEFITS OF A NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

GOD’S EXPECTATIONS
God expects all new creatures in Christ to put off the old man and put on the new man Matt 9:16-17; Eph 4:22-32. They must disengage from every relationship with the devil and his kingdom 2 Cor 6:1-18; Eph 5:11-12. They must purify themselves, their thoughts and all they do on a daily basis, in order to retain God in their heart 1 Cor 3:16-17; Rom 12:1-2. They must have regular fellowship with God 1 Jn 1:1-3; Jam 4:8 and other brethren Heb 10:25; Acts 2:42-47. New creatures in Christ must do all things in faith so as to please God. Heb 11:6
BENEFITS OF A NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

Here are some of the benefits of having a new life in Christ:
1. Becoming joint-heirs with Christ Rom 8:16-17
2. Ability to do all that Christ did while here on earth and enjoy every privilege He enjoyed Jn 14:12
3. Abundant and everlasting life is guaranteed Jn 3:16; 17:3
5. The abundant life restores health to the sick, makes the barren fruitful, changes story to glory, gives beauty for ashes, joy to the sorrow-laden, compassion to the neglected and so much more Isa 61:1-3

CONCLUSION

God expects much from those who have new life in Christ. It is high time you began to manifest the new life and enjoy the benefits.

QUESTIONS
1. What are the things you are to put off?
2. What are the benefits of living a new life?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: 2 Tim. 1:12 - Be confident in the Lord.
TUESDAY: Heb 13:1 - Let brotherly love continue
WEDNESDAY: Deut 8:18 - Remember the Lord your God.
THURSDAY: Jer 18:1-4 - God will remould your life.
FRIDAY: Col 3:10 - Put on the new man.
SATURDAY: 1 Jn. 3:8 - A child of God does not sin.
SUNDAY: 1 Cor. 2:14 - Be spiritually minded.
DATE: October 11, 2015.

LESSON SIX

VESSELS UNTO HONOUR

MEMORY VERSE: “Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity” 2 Timothy 2:19

BIBLE PASSAGE: 2 Timothy 2:19-21

INTRODUCTION

God is absolutely pure and desires that His children be of the same quality too 1 Pet 1:15-16; Matt 5:48. The Almighty God cannot compromise this standard if He has to find a pure vessel to use 2 Tim 2:19

OUTLINES

1. VESSELS UNTO HONOUR DEFINED
2. THEIR QUALITIES

VESSELS UNTO HONOUR DEFINED

Vessels unto honour are the sanctified lives or those who are separated unto the process of becoming like Jesus 2 Tim 2:21; 2 Cor 3:18. This process helps believers to live holy and perfect as our heavenly Father and His son are 1 Pet 1:15-16; Matt 5:48. It is so crucial to our redemption that the Lord Jesus had to be subjected to satanic examination, which He excellently passed before consummating it Jn 14:30
THEIR QUALITIES
Vessels unto honour must be clean all around and always Dan 1:8, 18. They must have a divine ability to mortify and abhor all the deeds of the flesh Col 3:5; Gal 5:10-21; Rom 12:9. In true submission to God, they must be able to resist every ungodly thought or anything that will defile them physically or spiritually Jas 4:7. They must possess the ability to deny themselves of the pleasures of this world 1 Jn 2:15-17; 1 Tim 6:10. They must allow God to work on their weaknesses through consistent prayer life and Bible study Matt 26:37-41; 2 Tim 2:15 Finally, they must be addicted soul-winners, who absolutely depend on the Holy Spirit as their source of supernatural power Jn 15:1-7, 16; Acts 1:8; Jn 14:26; 15:26

CONCLUSION
The Lord Jesus is desperately in search of vessels unto honour, hence He spent His first earthly sojourn not only to recruit, but also to train, sanctify, disciple and commission those He found. May He find in us vessels unto honour in Jesus' Name.

QUESTIONS
1. Define vessels unto honour.
2. Mention four qualities of vessels unto honour.

BLESSSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Matt 5:48 - You can attain perfection like God.
TUESDAY: 2Tim 2:19 - Depart from iniquity.
WEDNESDAY: Jn 14:30 - Daily examine your life.
THURSDAY: Dan 1:8 - Avoid defilement in all things.
FRIDAY: Col 3:5 - Mortify the deeds of the flesh.
SATURDAY: Jas 4:7 - Resist the devil always.
DATE: October 18, 2015.

LESSON SEVEN

OFFERING STRANGE FIRE

MEMORY VERSE: “And Nadab and Abihu died, when they offered strange fire before the Lord” Numbers 26:61

BIBLE PASSAGE: Leviticus 10:1-5

INTRODUCTION
Many today do not take the work of God seriously. This is exactly the sin of Nadab and Abihu. They wanted to serve God according to their own methods. If we are going to serve God in an acceptable way, we will have to serve Him on His terms and not our own.

OUTLINES
1. DESCRIPTION AND INSTANCES OF STRANGE FIRE
2. BLESSINGS ATTACHED TO ACCEPTABLE SERVICE

DESCRIPTION AND INSTANCES OF STRANGE FIRE
A “strange fire” refers to doing what God has not commanded one to do, doing the work of God in the wrong way or with a wrong motive Lev 10:1. There are instances of those that offered strange fire unto the Lord in the Bible apart from Nadab and Abihu. The sons of Eli; Hophni and Phinehas gave no honour to the offering of the Lord and His temple 1 Sam 2:12-17, 22. King Saul rendered an unauthorized service to God and failed to obey God completely 1 Sam 13:8-14; 15:18-22. Ananias and Sapphira lied while presenting their seed offering before the Lord Acts 5:2
Eye-service, partial payments of tithe and offering, serving God for wrong motives, toiling with sin as a believer, etc. are all examples of strange fire.

**BLESSINGS ATTACHED TO ACCEPTABLE SERVICE UNTO GOD**

Anyone that will appear before God must come with a clean hand and a pure heart *Ps 24:3-4*. There are blessings attached to doing what God commands us to do and doing it the right way *Isa 1:19*. These include answers to prayers (*Jer 33:3; 1 Kgs 18:36-38*), closeness to God *Matt 5:8; Jas 4:8*, victory in battle *1 Sam 30:8, 18*, all-round blessings *Deut 28:1-14*.

**CONCLUSION**

God expects absolute obedience from His children *1 Sam 15:22*.

**QUESTIONS**

1. Give two instances where strange fire was offered in the bible.
2. What do you stand to enjoy when you serve God acceptably?

**BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**MONDAY:** *1Sam 15:22* - Obedience is better than sacrifice.

**TUESDAY:** *Lev 10:1* - Don’t do the right thing in the wrong way.

**WEDNESDAY:** *Acts 5:2* - You cannot lie to God and escape.

**THURSDAY:** *Ps 24:4* - Serve God with a clean hand and a pure heart

**FRIDAY:** *1 Sam 30:8* - Seek God’s direction

**SATURDAY:** *Jas 4:7* - Submit unto God

**SUNDAY:** *Isa 1:19* - There is blessing in obedience
DATE: October 25, 2015.

LESSON EIGHT

HOLINESS: GOD’S NATURE AND EXPECTATION

MEMORY VERSE: “Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, ye shall be holy: for I the LORD your God am holy”. Leviticus 19:2

BIBLE PASSAGE: Leviticus 19:1-4

INTRODUCTION
God is holy in an excellent, infinitely perfect and incomparable manner Isa 6:3, Exo. 15:11. Holiness denotes the very essence of God. God is the fountain of holiness, innocence, and true sanctification. He created man in His own His image and likeness Gen 1:26. In this lesson, we shall be studying holiness as the nature of God and His expectation from mankind.

OUTLINES
1. HOLINESS IS THE NATURE OF GOD
2. GOD’S EXPECTATION FROM MANKIND

HOLINESS IS THE NATURE OF GOD
God’s nature is holy Exo 15:11. His throne is holy Ps 47:8. His habitation is holy Isa 63:15; Ps 93:5, and it has a court that is holy Isa 62:9. His angels are holy Rev 14:10. His works are holy Ps 145:17. Holiness is also exhibited in God’s character Ps 22:3, in His name Isa 57:15a, in His words Jer 23:9. And He should therefore be worshipped in the beauty of holiness 1 Chr 16:29.
GOD’S EXPECTATION FROM MANKIND
God’s children are commanded to imitate their maker in holiness Lev 11:44, 1 Pet 1:15. They are called a holy people 1 Pet 2:9. They should praise Ps 30:4 and live in reverential fear Rev 15:4 for God in holiness. Their hearts should conform in all things to the will of God Rom 6:19, 12:2; Eph 1:4. God also requires holy service from His people Jos 24:19.

CONCLUSION
Although mankind lost all holiness in the fall Rom 6:23, God makes his people gradually "partakers of his holiness" here on earth as they surrender their lives to His saving grace and lordship through Jesus Christ. And in heaven, they will be found perfect and forever sanctified. You too can be holy.

QUESTIONS
1. What can you say about the holy nature of God
2. What is God’s expectation from mankind?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Leviticus 19:2 - Be holy for God is holy.
TUESDAY: Exo 15:11 - God is glorious in holiness.
WEDNESDAY: 1 Chr 16:29 - Worship God in the beauty of His holiness.
THURSDAY: 1 Pet 2:9 - You are a holy nation.
FRIDAY: Jos 24:19 - God also requires holy service from His people.
SATURDAY: Rom 6:19 - Make holiness your lifestyle
SUNDAY: Eph 1:4 - be holy and without blame before him in the love
DATE: November 1, 2015.

LESSON NINE

THE ‘WHY’ AND ‘HOW’ OF HOLINESS

MEMORY VERSE: “But as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation” 1 Peter 1:15

BIBLE PASSAGE: Psalm 15:1-5

INTRODUCTION

There is a time lag between when one is born again and when one is called to eternity. During this time, God wants believers to prosper and be in health even as their souls prosper 3 Jn 2. God expects a standard of living, which is that of holiness 2 Tim 2:19. Holiness is to be set apart unto God 2 Cor 6:17-18. Viewed from the angle of morals, it means to be pure, sinless, and righteous. Generally, holiness means total obedience to God’s command Deut 28:1. It is crucial for us to know why God requires holiness and how to live holy.

OUTLINES

1. WHY BELIEVERS MUST BE HOLY
2. HOW TO LIVE HOLY

WHY BELIEVERS MUST BE HOLY

Our God is a holy God and He commands every believer to be perfect in His sight Mat 5:48; 1 Pet 1:15; Gen 17:1. God desires to use believers as His chosen vessels to reach out to the numerous sinners out there 2 Tim 2:21; Matt 5:16. Holiness is necessary for a believer to do exploit 1Pet 2:12. Sinners cannot fellowship with a holy God because two individuals cannot walk together unless
they agree **Amos 3:3, 1 Cor. 6:9-11.** The believer must be holy in order to be able to see the Lord on the last day **Heb 12:14**

**HOW TO LIVE HOLY**
Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you at all times **Rom 8:14.** Abstain from all places and appearances of evil **1 Thess 5:22.** Confess your wrong deeds and seek forgiveness immediately you sin **1 Jn 2:1.** Avoid the company of those who can make you sin, including unserious Christians **2 Cor 6:14, Rom 16:17-18.** Resist the devil and he will flee from you **Jam 4:7.** Keep the company of true Christians that are heavenly bound **Heb 10:25** and depend on the help of the Holy Spirit **Rom 8:26; Phil. 4:13.**

**CONCLUSION**
God cannot be separated from His holiness. Living holy must be the yearning of the heart of a true believer, day by day. Strive to be holy, especially now that you know the ‘why’ and the ‘how’ of holiness.

**QUESTION**
1. Why should believers be holy?
2. How can one live holy?
3. 

**BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**MONDAY:** **Phil 4:19** - Do not worry anymore. The Holy God will take care of your daily needs.

**TUESDAY:** **Ps 1:3** - God’s words are yea and amen. He will cause believers to flourish like a tree planted by the rivers of water.

**WEDNESDAY:** **Jer 29:1** - God’s thought for His people is to bring every of their expectations to fulfilment.
THURSDAY: Job 1:10 - God protects believers from every attack of the wicked. He will protect you too.
FRIDAY: Ps 68:1 - The Lord of hosts will arise and destroy all your enemies and scatter them.
SATURDAY: Isa 1:19 - Willingness and obedience on the part of people bring goodness their way.
SUNDAY: Isa 1:18 - God’s invitation to sinners is on daily basis.
DATE: November 8, 2015.

LESSON TEN

BENEFITS OF HOLINESS, DANGERS OF UNHOLINESS

MEMORY VERSE: “… I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.” Genesis 17:1b

BIBLE PASSAGE: Psalm 24: 3-5

INTRODUCTION
In our last lesson, we considered why believers must be holy and how to live holy. If we are not holy, we cannot walk with God Amos 3:3. As Christians, we are commanded to put on the new man created in righteousness and holiness Eph 4:24. Today, we shall learn about some benefits and rewards of holiness as well as the dangers of unholy living.

OUTLINES
1. BENEFITS AND REWARDS OF HOLINESS
2. DANGERS OF UNHOLY LIVING

BENEFITS AND REWARDS OF HOLINESS
A holy believer receives classified information from God Ps 25:14; Jn 15:14-15. God builds a wall of protection around such a believer Ps 34:7; Job 1:8-10. He will also have peace with his enemies, Prov 16:7. He will receive divine provision and long life Ps 37:25; Prov 3:1-2. Living holy enables every believer to enjoy God’s presence and living ever with God in eternal life Ps 15:1-3
The rewards attached to holiness include: answered prayers Lk 1:13, secured future Isa 3:10, divine health Ex 15:26, overflowing blessings Deut 28:1-2, victorious
living Deut 28:7, promotion and supernatural anointing Heb 1:9

DANGERS OF UNHOLY LIVING
There are grave dangers for any believer that does not live a holy life. Such dangers include:
1. Rejection and exclusion from heaven and all the eternal rewards Heb 12:14; Jn 14:1-2
2. Prevention from possessing one’s possessions Obad 17; Isa 59:1-2
3. Deletion of one’s name from the book of life Rev 20:15
4. An unholy person will be useless in the service of the Lord. 2 Tim 2:19-22

CONCLUSION
An individual that fears God and lives righteously shall be exalted. Disobedience to His instructions will lead to divine rejection, waste of life and destiny, eternal rejection and condemnation etc. 1 Sam 15:22-23; Rev 22:14-15

QUESTIONS
1. From your own personal experience what are the challenges of living a holy life.
2. What are your motivations for living a holy life?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
MONDAY: Rev. 3:7; Rev. 4:8 - God expects us to be holy.
TUESDAY: Heb. 12:10 - God chastises to make holy.
WEDNESDAY: Jn. 17:17 - God uses His words to make us holy.
THURSDAY: Ps. 99:3 - His name is holy.
FRIDAY: Ps. 47:8 - His throne is holy.
SATURDAY: Is. 57:15 - God dwells in holiness.
SUNDAY: Ps. 145:17 - His ways are holy.
DATE: November 15, 2015.

LESSON ELEVEN

DESTINY: DEFINITION AND DISCOVERY

MEMORY VERSE: "And the LORD answered me, and said, write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it" Habakkuk 2:2.

BIBLE PASSAGE: Jeremiah 1:4-7

INTRODUCTION
Destiny can be broadly categorized into two groups. The first category is the general destiny which is an expression of God’s thought for all of mankind Jn 3:16; 2 Pet 3:9. Every believer is to be His ambassador 2 Cor 5:20-21 and to prosper spiritually and physically 3 Jn.2. God however has specific destinies for some individuals; this is a divine assignment/purpose for which such people have been created Acts 26:15-18, Jer 1:5.

LESSON OUTLINE:
1. DESTINY DEFINED
2. CATEGORIES OF DESTINY

DESTINY DEFINED
What is destiny? It is God’s purpose for a man’s life. It is a divinely pre-planned destination and designation in life Jer 1:5. It is the totality of God’s counsel for a person and what God has decided concerning him even before he was conceived Isa 25:1; 49:1; Eph 1:4. The destiny of our Lord, Jesus Christ, was clearly defined Matt 1:21, Jn 18:37. The plan of God for man is good Jer 29:11 but it is subject to our attitude and agreement with God Jn 15:5. God destined Abraham for greatness Gen 18:17-18. Samson’s divine purpose was to deliver Israel from the
Philistines but he did not achieve his destiny **Judg 13:5; Judg 16:30.**

DESTINY DISCOVERED
It is essential to discover what your destiny is, so as to fulfil it before time runs out Eph.5:16. Discovery of destiny could be by the following means:

(i) Through prayerful enquiry from the Lord **Eph 1:17-21, Matt 7:7-9**

(ii) Through revelation by the Holy Spirit and inward witness **Acts 13:1-4; Rom.8:14; Acts 7:22-25.**

(iii) Through angelic visitation **Judg 6:11-14, 13:2-5; Matt 1:26-31**

(iv) Through revelation in dreams from God **Gen 37:5-10**

(v) Through observation of trends, patterns, passions or interests **Gen 37:11; Lk 1:66, 2:19**

CONCLUSION
Seek the face of God, lift up your faith unto God and run with the vision which the Lord will give to you. God will always be there to back you up **Ps 139:14-17.**

QUESTIONS
1. How can you prove from the scriptures that God has a purpose for your life?
2. What are 5 ways you could discover your destiny?
BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Ps. 73: 26 - God is your portion forever.
TUESDAY: Jer. 29: 11 - God has a purpose for your life.
WEDNESDAY: John 15: 5 - Without Him you can do nothing

THURSDAY: 2 Pet 1: 5 - You need knowledge
FRIDAY: Pro 8:10 - The value of knowledge is unquantifiable

SATURDAY: Rom 10: 17 - To increase your faith you need the constant food of the word of God.
SUNDAY: Heb: 11: 6 – Without faith, you cannot please God.
DATE: November 22, 2015.

LESSON TWELVE

ENEMIES OF DESTINY

MEMORY VERSE: “He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully”. Psalm 24: 4

BIBLE PASSAGE: 2 Timothy 3: 1-7

INTRODUCTION
We were able to discover in our last lesson that destiny could be general or specific. It is the thought and plan of God for us that we must discover and fulfil. Today, we shall examine some destiny destroyers with a view to avoiding them in our lives.

OUTLINES:
1. SOME ENEMIES OF DESTINIES
2. MORE ENEMIES TO DEFEAT

SOME ENEMIES OF DESTINIES
Sin is the number one enemy of destiny Rom 6:23. A man who is living in sin cannot fulfil his destiny or attain eternal destination which God has promised Prov 14:34. Unconfessed sins provoke God to anger Ps 7:11; Judg 16:6-18. Others include: (i) Prayerlessness: many Christians do not pray enough, they despise vigils and prayer meetings but Jesus enjoins us to pray like He did to avoid becoming a prey to the enemy Lk 18:1; Matt 26:38-42. (ii) Pride: Pride is excessive self-esteem and it is dangerous because God resists the proud Ps 138:6, Jam 4:6; Dan 4:28-33. (iii) Pursuit of vanity: Solomon pursued so much
of vanity until he became a complete backslider. The privileges of wealth and lack of self-control ruined his destiny Eccl 2: 10-11; 1 Kg 11: 1-10. (iv) Ignorance: Lack of divine knowledge is a destiny destroyer Hos.4:6; Prov 29: 18. We cannot know the mind of God without the Holy Spirit I Cor 2: 10; Rom 8: 26-27.

MORE ENEMIES TO DEFEAT
1. Lack of faith and doubt: Lack of faith and/or doubt is also a destiny destroyer, Heb 4: 2; 1 Tim 1: 19. Unbelief ends in failure and destruction Jam 1: 6-8; Num 14: 22-24; Matt 17: 19-20.
2. Laziness: Being lazy, idle or averse to labour is a destroyer of destiny, Jn 5: 17, 9: 4. Jesus even defied hunger to fulfil his assignment, John 4: 31-34. Proverbs 18: 9,16; 22: 29

CONCLUSION
There are many enemies that work against Divine destiny. Every child of God must fight the good fight of faith against these identified enemies daily 1 Tim 6: 12.

QUESTIONS
1. What are 6 enemies to your destiny?
2. What is the end of pride?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Proverbs 8: 13 - God hates pride.
TUESDAY: Daniel 4: 37 - The surest way to shame is pride.
WEDNESDAY: Ephesians 6: 18 - Pray always with thanksgiving.
THURSDAY: James 5: 16 - Prayer plus righteousness grants express access to the throne of God.

FRIDAY: Psalm 66: 18 - Stay out of sin for your prayers to be answered.

SATURDAY: Job 2: 10 - Watch your tongue so you don’t get into trouble.

SUNDAY: Isaiah 55: 7 - God is willing to pardon the repentant.
DATE: November 29, 2015.

WEEK THIRTEEN

WELCOME TO THE FIRST INTERACTIVE SESSION

YOUR PRIVILEGE:

❖ TO ASK QUESTIONS ON TREATED LESSONS FOR CLARITY.
❖ TO GIVE CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF THE OUTLINES.
❖ TO GIVE USEFUL SUGGESTIONS TOWARDS BETTER PERFORMANCE.
❖ TO GIVE USEFUL SPIRITUAL CONTRIBUTIONS.
❖ ETC.
DATE: December 6, 2015.

LESSON 14

RECOVER YOUR DESTINY

MEMORY VERSE: “I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved’. Habakkuk 2:1

BIBLE PASSAGE: Habakkuk 2:1-4

INTRODUCTION
In our last two lessons, we identified what destiny is and how we can discover it. We also took time to identify the destroyers of destiny. In this lesson we shall be looking at how some lost their destinies and how to recover divine destiny.

OUTLINES
1. LOST DESTINIES
2. RECOVERING DESTINY

LOST DESTINIES
There are instances of lost destinies in the Bible. Eli’s family lost the priesthood due to the waywardness of Eli’s sons 1Sam 2:27-30. Gehazi and Judas lost their prophetic and apostleship destinies respectively through greed and covetousness 2 Kings 5:20-27; Matt 27:3-5. Samson’s lust after strange women led to his downfall Judg 16:6-7, 20-23. Vashti lost her royal position due to arrogance Est 1:10-19. Demas lost his role in the kingdom for the love of the world 2 Tim 4:10. Today, many are losing their destinies due to the above reasons and many more. Do not join these bandwagon 1 Cor 6:9-11.
RECOVERING DESTINY
We need to recover every lost ground in our journey to fulfilling purpose by tackling aggressively, and totally defeating all enemies of destiny (see enemies outlined in the previous lesson).

   a) Go on the offensive: get equipped and attack the kingdom of darkness Eph 6:12-18, 1 Thess 5:17-18.
   b) Defeat laziness: rise up and shine for Jesus today Eph 5:14-16; Prov 10:4; Eccl 9:10
   c) Build up your faith: become a bible addict Rom 10:17, Col 3:16, Jos 1:8.
   d) Destroy ignorance of God’s word, will and purpose Jer 29:11-14; Ps 119:105, 130.
   e) Eliminate pride in all areas of your life Jam 4:6-10.
   f) Seek the kingdom of the Almighty God and not the vanity of the world Matt 6:33; Heb 12:1-2; Rom 12:1-2.
   g) Intensify your prayer life Lk 18:1, Jn 16:24.
   h) Flee from every form or appearance of sin Isa 59:1-2, 1 Thess 5:22.

CONCLUSION
It is time to rise up and take up the path of your divine destiny so that at Christ’s appearing, which could be at any time, you will not be ashamed.

QUESTIONS
1. What do you need to do to recover lost destiny?
2. Outline a specific plan to move your destiny forward from this moment.
BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Proverbs 12: 24 - Laziness will lead to slavery.
TUESDAY: Proverbs 18: 9 - The lazy man is wasting the resources which God has deposited in his life.
WEDNESDAY: 2 Timothy 3: 4 - Pleasure seekers cannot love God.
THURSDAY: 1 Timothy 5: 6 - Pleasure seekers are dead even while still alive.
FRIDAY: Psalm 91: 5 - In Jesus you are safe from all attacks.
SATURDAY: Psalm 23: 4 - God’s presence is needed to be safe from all evil.
SUNDAY: Isaiah 41: 11 - God’s promises are sure. Hold on to them.
DATE: December 13, 2015.

LESSON FIFTEEN

DIVINE CALLING

Memory Verse: “Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it”. 1Thessalonians 5:24

BIBLE PASSAGE: Mark: 3:13 – 15

INTRODUCTION

‘Divine’, according to Webster Dictionary means ‘pertaining to; proceeding from, or of the nature of God. A call is an invitation to something higher than an individual.

Therefore, Divine Calling simply means a call proceeding from God. God is the Caller and whoever receives the call is the called. One of the greatest things that can happen to an individual is to be called by God. It can be a call unto salvation; this is universal in scope Jn 3:16; Titus 2:11. God can also call people to His service Jn 15:16; Mk 3:13-15.

OUTLINES

1. BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF THE CALLED
2. THE BENEFITS THE CALLED DERIVE FROM OBEYING DIVINE CALL
BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF THE CALLED
Let us examine a few biblical examples of the called and the purpose of their callings.
1. Moses was called to deliver the Israelites from the slavery of the Egyptians Ex 3:7, 10.
3. He called the twelve disciples to be His followers Luke 6:13.
5. Elijah was called to speak God’s word to a king who often rejected His message. He proved the supremacy of His God to the prophets of Baal 1 Kings 17:1; 18:30–40.

THE BENEFITS ‘THE CALLED’ DERIVED FROM OBEDIENT DIVINE CALL
1. Cordial relationship with God and the assurance of God’s presence at all times Ex 3:12; Josh 1:5.
2. God will not allow the called to lack helpers of destiny 2 Sam 23:14–16; 2 Tim 4:11.
3. The called are empowered to heal the sick, set the captive free, raise the dead and deliver the oppressed Mk 16:15-18; Acts 10:38.
4. The called that remain faithful to the end will be blessed on earth and receive rewards for their efforts in heaven Matt 19:27-29; Rev 2:10.

CONCLUSION
God’s call is for everyone who is willing to come to Him. If you yield yourself to His call, He will not only use you, but will also demonstrate His power through you and make you a star in the process. To what extent do you rely on God, your Caller?
QUESTIONS
1. What is divine call?
2. Give three examples of the called and the purpose of their calling?
3. Mention two benefits the called will derive from obeying divine call.

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY : Luke 9:1 – The power you need to do exploit will be deposited in your life.
TUESDAY : Josh 1:8 – If you want to succeed in life, you must be conversant with the word of God.
WEDNESDAY : Deut 31:6 – Put your trust in the Lord, He will help you
THURSDAY : Acts 3:6 – God will honour His name through the called.
FRIDAY : Heb 12:1 – The called should get rid of sinful attachments.
SATURDAY : 2 Sam 23:16 – At any given opportunity, remember to always give God the best.
SUNDAY : Jn 3:16 – Have you heeded the call to salvation?
DATE: December 20, 2015.

LESSON SIXTEEN

THE MINISTRY GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

MEMORY VERSE: “And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers”- Ephesians 4:11

BIBLE PASSAGE: Ephesians 4:1-13

INTRODUCTION: The gifts of the Holy Spirit are diverse and purposeful 1 Cor 12:4-7. They are meant for every believer who believes and asks. However, certain special gifts are given for leadership responsibilities. They designate the calling of one believer from another, particularly those who have a definite call to ministry Acts 13:2; Heb 5:4. This special class of gifts is the one referred to as ministry gifts. 1 Cor 12:28; Eph 4:11.

OUTLINES
1. THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
2. THE FIVE - FOLD MINISTRY GIFTS

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
There are diversities of gifts, differences of administrations and diversities of operations, all of which are from the same source – Holy Spirit 1 Cor 12:4-6. They are not natural abilities. They are given to equip each believer for service and to confirm the word of God Eph 4:12; Heb 2:3-4. Every believer has a place chosen for him or her by the Holy Spirit in the church 1 Cor 7:7b. No spiritual gift is of less importance to the other (Rom 12:3). You can have as many as the Holy Spirit is willing to give you, if you ask 1
Cor 12:31a, Lk 11:31. These gifts include: word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, gift of healings, working of miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, diverse kinds of tongues and interpretation of tongues. 1 Cor 12:8-10. Others are, ministry (helps), teaching, exhortation, ruling (governments, administration), mercy Rom 12:6-8; 1 Cor 12:28, etc.

THE FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY GIFTS
The ministry gifts or special call-gifts are biblically five. They are Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers Eph 4:11; 1 Cor 12:28. Each is a spiritual office of leadership having definite functions and attributes. However, with the growth and expansion of the body of Christ, there are other call-gifts and ministries that have been identified in the church. Among these are drama, music/instrumentation, speech, writing and Art. Their growth and role in the area of edification, evangelism and soul winning through inspirational messages cannot be over emphasized. Notwithstanding, every call to ministry falls into the five main classes mentioned above.

CONCLUSION
Since all gifts of the Spirit are from the same source, they are all inter-related. You must aspire to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

QUESTIONS
1. Identify some of the gifts of the Spirit.
2. Mention the five main classes of ministry gifts.
BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY : Jn 7:37-38 – God is ready to give the Holy Spirit to all who are thirsty to receive.

TUESDAY : Eph 3:19 – You can have all the gifts of the Holy Spirit if you prepare your vessel holy to receive Him.

WEDNESDAY : 1 Cor.12:31- As you desire spiritual gifts earnestly, be willing to use them for God’s service and not for personal gains.

THURSDAY : 2 Tim 2:16 – Desire to grow in the gifts of God that you have received from day to day.

FRIDAY : 1 Tim 4:14 – The gift of the Holy Spirit in you must be used for God’s service constantly. Do not be too busy to neglect it.

SATURDAY : 1 Cor 12:7 – The gifts of the Spirit will also bring profit to your life as you use them for God.

SUNDAY :1 Cor 14:12 – The gift is primarily to be used to edify the church.
DATE: December 27, 2015.

LESSON SEVENTEEN

THE MINISTRY OF THE APOSTLE

MEMORY VERSE: *Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.* 2 Cor. 12:12

BIBLE PASSAGE: 1 Cor. 12:27-31

INTRODUCTION: The Greek word translated apostle is “apostolos” meaning ‘one sent forth’ with full power to act in the place of another, the sender remaining behind to back up the one sent. An Apostle is a delegate, representative or ambassador of God. Jesus Christ is the ultimate apostle of all time *Heb 3:1*. Examples of apostleship in today’s church are missionaries and church planters *Heb 3:1; Jn 20:21*. The twelve disciples were the first Apostles of Christ – *Lk 6:13; Acts 1:13*. Apostles have special gifts to develop new churches in different places and oversee a number of churches.

OUTLINES
1. FEATURES OF APOSTLES
2. DUTIES OF APOSTLES

FEATURES OF APOSTLES

Here are some of the basic features of an apostle:

1. Apostles are chosen by God. *Gal 1:1; 1 Cor. 1:1*.
2. They usually have a personal revelation of Jesus Christ *1 Cor 9:1; Acts 1:21-22*.
3. They are filled with the power of the Holy Spirit and invested with divine authority *Lk 9:1*. 
5. They should be infallible and secured against error in their public preaching and teaching 1 Tim 2:7
6. They are custodians of the true church(Bible) doctrines Acts 2:42
7. The Apostolic ministry gift must be confirmed with signs and wonders - 2 Cor 12:12; Mk 16:20

DUTIES OF APOSTLES
They are expected to organise the church, disseminate the gospel, establish new churches in new locations, ordain leaders for the churches and ensure that the correct doctrines are taught in churches. Jn 20:21; Acts 13:1-3; Acts 14:21-23; Acts 15:1-2, 16:4-5.

CONCLUSION
There are many parading themselves today as apostles who are either self-made apostles or servants of the devil. As believers, we must be careful not to sit under such apostles’ teachings. That God is performing signs and wonders through an individual is not enough reason for them to claim that they an apostle 2 Cor 11:13-15.

QUESTIONS
1. Why is Jesus Christ called an apostle?
2. All apostles are missionaries but not all missionaries are apostles. Explain.

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY : Matt 10:27-33 – Lord, give me the Holy Spirit and boldness to declare you among the people.
TUESDAY : Acts 2:1-4 – Give me the fresh fire of the Holy Spirit to fulfil the ministry task set before me.
WEDNESDAY : Jn 14:26 – The Holy Spirit will teach you all truth and keep you from error as you seek Him daily.

THURSDAY : Lk 12:11-12 - Dear Holy Spirit, let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart spring out from you.

FRIDAY : Matt 10:37-39 – Help me to deny myself in order to have more of the Holy Spirit in me.

SATURDAY : Matt 10:16 - There is enough grace for the children of God to walk as wise serpents and harmless doves in the midst of ravenous wolves.

SUNDAY : 2 Pet 1:17 – Lord, let my service be pleasing to you.

LESSON EIGHTEEN

THE MINISTRY OF THE PROPHET

MEMORY VERSE: “Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit” Ephesians 3:5

BIBLE PASSAGE: 2 Peter 1:19-21

INTRODUCTION: Samuel was the first Old Testament’s major prophet even though many had uttered prophesies before him. They manifested the speaking gift of prophecy but Samuel ministered in the office of a prophet. The ministry gift of the prophet was still active in the New Testament times. 1 Sam 9:9; 1 Cor 12:28.

OUTLINE:
1. WHO IS A PROPHET?
2. CHARACTERISTICS OF TRUE PROPHETS

WHO IS A PROPHET?
A prophet, simply put, is a “speaker” for God Jer 1:9. He proclaims a message given to him by God and not from his own spirit Heb 1:1. A prophet is primarily a preacher of righteousness Acts 15:32 but sometimes fore tell the future Act 11:28, 21:10. He sees and hears things beyond the natural realm usually through visions, dreams, trance, inward voice and unusual visitation of the presence and power of God Num 12:6, Amos 3:7. He speaks in God’s name with God’s authority 2 Pet 1:20-21
CHARACTERISTICS OF TRUE PROPHETS
True prophets live a holy life \textit{2 Kgs 4:9}. They operate under the influence of the Holy Spirit \textit{Lk 1:67}. Sometimes they speak in parables or by signs \textit{2 Sam 12:1-6}. A true prophet is faithful to the word received from God \textit{Jer 23:28, Eze 3:17-21}. They are not after material benefits associated with the office but rather seeking to do God’s will \textit{2 Kgs 5:15-16}.

CONCLUSION
The church needs prophets today even as in times past. However, care must be taken not to allow diviners to assume the roles of prophets in our churches. The life of the prophet and the biblical conformity of the prophecy are very important. \textit{Jer 23:21; Ezek 13:7}.

QUESTIONS
1. A person is not a prophet just because he prophesies. Explain.
2. What are the differences between a prophet and a diviner?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

\textbf{MONDAY: Joel 2:28} – Thank God for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and His works in the church.
\textbf{TUESDAY: 1Sam.28:6} – The Holy Spirit will depart from anyone who delights in sin and God will break fellowship with him.
\textbf{WEDNESDAY: Deut.18:20} – Anyone who lies in God’s name or prophesies things not said by the Holy Spirit puts himself under a curse of death.
FRIDAY: Josh.13:22 – Do not communicate with diviners. The Holy Spirit’s judgement will soon fall upon them. Those who follow them will perish like them.


SUNDAY: 1 Cor.14:3 – The Holy Spirit can make you a blessing in your local assembly by anointing you with the unction of the prophetic office.
DATE: JANUARY 10\textsuperscript{TH}, 2016.

LESSON NINETEEN

THE DUTIES AND MARKS OF TRUE PROPHETS

MEMORY VERSE: “But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.” 1 Corinthians. 14:3

BIBLE PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 14:22-33

INTRODUCTION: In our last lesson, the ministry gift of the Prophet was considered. This week, we will study the purpose and duties of prophets and the mark of true prophets.

OUTLINES
1. DUTIES OF TRUE PROPHETS
2. THE MARKS OF TRUE PROPHETS AND TRUE PROPHESIES

DUTIES OF TRUE PROPHETS
Those who are called to be prophets in the church have special duties to perform. It is not everyone who prophesies that can perform all these roles but only those who are called to be prophets. They confirm God’s guidance \textbf{Acts 13:1-4}. They declare openly by inspiration words from God without fear of position \textbf{Acts 21:8-11}. They exhort, edify and comfort \textbf{1 Cor 14:1-3}. They convict unbelievers and turn them to Christ \textbf{1 Cor 14:24-25; 2 Kgs 17:13}
THE MARKS OF TRUE PROPHETS AND TRUE PROPHESIES

False prophesying comes from deceived hearts or those who speak borrowed messages Jer 14:13-14 or people who made themselves prophets for material gains Mic 3:5. True prophecies do not contradict the scriptures. They agree with sound doctrines 1 Pet 1:25. True prophets confess Christ 1 Jn 4:1-3. False prophets teach sexual immorality and they try to lead people away from obedience to God’s word 2 Pt 2:1-3. They also deceive with miraculous signs Matt 24:11,24. They lack the fruit of the Spirit Matt 7:15-16. Some claim divinity and their prophecies do not come to pass Deut 18:20-22.

CONCLUSION

Prophecies must be judged according to God’s word. The revealed word of God is the yardstick to determine the validity of a prophecy. The believer is not expected seek out prophets for direction because all believers have the Holy Spirit who will teach what ought to be known – I John 1:27; Rom 8:14. You too can have the spiritual gift of prophecy.

QUESTIONS

1. Mention some important purposes of prophecy in the church.
2. How can one recognize false prophets?
BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY : 2 Chr.15:1-7 – Anyone who yields his heart to God totally, faithfully and in service will enjoy God’s presence every time.

TUESDAY : 1 Sam.3:4-14 – God can open eyes and ears to see and understand beyond the natural.

WEDNESDAY : Matt 10:41 – God honours everyone who honours true prophets and the prophecy.


FRIDAY : 1 Sam 2:1 – God can make you a vessel for spiritual utterances relevant for now and in the future.

SATURDAY : Acts 21:8-9 – God is willing to use you as a vessel unto honour if you keep yourself pure and undefiled.

SUNDAY : 1 Cor 14:4, 22 – Make me a blessing to your church and the unsaved through prophetic utterances from you.

LESSON TWENTY

THE MINISTRY OF THE EVANGELIST

MEMORY VERSE: But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. 2 Timothy 4:5

BIBLE PASSAGE: Acts 8:4-13

INTRODUCTION: The Greek word “euangelistes” translated evangelist means one who announces or spreads the good news of God’s kingdom. Evangelists are mobile ministers Acts 21:8. They carry the gospel to places where it has never been preached Acts 8:4, 40.

OUTLINES
1. SOME ARE CALLED AND GIFTED TO BE EVANGELISTS
2. PHILIP – THE PATTERN OF AN EVANGELIST

SOME ARE CALLED AND GIFTED TO BE EVANGELISTS
The assignment of preaching the gospel is for all believers Mk 16:15. All believers must do the work of an evangelist 2 Tim 4:5. In fact, many of the apostles work as evangelists Acts 8:4 but some are specially endowed with the ministry gift and are called to be evangelists. God Himself is an evangelist. Jesus Christ, Paul, Timothy and the writers of the four synoptic gospels are also examples. Phillips had the ministry gift of an evangelist.
PHILIP – THE PATTERN OF AN EVANGELIST

Phillip was one of the seven deacons chosen by the church at Jerusalem Acts 6:2-5. His life is an example of someone called to be an evangelist. The apostles heard of his work and sent Peter and John to help him Acts 8:5-14. Phillips moved from place to place preaching with power. He was the first to preach to the Gentiles in Samaria. The eunuch of Ethiopia was converted on the way to Gaza through him Acts 8:26-39 and he preached also in Azotus through all the cities to Caesarea Acts 8:40. He had a good understanding of the word Acts 8:35. He accommodated Apostle Paul about nineteen years later at Caesarea Acts 21:8. His ministry was confirmed with signs and wonders Acts 8:13.

CONCLUSION

The evangelist is an itinerant preacher who does not have the apostolic calling or authority.

QUESTIONS

1. The preaching of the gospel is not reserved for the evangelist alone. Explain.
2. Phillips, the evangelist could be called the forerunner of Paul the apostle. Explain.

BLESSSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY : Acts 6:3 – God is still in need of the faithful ones who are full of the Holy Spirit to appoint over His business.

TUESDAY : Isa.2:2-4 – The ministry of proclaiming the peace of God coming upon the nations is the duty of the evangelist.

WEDNESDAY: Isa.52:7 – God has blessed the feet of everyone who goes about preaching the good news. Join them.
THURSDAY : 1 Cor 9:16 – The believer who does not preach the gospel will have a case to answer with God on the day of judgement.
FRIDAY : 1 Cor 9:18 – Preaching the gospel is not a means for personal enrichment in material things or else the grace of the benefits of preaching becomes abused.
SATURDAY : Gal 1:8-9 – There is no other gospel of salvation other than the truth preached in Christ Jesus.
SUNDAY : Heb 4:2 – The gospel of Christ is profitable to everyone who receives it by faith.
THE MINISTRY OF THE PASTOR

MEMORY VERSE: “Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock” 1 Peter 5:2-3

BIBLE PASSAGE: John 10:1-8

INTRODUCTION: The call to be a Pastor is so important that not just anyone can take up the office. God promises His people in Jer 3:15 “And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding”. Jesus is our best example of a Pastor. Heb 13: 20; Jn 10:14.

OUTLINES
1. WHO IS A PASTOR?
2. THE PORTRAIT OF A PASTOR

1. WHO IS A PASTOR?
There are three categories of Shepherds: the sheep keepers Jn 10:1-4, the sheep eaters Jer 12:10 and the sheep scatterers Jer 23:1-2.

A pastor is an overseer of a number of God’s people. Pastors are church leaders called by God to take long-term responsibility for the spiritual needs and welfare of a body of believers. They give proper attention to people and are
accessible to the sheep. They do a lot of counselling, praying and restoration of lost souls Jer 3:15

2. THE PORTRAIT OF A PASTOR
A pastor is known by the following characteristics:
1. Called by God and not someone seeking honour, respect, self-comfort etc.
   1 Cor.12: 28; 1 Pet.5:2
2. Have a personal encounter with God and a good knowledge of God’s word
   Jer.2:8, 3:15.
3. Compassionate and tender-hearted Mk.6:34; Matt.14:14
   a. Have a relationship with the sheep Jn.10:3, 5.
   c. Visits, feeds, restores, and protects the sheep
      Jer.23:2; Eze 34:12-16
   d. Good example for the sheep. He leads and lives by example Tit.2:7; 1 Tim.3:1-7.

CONCLUSION
Pastors are accountable to God for the very way they handle the sheep. Good pastors always seek God’s face for the flock. The flock must be fed with green pastures i.e. sound doctrines to keep them spiritually healthy Acts 20:28.

QUESTIONS
1. Who is a pastor?
2. What qualities distinguish a good pastor?
BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Matt.25:32 – No unsaved soul shall be numbered with the saints on the last day. Please, count me worthy, O Lord.

TUESDAY: Mk.14:27 – The great Shepherd of our souls is able to keep our pastors from the rod of the evil one in order to keep the flock secure.

WEDNESDAY: 1 Pt.5:4 – All faithful pastors shall be honoured with the crown of glory when the Lord shall come.

THURSDAY: Matt.25:44 – Services done to the flock of Christ are also done to the Lord Himself who shall reward accordingly.

FRIDAY: Matt.10:43 – The ministry of a shepherd is that of a servant.
Anyone who is not ready to serve will not succeed as a pastor.

SATURDAY: Eph.3:7 – The gift of the grace of God is what made us what we are and not of any personal merit.

SUNDAY: 1 Pt.4:10 – We are called to minister to one another in one capacity or the other.

LESSON TWENTY TWO

THE MINISTRY OF THE TEACHER

MEMORY VERSE: “The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God:” Joh 3:2a

BIBLE PASSAGE: Hebrews 5:12-14

INTRODUCTION: Teaching is a leadership gift. The Greek word” didaskalos” meaning ‘master’ is used to connote a teacher in the scriptures. Jesus was given this description in John 3:2. Hence, a teacher is a specially called person that imparts instruction and communicates the knowledge of the word of God effectively as if he is the author of the bible Rom.12:7; 1 Cor.12:29; Eph.4:11.

OUTLINES
1. THE MARKS OF A TRUE TEACHER
2. THE NEED FOR TRUE TEACHERS IN THE CHURCH

THE MARKS OF A TRUE TEACHER
1. A true teacher is a custodian (keeper) of the kingdom’s most valued treasure-The Word of God. He is expected to acquire and be possessed with the WORD 1 Tim 4:16, Deut 6:8-9
2. A true teacher has divine understanding and wisdom of God to impart sound doctrine Col 1:27-28; Matt 13:54.
3. A true teacher does not teach man’s wisdom but mysteries obtained by the revelation of the Holy Spirit 1 Cor.2:13; Eph.1:17.
1. A true teacher illuminates scriptures with a lot of revelations and truth discoveries. He is a bible scientist
who discovers and makes clear hidden truth and latent power behind the word of God **Matt 7:28-29.**

2. A true teacher lives what he teaches. Teaching involves training and making of disciples **Rom 2:21-22; 2 Thess 3:7; 2 Tim 2:2.**

**THE NEED FOR TRUE TEACHERS IN THE CHURCH**

Jesus commanded the apostles to teach **Matt 28:19-20; 2 Tim 2:24.** The church today needs true teachers for the following reasons:

1. To impart the knowledge of truth needed to keep us from spiritual destruction **Hos 4:6.**
2. To learn and understand how to live the life of the kingdom of God after salvation **Mat 28:19-20; Ex 18:20.**
3. To build believers into the full image of their Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ **Eph 4:12-13; Col 1:28**
4. To defend the Christian ideals as enunciated in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and lodge intellectual attack on the heresies that emanate from such learning that exclude God **2 Co 13:8; Gal 1:8; Tit 1:9**
5. To produce Christian workers and ministers for the manpower needs of the Church **2 Tim 2:2**

**CONCLUSION**

The teacher is an honoured spiritual office but all teachers must be careful to live what they teach as they shall be liable to stricter judgement **Jam 3:1.** All matured believers are to be involved in teaching **Heb 5:12**

**QUESTIONS**

1. List the marks of a true teacher.
2. Teaching with human wisdom gives only the letters. What is the implication of this to the hearer?
BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Jn 3:2 – Jesus Christ is the true teacher who declares only the mind, will and counsel of God for our salvation.

TUESDAY: Jn 20:19 – When you are in fear due to situations around you, Jesus is close enough to whisper peace to your soul.

WEDNESDAY: Matt 5:19 – Teachers who live and teach the truth are great in the kingdom of God.

TUESDAY: Ex 4:15 – God is willing to teach you what to speak and do each time you lean upon Him.

FRIDAY: Deut 6:7– A godly child is well taught by parents and godly parents teach well their children the things of God.

SATURDAY: 1 Sam 12:23 – Godly teachers always pray for those they are teaching for the seed of the word to be productive in them.

SUNDAY: Ps 25:2 – Those that fear God have the great privilege of being taught the right way to follow.
DATE: FEBRUARY 7\textsuperscript{TH}, 2016.

LESSON TWENTY THREE

OTHER LEADERSHIP OFFICES IN THE CHURCH

MEMORY VERSE: \textit{Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.} 1 Timothy 5:17

BIBLE PASSAGE: Acts 6:1-7

INTRODUCTION: We have looked at the five major classes of leaders in church ministry endowed with ministry gifts i.e. Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers. There are other leadership offices in the church set by the leading of the Holy Spirit.

OUTLINES
1. LEADERSHIP OFFICES OF DEACONS AND ELDERS
2. THE UNITY OF THE MINISTRY GIFTS

LEADERSHIP OFFICES OF DEACONS AND ELDERS
The leadership offices of Deacons 1 Tim 3:8-13 and Elders are also necessary in the church. They assist the leaders in the church ministry gift offices. Deacons are called to serve or assist the ministers in carrying out their roles Acts 6:1-6. The female equivalent of deacons is deaconesses who may be wives of ministers or other women in the church who serve in ministry or church as helpers to leaders Rom16:1-2.
Elders are leaders who assist in decision making and see to the needs of various groups in the church Acts 14:23. They help to develop local bodies of believers Titus 1:5-9.
Elders are to assist the ministry gift leaders in developing biblical body of believers 1Tim 5:17; Jam.5:14. No one is called into ministry to be an elder or deacon but is appointed by church leaders as led by the Holy Spirit. However, believers could be called to be teachers, prophets, evangelists etc. as a leadership ministry of gift.

THE UNITY OF THE MINISTRY GIFTS
All the ministry gifts in the church are distinct callings but they are inter-related, working together harmoniously to achieve a common purpose. This is to train other Christians to discover their place in the church and use spiritual gifts given to them for self-edification and expansion of the kingdom of God. This will help all parts of the body of Christ to work together in unity. A person could have more than one leadership gift or call e.g. Pastor and Teacher, Prophet and Teacher Eph 4:11-16; 2 Tim 1:11.

CONCLUSION
It is important for everyone called to ministry to discover his or her ministry office for effectiveness. This is not to undermine the important roles of all other spiritual gifts, which are universally given to all believers.

QUESTIONS
1. What class of leaders in the church deserve double honour and why?
2. Can a believer have more than one ministry gift of the Holy Spirit?
BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: 2 Cor 3:5 – God gives enablement and ability to everyone He calls to make to succeed in the task given.

TUESDAY: 2 Cor 10:8 – Leaders have authority from Christ over the flock to build and not to destroy them.

WEDNESDAY: 1 Thess 2:4 – It is grace to be entrusted with the preaching of the gospel and not an evidence that we are better than others.

THURSDAY: 2 Cor 5:20 – We have been sent as Christ ambassadors to reconcile men back to God.

FRIDAY: Matt 9:37-38 – The Lord still needs faithful labourers for this work. Will you give yourself?

SATURDAY: Phil.1:4 – Fervent prayer is not an option but expedient.

SUNDAY: 1 Tim.3:4-12 – True church leadership begins from your home.

LESSON TWENTY FOUR

THE MAKING OF A CHAMPION

MEMORY VERSE: “He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord’s and he hath set the world upon them”

1Samuel 2:8

BIBLE PASSAGE: Jeremiah 51:20-23

INTRODUCTION

A champion is the victor, the one winning, the overcomer. A champion is also the representative of the people. He is the best the people can offer 1Sam. 9:1-2; 17:48-51. He is excellent beyond comparison. The greatest champion in history is no other person than the Lord Jesus Christ Isa. 9:6

OUTLINES

1. BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF CHAMPION
2. JESUS THE GREATEST BCHAMPION

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF CHAMPION

Gideon, the least from the poorest family in Manasseh, became a great man of valor Judges 6:15-16; 7:2-7, 22. A timid and weak Joshua was changed to a strong and courageous man, who led the children of Israel into the promised land Josh. 1:6-7; 11:16-18, Jephtah, the son of
a prostitute, who was hated and driven out of his father’s house, later became a chosen head and commander Judges 11:1, 7-8, 11, Saul, a Benjamite of no reputation was chosen by God as the first king of Israel 1Sam. 9:1-2, David, an unknown and abandoned shepherd boy defeated Goliath and reigned as king in place of Saul 1Sam. 17: 11-12, 50-51, Esther, an orphan was not only made a queen but was also used by God to deliver the Jews from total destruction and annihilation Esth. 2:7, 17; 8:8.

JESUS THE GREATEST CHAMPION
Jesus engaged the greatest enemy of mankind- Satan, in battle and defeated him Gen. 3:15; Heb. 2:14-15, He established the victory over sin 1Cor. 15:56-57; Rom. 8:3, He overcame the world Jn. 16:33, He swallowed death in victory 1Cor. 15:54, He won your battles for you because any battle you are facing now is a fall out of his battle with Satan Rom 8:31-37
God can raise you out of dunghill into the class of princes/princesses. This is a change of level that makes you a champion also.

CONCLUSION
If you are struggling with flesh, sin, host of darkness, etc. yield your life to the greatest champion and He will make you a champion 1Jn. 4:4.

QUESTIONS
1. Mention three biblical examples of champions.

2. What makes Jesus the greatest champion?
BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY : 1Sam 2:8- Your background is not significant with God
TUESDAY : 1Cor. 15:54- Death is swallowed in victory
WEDNESDAY : Judg. 16:18-19- Champions, beware of Delilah!
THURSDAY : 1Jn. 4:4- Jesus overcame the world
FRIDAY : Rom.8:3- With Jesus, you have power over sin.
SATURDAY : Heb. 2:14-15- Believers are no longer in bondage
SUNDAY : 1Jn. 5:4- Your faith in Jesus produces victory

LESSON TWENTY FIVE

THE STRENGTH AND WISDOM OF A DIVINE CHAMPION

MEMORY VERSE: “Behold thou desireth truth in the inward part and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom” Psalm 51:6

BIBLE PASSAGE: Daniel 2:1-5, 12-20

INTRODUCTION
Last week we examined Jesus Christ as the greatest champion. We also learned that He became a champion to make you one also if you can accept him as Lord and savior and follow him. Today’s topic will focus on the strength and wisdom of a champion.

OUTLINES
1. THE STRENGTH OF A DIVINE CHAMPION
2. THE WISDOM OF A DIVINE CHAMPION

THE STRENGTH OF A DIVINE CHAMPION
The divine champion receives divine strengthening and has nothing to fear Ps. 27:1. Human strength often fails 1Sam 2:9. The divine champion is strengthened by God 1Kgs. 19:5-7. The shame, reproaches, troubles, failures, sicknesses that plague men will be crushed by a divine champion because he is able to do the extra ordinary 2Cor. 12:10. Good examples are Hannah, David, Daniel, etc.
THE WISDOM OF A DIVINE CHAMPION
Divine champions usually have special wisdom by which they become stars Dan 2:20-21. Wisdom makes way for progress and success Eccl. 10:10; 1Sam 3:19; Gen. 41:33-41. He is also God’s representative that will be used by God to bless people Gen. 14:16; 2kgs. 2:19-22. God will always honour and back them up 1Kgs. 18:36-38; Dan. 3:16-18, 24-26.
However, sin can destroy a careless divine champion and rob him of his glorious victory Judg. 16:28-30.

CONCLUSION
To remain a divine champion, you must run away from every trace of sin Prov. 14:34.

QUESTIONS
1. What is the source of the strength of a divine champion?
2. What makes a divine champion a star?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
MONDAY: Prov. 14:34- Sin is a reproach
TUESDAY: Dan. 3:16- Divine champions have nothing to fear
WEDNESDAY: Judg. 16:30- Live to celebrate your victory
THURSDAY: Eccl. 10:10- Wisdom is profitable to direct
FRIDAY: Prov. 4:7- Wisdom is the principal thing
SATURDAY: Ps. 27:1- The Lord is my strength and salvation
SUNDAY: Ps. 51:6- Depend on God’s wisdom

WEEK TWENTY-SIX

WELCOME TO THE SECOND INTERACTIVE SESSION

YOUR PRIVILEGE:
❖ TO ASK QUESTIONS ON TREATED LESSONS FOR CLARITY.
❖ TO GIVE CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF THE OUTLINES.
❖ TO GIVE USEFUL SUGGESTIONS TOWARDS BETTER PERFORMANCE.
❖ TO GIVE USEFUL SPIRITUAL CONTRIBUTIONS.
❖ ETC.
DATE: MARCH 6TH, 2016.

LESSON TWENTY SEVEN

NO ONE IS INDISPENSABLE

MEMORY VERSE: “And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshiped him. But Peter took him up, saying, stand up; I myself also am a man” Acts 10:25-26.

BIBLE PASSAGE: 1Sam. 16:1, Dan 4:27-33

INTRODUCTION
For someone to be indispensable means, without that person, nothing can be done. In real life, human beings try to avoid a situation whereby one man becomes all important. Only God is indispensable Jn. 15:5b. Positions or status without Jesus is simply nothing in the sight of God. This must be a humbling revelation Dan. 4:27-33.

OUTLINES
1. ARE YOU TAKING THE PLACE OF GOD?
2. BEWARE, YOU CAN BE REPLACED!

ARE YOU TAKING THE PLACE OF GOD?
Everyone born of woman wants to be important and of influence even in heaven Matt. 20:20-21. This may look very innocent but it has a dangerous hidden agenda, that of ‘Mr. Self’. It can deceive people to think that they are indispensable. Let’s learn some lessons from the following bible characters: (1) Goliath 1Sam. 17:4-10. (2) Nebuchadnezzar Dan. 4:30-33. (3) Herod Acts 12:21-23. (4) Pharaoh Ex. 5:2.
Let’s check some of the ways we are taking God’s glory Isa. 48:11b. When that happens, we are saying that we
are indispensable. Peter proved that he was dispensable. Hence, he gave the glory to God Acts 10:25-26.

BEWARE, YOU CAN BE REPLACED
This is not a threat, but rather an advice. Several times the Lord Jesus would say –beware; take heed; don’t allow yourself to be deceived Mark 8:15; Luke. 12:15a. The focus is on you as an individual, let God decide for others John 21:20-22. No one is too big to be replaced Acts 1:15-20. Sin is ready to ravage anyone that refuses the grace of God 1Sam 16:1; Gen. 4:7. It can make one to be replaced Rom. 1:28-32.

CONCLUSION
Returning the glory to God for all successes and achievements is a sure way of remaining relevant in God’s plan 1Cor. 4:7; 10:31.

QUESTIONS
1. Mention four ways by which man can take God’s place.
2. What can make God replace His vessels?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY- John 21:20- Lord, make me your true disciple.
TUESDAY- Acts 1:20- Money will not make me lose my place.
WEDNESDAY- Gen. 4:7- Sin will not deprive me of my blessing.
THURSDAY- Acts 10:25-26- God alone is to be worshipped
FRIDAY- John 15:5b- I am what I am by God’s grace.
SATURDAY- Luke: 21:34- I will remain focused on God
SUNDAY- Rom. 1:28- Lord, please don’t give up on me

LESSON TWENTY EIGHT

PROCRASTINATION

MEMORY VERSE: "He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap" Ecclesiastes 11:4


INTRODUCTION
To procrastinate is to put off a required action until a future time, to defer or to postpone. Life is full of decisions and time is often of essence in these decisions Eccl. 3:1. Procrastination is therefore a character flaw that affects millions of people in every walk of life. It cuts across all areas of life, from accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour 2Cor. 6:2b to attending to assignments by students and many other areas.

OUTLINES
1. CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF PROCRASTINATION
2. SOLUTIONS TO PROCRASTINATION

CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF PROCRASTINATION
People procrastinate for so many reasons. These may include: (1) Personal convenience Acts 24:25, Gen19:15-16. This is a major reason why people don’t give their lives to God immediately they hear the word Acts 17:32. (2) Sluggishness and show spiritless attitude to the things of God 2Chr. 24:4-5. (3) Laziness Prov. 26:13-16; 10:4. (4) Worldly entanglement Matt. 19:22. (5) Family pressure at

(6) Environmental condition Eccl. 11:4.

The effects of procrastination include: loss of fellowship and opportunities Matt. 25:11-12, being caught off-guard Matt. 24:48-51, loss of souls that should have been saved Jer. 8:20.

SOLUTIONS TO PROCRASTINATION
Proper planning and making a constant reminder is a solution to procrastination Luke 14:28. Priorities should be set right Eccl. 3:1. Self-discipline could help against procrastination. This includes the areas of eating, talking, watching TV, movies, use of telephone and other areas of distraction 1Cor. 9:27a. Focus on today and not tomorrow Matt. 6:25-31. Always remember that you are here on earth temporarily and let this guide you in your commitment to the work of God Hab. 2:3.

CONCLUSION
Today’s duty that is put off till tomorrow usually gives you a double burden to bear. The best way is to do it at the proper time.

QUESTIONS
1. What are some causes and effects of procrastination?
2. What are the solutions to procrastination?

BLESSSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Gen. 19:16– Family ties is a major cause of procrastination.
TUESDAY: Acts 24:25– Immediate decisions are necessary for things of God.
WEDNESDAY: Acts 17:32– Death is an appointment and resurrection follows, so act now.
THURSDAY: Luke 9:61— Every family bond that separates you from God must be cut today.
FRIDAY: Eccl. 3:1— Time is of essence to opportunities, it may never be regained.
SATURDAY: 2Sam. 20:5— God has His set time and He cannot be late.
SUNDAY: Prov. 10:4 – Don’t allow procrastination to slow you down.
DATE: MARCH 20\textsuperscript{TH}, 2016.

LESSON TWENTY NINE

THAT I MAY KNOW HIM

MEMORY VERSE: “That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death”
Philippians 3:10

BIBLE PASSAGE: Philippians 3:1-11

INTRODUCTION
Paul displayed seven credentials in Phil.3:1-11, four of which he gained by birth and three by his own action: "circumcised on the eighth day." He was no convert to Judaism who would have been circumcised later, but was born into it. "of the people of Israel." He was not a Gentile, but a Jew. "of the tribe of Benjamin." The tribe of Benjamin was small, but prominent in that the first king of Israel was from this tribe -- Saul, after whom Paul was named. "a Hebrew of Hebrews." Unlike Jewish proselytes, he spoke Hebrew and Aramaic and was the son of a family that did so. "in regard to the law, a Pharisee." He had been a strict Pharisee, educated at the feet of Gamaliel, a highly respected rabbi Acts 5:34-40; 22:3. "as for zeal, persecuting the church." He had been so zealous for orthodox, Pharisaical Judaism that he had persecuted the church Acts 9:1-2. "as for legalistic righteousness, faultless.

Despite the achievements of Paul, he felt that desperate longing and yearning to know God. In this eloquent passage we hear his heart's cry for God -- a prayer that all
believers must pray along with him. "I want to know Christ!"
Phil. 3:7-9a

OUTLINES
1. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO KNOW CHRIST?
2. HOW DO I KNOW HIM?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO "KNOW" CHRIST?
The word “know” denotes living in a close relationship with something or somebody, such a relationship as to cause what may be called communion (fellowship) Isa.11:9; Jer.31:34. To know Christ is to develop a close personal relationship with him Matt.15:8; 2 Chr.15:2

HOW DO I KNOW HIM?
1. Through the fear and reverence of God Prov.1:7, 2:1-5
2. Through genuine demonstration of love 1 Jn.4:7-8
3. Through intimacy prompted by God and pursued by men Ps.103:7; Mk.3:14-15; Ps.27:4

1. Through worship by the Spirit of God John 4:21-23. Spiritual worship is prayer, praise, and a life lived in dedication to God.
2. By putting no confidence in the flesh. "Flesh" is referring to both physical circumcision and sinful human nature as opposed to spiritual obedience to God Phil.3:3
3. By yielding to the Holy Spirit who can reveal to us the very mind of Christ 1 Cor.2:16; Jn.16:13.
4. Through His word, through prayer, to become Christ-like ourselves. 2Tim.2:15; 1 Chr.16:11; Prov.28:5.

CONCLUSION
Before we can develop a relationship at that level, we must have faith in Christ. Without faith, he will be a mere acquaintance, and his power will not be seen in our life.
Conversely, if we aren’t seeking a personal relationship with Christ, our “faith” is empty.

**QUESTIONS**
1. What does it mean to know Christ?
2. How can one know Christ?

**BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**MONDAY:** 2Tim. 2:15 - Be diligent in God’s service  
**TUESDAY:** Jn. 16:13 - Be guided by the Holy Spirit  
**WEDNESDAY:** 1Jn. 4:8 - God is love  
**THURSDAY:** Jn. 4:23 - Worship God in Spirit and in Truth  
**FRIDAY:** Prov. 1:7 - Fear God  
**SATURDAY:** Phil. 3:3 - Put no confidence in the flesh  
**SUNDAY:** Ps. 103:7 - Father, I want to know your ways

LESSON THIRTY

FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHERS

MEMORY VERSE: “And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works”. Hebrews 10:24

BIBLE PASSAGE: Acts 2:44-47

INTRODUCTION:
There has always been a crucial need for relational interaction among Christians alike. For it to be meaningful and beneficial, it must go beyond the realms of preaching, teaching, fasting, studying and praise/worship. It must be full of deep felt concern and care for the emotional and physical well-being of one another in the household of God. Effective fellowship is having a heart to rejoice with and a shoulder to cry on Rom. 12:15

OUTLINES
1. MEANING AND IMPORTANCE OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
2. BENEFITS OF GENUINE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP.

MEANING AND IMPORTANCE OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Fellowship means to spend time with others in sharing of personal experiences and learning from them. Christians are enjoined to have spiritual fellowship with God and with one another but never to forget to interact Heb.10:25; Psalm 133:1-3. Christian interaction should extend to all areas of human physical, emotional and physiological needs. Through genuine fellowship, Christians will
understand each other’s strengths and weaknesses and not being judgemental Rom.14:1. Believers must be there for one another when facing challenges/struggles or rejoicing as there is strength in numbers Prov.27:17. All these must be done without selfish, ulterior motive and in line with the will of God.

BENEFITS OF GENUINE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
The overall benefits of genuine Christian fellowship can be summarised as follows:

a. An atmosphere to share personal day to day experiences and learn from each other Philemon 1-2
b. Personal growth and accountability Gal.6:1-2
c. Support for crucial family needs e.g. childcare, job opportunities, business ideas and important information Gal.6:10
d. Effective mentoring to avert negative worldly influence 1 Tim. 6: 17-18, Rom. 14:1
e. Provides ample support and encouragement in times of adversity. Col. 2:2, Heb. 13:16

CONCLUSION
The household of God should be a safe haven for support and encouragement in times of need. All efforts must be geared to making adequate provisions for the spiritual as well as the physical needs of the worshippers within the confines of the church in line with the will of God.

QUESTIONS
1. Effective Christian fellowship is everyone’s responsibility. Discuss
2. Explain the appropriate methods to support and encourage teenagers, elders and single parents within the body of Christ.
BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: John 13:34 - Love one another.
WEDNESDAY: Rom 12:13 - Support the clergy.
FRIDAY: James 5:16 - Spiritual support.
SATURDAY: 1 Peter 4:9 - Stop complaining.
SUNDAY: James 1:27 - Compassionate Visitation.

LESSON THIRTY ONE

THE GRACE OF GIVING

MEMORY VERSE: “Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.” Luke 6:38

BIBLE PASSAGE: 2Corinthians 8:1-15

INTRODUCTION
The body of Christ today needs to be clearly taught about sound Biblical principles on the proper use of money, since oftentimes, it is a neglected issue. Our money can be used to gain eternal riches by spending it on the spreading of the gospel. Scriptural giving as a doctrine is equally as important as any other doctrine 1Tim.4:16

OUTLINES
1. THE BASIS FOR GIVING
2. THE CHRISTIAN’S RESPONSIBILITY
3. BLESSED ARE THE GIVERS

THE BASIS FOR GIVING
Nobody can be genuinely involved in scriptural giving unless he has experienced genuine salvation by which he has a personal knowledge of the Almighty God. God gave His only begotten Son for mankind. He sacrificially gave Jesus Jn.3:16, 4:10; 2 Cor.8:9; Phil.2:5-8
THE CHRISTIAN'S RESPONSIBILITY
Christians are commanded to give to the saints, the body of Christ and to our fellow men Mt.6:3; Rom.12:8; 1 Cor.16:2. We should give willingly 2 Cor.8:12-15 according to our ability and possession 1 Cor.16:2 as illustrated in apostolic giving Lk.21:1-4; Acts 4:32-37 and in proportion to the desired blessing Lk.6:38; Mt.19:29 at every opportunity Eccl.11:6; Gal.6:6-10.

BLESSED ARE THE GIVERS
The blessing is always proportionate to the giving (2 Cor.9:6-11; Lk.6:38. God promises to supply all our needs here and after this in glory Phil.4:18-19. Above all, there is a greater reward in Heaven Mt.6:19-21; Lk.16:9-12.

CONCLUSION
Pray today for the grace to give. You will not be a loser for it.

QUESTIONS
1. What is the scriptural basis for giving?
2. What is the responsibility of a Christian over the issue of giving?
3. What are the blessings of giving?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
MONDAY : Lk.12:33-34 - Give because it has heavenly impact.
TUESDAY : Heb.13:15-16 – You are not the loser for being benevolent.
WEDNESDAY : Gal.6:6-10 – The word of God is forever settled in Heaven. Whatever you sow you will reap.
THURSDAY Matt.6:19-21 – Your heavenly treasure will be full of treasures if you load it now.
FRIDAY : Lk.21:1-4 – We cannot hide what we have from the Master.
SATURDAY : Acts 20:35 – It is more blessed to give than to receive.
SUNDAY : Lk.6:38 – We are serving a faithful God who rewards diligence and simple obedience.

LESSON THIRTY TWO

BACKSLIDING

MEMORY VERSE: Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draws back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him, Hebrews 10:38.

BIBLE PASSAGE: Hebrews 10:19-39

INTRODUCTION
Often we find someone who starts off very well in the Christian race and then cools off later. Many times someone who used to be very hot for the Lord may even leave the Lord completely. We are all kept by the grace and strength of the Lord. However, we must constantly remember the warning of I Cor. 10:12 because if we deliberately refuse His grace and assistance, we will fall.

OUTLINES
1. WHAT IS BACKSLIDING AND HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?
2. CAUSES AND RESULTS OF BACKSLIDING

WHAT IS BACKSLIDING AND HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?
Backsliding simply means turning away from God I Kings 11:9. It is growing cold and leaving the first love Rev.2:4. Backsliding is growing cold and losing interest in the Lord, the Bible, prayer, church attendance and witnessing. It is turning from God and turning to the world Heb.10:38. Backsliding rarely happens suddenly. It is a gradual process. It may take weeks, months or even years before the process is complete.
CAUSES AND RESULTS OF BACKSLIDING
There are so many causes of backsliding but we shall list as many as possible of them: (a) Covetousness Gen. 13: 10 (b) Pride Prov. 16: 18 (c) Self-Centeredness Prov.14:14 (d) Disobedience I Sam.15:22 (e) Love of money I Tim.6:10 (f) Ambition for power Acts 8:19 (g) Love of the world 2 Tim. 4: 10 (h) Failure to pray 1Thess.5:17 (i) Failure to read/study the Bible 2 Tim.2:15 (j) Failure to attend church Heb.10:25 (k) Failure to obey the Holy Spirit Eph.4:30 (l) Failure to witness Christ Matt.10:33 (m) Failure to walk in the light I Jn. 1:7.
As a result of backsliding, there will be a loss of joy and happiness, a loss of peace of mind and power. Murmuring and darkness will replace songs of praise and light. A backslider may never enter heaven Heb.6:4-6.

CONCLUSION
To the backslider God says, return and be forgiven, return and be healed Jer.3:22; Hos.14:4. Are you backsliding? Return to God today. Tomorrow may be too late.

QUESTIONS
1. What is backsliding and how does it happen?
2. Name some of the causes and results of backsliding?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
MONDAY: 2 Timothy 1: 12 - Do not be ashamed of the Lord because He can keep all things committed unto Him.
TUESDAY: Isaiah 59: 2 - Depart from sin, lest He hides His face from you.
THURSDAY: Romans 14: 7 - Do not leave God because you belong to Him in life and death
FRIDAY: 2 Peter 2: 6-8 - Even one righteous man among many sinners would be saved. Be righteous.
SATURDAY: Nehemiah 13: 26 - God will always welcome back the backslider who repents.
SUNDAY: 1 Peter 4: 19 - God will not take any excuse for backsliding.

LESSON THIRTY THREE

CHRISTIANITY AND GOVERNANCE

MEMORY VERSE – “And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.” Revelation 5:10

BIBLE PASSAGE – Romans 13:1-6

INTRODUCTION – Governance is an act of administration: leading and exercising authority over a group of people. God has called us into a life of influence, control and dominion Gen. 1:28. Christians are to take charge and the issue of governance is no exception. As the light of the world, we are to dispel the darkness of unrighteousness, sycophancy etc. Matt 5:15 -16.

OUTLINES

1. THE VIEW OF GOD ON GOVERNANCE

2. WHY CHRISTIANS SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN GOVERNANCE

3. BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF THOSE WHO GOVERNED

THE VIEW OF GOD ON GOVERNANCE.

God is the ultimate Governor who delegates the function to humans Rom 13:1, Gen 45:8. It is one of the purposes for which the spirit being called man was created Gen 1:26. It is a calling and manifestation of the gift of the Holy Spirit 1 Cor. 12:28, Rom 12: 8. It is a tool for orderliness and sanity

WHY CHRISTIANS SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN GOVERNANCE

It is part of our mandate as believers to effect positive and lasting change Gen 1:26; 41:33-38. To make righteous laws and decrees that lead to national progress Prov. 14:34. To obey God’s ordinance of submission to authority 1Pet. 2:13-14. To bring blessings and breakthrough on the nation and fulfillment for her citizenry Prov. 11:11. Governance is God’s institution. The word of God and people of God should not be kept out of God’s institution. Also, to avoid paying the costly price of bad leadership Rom 13:1-2.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF THOSE WHO GOVERNED

Civil governance was witnessed during the days of Noah. Gen 9:1-3. Joseph governed in Egypt and Pharaoh was only greater than him on the throne Gen 41:40-41. Joshua took over the baton of governance from Moses who served as the judge and the priest of Israel Josh 1:1-3; Judges 2:7. Deborah gave direction to Israel and led the nation into victory against the threat and intimidation of the adversary Judges 4:4, 15-16. Nehemiah governed selflessly without using the opportunity of governance to amass wealth Neh. 5:14 -15. Daniel as refugee had influence and was a president in Babylon Dan. 2:48-49, 6: 1-4.
CONCLUSION

God instituted Governance. It is not a secular concept or peoples creation. Believers should therefore take their rightful place in deciding the destiny of their nations and turn the kingdom of this world to the kingdom of God which is God’s divine mandate for us.

QUESTIONS

1. What is God’s view on governance?

2. Why should Christians be involved in governance?

BLESSSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Rom. 13:1 - Everyone should submit to authority.
TUESDAY: Prov. 14:34– Righteousness promotes good governance
WEDNESDAY: Matt. 5:15-16- Let your light shine
THURSDAY: Dan. 2:48-49- God rewards faithfulness
FRIDAY: Eph. 6:8- You shall reap whatever you sow
SATURDAY: Rom. 12:8- Whosoever governs should govern well
SUNDAY: Gen. 1:28- Believers should influence and exercise control on earth.

LESSON THIRTY FOUR

CORRUPT COMMUNICATION AMONG CHRISTIANS

MEMORY VERSE: “Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers”. Ephesians 4:29

BIBLE PASSAGE: Colossians 3:8-9

INTRODUCTION: Communication is the act or process of using words, sounds, signs or behaviour to express or exchange information. Communication can either be verbal or non-verbal. While it is expected that Christians exchange healthy communication, there are found among some Christians unhealthy or corrupt communications Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:3-4.

OUTLINES

1. BIBLICAL EXAMPLES AND THE CONSEQUENCES

2. HOW TO AVOID CORRUPT COMMUNICATION

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES AND THE CONSEQUENCES:

There are examples of corrupt communications in the bible. These include:

1. Backbiting, gossip and murmuring e.g. Aaron and Miriam Num. 12:1-2.
2. Lying e.g. Ananias and Sapphira Acts 5:1-9, Gehazi to Elisha 2Kings 5:22-25.
3. Jesting and vain talk e.g. the little children to Elisha 2Kings 2:23-25.
5. Abusive words e.g. Shimei to David 2Sam. 16:5-7, slangs and jargons Matt. 5:22.
6. Blasphemy e.g. Pharaoh Ex. 5:2; 1Tim. 1:19-20.
7. False witnessing and deceit e.g. sons of Belial 1 Kings 21:9-10, 13; Prov. 24:28.
8. Slandering and rumour mongering e.g. the Pharisees Matt. 12:24; Ps. 15:3

The Consequences of corrupt communication include:

2. Becoming a vessel of dishonour 2Tim. 2:20-21
4. Instant Punishment Num. 12:10; 2Kings 5:27.
5. Becoming a candidate of hell Matt. 5:22; Rev. 21:8.

HOW TO AVOID CORRUPT COMMUNICATION

1. Read, meditate and speak God’s word Jos. 1:8; Col. 3:16.
2. Avoid ungodly company Ps. 1:1; 1Cor. 15:33.
3. Remove negative thought from your heart Prov. 23:7; Matt. 12:34.
4. Pray always 1Thess. 5:17.
5. Surround yourself with spiritual materials e.g. Christian literatures, messages, etc. Phil. 4:8.
6. Let your speech be pleasant and gracious Col. 4:6.
CONCLUSION
“Evil communication corrupts good manner” 1Cor. 15:33. Christians should avoid the use of ungodly languages and shun every appearance of evil.

QUESTIONS
1. What are the consequences of corrupt communication?
2. Mention four ways of avoiding corrupt communication.

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Monday: 1Cor. 15:33- Evil communication corrupts good manner.
Tuesday: Ps. 1:1- Keep good and godly company.
Wednesday: 1Pet. 1:15- Holy and seasoned communication.
Thursday: Matt. 5:8- A pure heart is a fountain of life
Friday: Col. 3:16- Admonish one another in Psalms and hymns
Saturday: Ps. 15:3- Don’t spread rumours.
Sunday: 1Thess. 5:22- Abstain from all appearance of evil.
DATE: MAY 1ST, 2016.

LESSON THIRTY FIVE

RAPE

BIBLE PASSAGE: Deuteronomy 22:25-27

Memory verse: “And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;” Romans 1:28

INTRODUCTION: According to World Health Organization: Rape is an act of forcing someone to have sex when he/she is unwilling. It is also a type of sexual assault usually involving sexual intercourse or other forms of sexual abuse initiated against one or more individual without the consent of those individuals. The act may be carried out by physical force, coercion, abuse of authority or against a person who is incapable of valid consent, such as one who is unconscious, incapacitated or below the legal age of consent.

OUTLINES
1. TYPES AND CAUSES OF RAPE.
2. CONSEQUENCES AND COMFORT TO THE VICTIMS

TYPES OF RAPE
1. Marital rape: This is rape committed by the person to whom the victim is married to. It is also unwanted sexual acts by a spouse Eph. 5:22; 1Cor. 7:1-5
2. Gang rape: This is the rape of one person by a group of other people Judges 19:22-25.
3. Child rape: This is a form of child abuse in which an adult or older adolescent uses a child for illicit sexual satisfaction or other purposes Matt. 18:6.


5. War rape: During war and armed conflict, rape is frequently used as a means of psychological warfare in order to humiliate the enemies Zech. 14:2.

Other types of rape include prison rape, acquaintance rape and date rape, etc.

CAUSES OF RAPE

1. Indecent dressing: Dressing in a way that is likely to seduce. That is, wearing dresses that reveal nakedness or provoke undue attention Phil. 4:9; 1Tim. 2:9-10.


3. Exposure to immoral acts through multi-media facilities e.g. Television, Magazines, Internet, cell phone etc.

4. For fetish purposes: inordinate love of money or power in certain parts of the world can lead to the rape of innocent beings for fetish reasons 1Tim. 6:10.

5. Lust: As a result of lust many have gone into this act 2Sam. 13:1-2.

6. Idleness: this occurs when there is nothing to be done that is worthy of time or effort. There is a saying that “an idle hand is the devil's workshop” Prov. 21:25

7. 
CONSEQUENCES AND COMFORT TO THE VICTIMS
The consequences of rape may include shame, stigmatization and traumatization 2Sam. 13:19-20. Victims can contact deadly or incurable diseases such as HIV/AIDS, Gonorrhea, Syphilis, etc. It may result to unwanted pregnancy. If the victim is not rescued as soon as possible or given prompt medical attention, he/she may die.

There is comfort for the victims of rape. They should come to God for healing Jer. 17:14; Ps. 147:3; forgive the rapist Matt. 6:14; seek godly counsel Prov. 15:22; Ps. 119:50 and prompt medical treatment.

CONCLUSION: Rape is an act that defiles the body which is the temple of God and whosoever defiles God’s temple shall be destroyed 1Cor. 3:17.

QUESTIONS
1. Mention five causes of rape.
2. Mention three ways of comforting victims of rape.

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Rom. 1:28- Learn to retain the word of God in your heart.
TUESDAY: 1Cor. 3:17- Let your body be the temple of God indeed.
WEDNESDAY: Prov. 1:10- Avoid evil company.
THURSDAY: Rom. 6:23- Avoid pit falls and follow after the gift of Christ.
FRIDAY: Ps. 119:50- There is comfort in the word of God.
SATURDAY: Jer. 17:14- Seek God for healing.
SUNDAY: Matt. 6:14- Learn to forgive.

LESSON THIRTY SIX

ABORTION

Memory Verse – “Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment” Matthew 5:21

BIBLE PASSAGE – Genesis 1: 26-28

INTRODUCTION Every seed planted in the womb of a woman is a blessing from God waiting for the time and place of manifestation. This seed refers to a new life that begins at conception. Therefore, every abortion ends (kills) the life of an innocent human being Exod. 20:13.

OUTLINES

1. COMMON REASONS FOR ABORTION AND THE CONSEQUENCES
2. BIBLICAL STANDPOINT ON ABORTION

COMMON REASONS FOR ABORTION AND THE CONSEQUENCES

Some of the reasons people give for abortion include:

a) Unwanted pregnancy resulting from:
   i) Extra-marital affairs – David and Bathsheba 2Sam. 11:1-5.
   ii) Rape – Ammon and Tamar 2Sam. 13:10-14.
   iv) Fornication i.e. sexual relations among unmarried people.
b) Birth control – Married couples now use this as an excuse to terminate pregnancies. Often times, this is as a result of lack of finances to cater for the unborn child.

c) Health challenges – when the life of the pregnant woman is at risk, it may be medically advisable to terminate such pregnancy to save the life of the woman.

The consequences of abortion may include:

1. Damages to the womb
2. Untimely death Jas. 1:15; Rom. 1:28-32.
5. God’s wrath and judgement Matt. 5:21; Col 3:5-6.

BIBLICAL STANDPOINT ON ABORTION

2. It is also a command of God that man should be fruitful and multiply on the surface of the earth Gen 1:28.
3. Children are the heritage of God and blessings from Him Ps. 127:3.
4. Children from God are source(s) of joy to man and not sorrow Ps. 127:5a.
5. Every child no matter the issues surrounding the conception has a destiny to fulfil – Jer. 1:5; Matt. 1:18-21.

CONCLUSION

Since poverty, rape, health challenges and other circumstances are not sufficient reasons to justify the killing of human beings after birth, they are not also sufficient to justify the killing of human beings before birth.
QUESTIONS

1. Mention four consequences of abortion.

2. What does the bible say about abortion?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY : Gen 1:28- You are commanded to be fruitful and multiply.
TUESDAY IT : Ps. 127:3- Every child is special to God.
WEDNESDAY : Ps. 8:2- God wants children to praise him.
THURSDAY : Ps 127:5a- The conception of every child ought to be a source of joy not sorrow.
FRIDAY : Jer. 1:5- Every child has a destiny to fulfill.
SATURDAY : Matt. 5:21- Avoid the wrath of God.
SUNDAY : Ps. 1:6- Follow the way of the Lord.

LESSON THIRTY SEVEN

PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE

MEMORY VERSE: “And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help meet for him” Genesis 2:18

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 2:22-25

INTRODUCTION
Marriage preparation is not the same thing as wedding preparation. Wedding preparation is planning towards the ceremony while marriage preparation is planning towards the future of the couple. It also involves correct connection of a man and woman that God has ordained together for a blissful marital journey Gen. 2:23.

OUTLINES
1. REQUIREMENTS FOR MARRIAGE PREPARATION
2. CORRECT CONNECTION.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MARRIAGE PREPARATION
Any one preparing for marriage must be physically and emotionally mature because marriage is meant for adult, a man and a woman not a boy and a girl Ex. 2:1. Please note that age is not synonymous to maturity. Furthermore, spiritual maturity is needed for adequate preparation for marriage: being born again, 1Pet. 1:23, 1Jn. 1:9, living a life of holiness Heb. 12:14, making forgiveness a lifestyle Luke 17:3-4, conversant with divine leading Ps. 25:9, etc. Financial, material and social readiness are also needed for adequate preparation for marriage 1Tim. 5:8.
CORRECT CONNECTION
Recognizing and connecting to the right partner Gen. 2:23 is not a task that can be done only through human reasoning Prov. 3:5. You must allow God to guide you to the right partner Ps. 37:23. You must also wait for divine timing Eccl. 3:1. Furthermore, do not discard godly counsels about marriage Prov. 12:15, 24:6b.

CONCLUSION
A godly marriage is like heaven on earth but if you do not prepare adequately for your marriage, you will have a lot to repair in your marriage Ps. 128:1-4; Prov. 21:16, 19.

QUESTIONS
1. Mention four requirements for marriage preparation.
2. What are the things you should do to have correct connection?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Gen. 2:18- God instituted marriage
TUESDAY: Ex. 2:1- Marriage is for adults
WEDNESDAY: Ps. 25:9- Wait on God to guide you
THURSDAY: 1Tim. 5:8- Every man should provide for the needs of his family
FRIDAY: Prov. 12:15- Seek Godly counsel on marriage
SATURDAY: Eccl. 3:1- Wait for the right time
SUNDAY: Prov. 21:16- Proper understanding prevents death
DATE: MAY 22\textsuperscript{ND}, 2016.

LESSON THIRTY EIGHT

TO HOLD AND TO HAVE FOREVER

MEMORY VERSE: “Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.” Ephesians 5:33

BIBLE PASSAGE: Ephesians 5:22-23

INTRODUCTION
Discussions on Christian living will be incomplete without a thorough discussion on marriage and family life. This is an institution that the Lord Jesus Christ likened to the relationship between Him and His Church. May the Holy Spirit teach and bless us the more, in Jesus’ name.

OUTLINES
1. THE WIFE IN TRUE SUBMISSION
2. THE LOVING HUSBAND
3. DIVORCE AND GOD’S REMEDY

THE WIFE IN TRUE SUBMISSION
The true Christian wife must recognise and joyfully accept the God-ordained headship of the husband and be submissive 1 Pet.3:1; Col.3:18; 1 Tim.2:11-14. The scope of the submission should be as unto the Lord Jesus in everything. Other qualities of the wife include obedience 1 Pet.3:1, reverence Eph.5:33; 1 Pet.3:5, humility in outward appearance 1 Pet.3:4; 1 Tim.2:9. The true
Christian wife should adorn herself with meekness, quiet and prayerful spirit, which will make greater impact in the home, church and the nation 1 Pet.3:4; Tit.2:5. Other qualities are purity and holiness Titus 2:4-5; 1 Pet.3:5, loveliness Tit.2:4; Songs 1:6-7, mother’s heart Ps.128:3; 1 Sam.2:19; Pro.6:20-25, diligence and dependability Ps.144:11-12; Pro.12:14; Pro.31:30-31, hospitality Ps.31:20; 2 Kgs.4:8-10 and prayerfulness Mt.15:22-28; Acts 1:14.

THE LOVING HUSBAND
The husband, by Godly plan, is the head of the wife Eph.5:23; 1 Cor.11:3. It has nothing to do with education, talent or wealth. The husband is to love his wife as Christ loves the Church Rom.5:6-10. He must love in sickness, pain, sorrow or weakness. His love must be sacrificial Eph.5:25; Phil.2:5-8. The love must not be because of what the man can get from the woman but be God-ordained. The head stays with the body until death Eph.5:28-29, 31. Where the home is blessed with children, the husband is to train them and not to provoke them to wrath Col.3:21.

DIVORCE AND GOD’S REMEDY
Divorce is not the will of God, hence He hates it Matt.19:8. Many things could be responsible for divorce among which are: failure to actually leave and cleave to the wife as instructed Gen.2:24; Mt.19:4-6, giving the devil a place Eph.4:27; 1 Pet.5:7-9. The devil can come through gossip, false prophecy and suspicion 1 Jn.4:1. Other things responsible for divorce include extravagance and worldliness Eph.5.22-31; Rom.12:1-2, comparing your family with others, criticism and failure to forgive 2 Cor.12:5; Jn.17:20, and lack of love and affection Eph.5:25-28; Tit.2:4.
Tolerance, forgiveness and demonstration of genuine love between married couple can serve as antidotes to divorce if applied in the fear of the Lord.

CONCLUSION
The family life is a precious relationship ordained by God. How is yours? You can prayerfully answer the question today as you turn to the perfect architect and master builder, that is, the Lord Jesus Christ who can perfect all about your home.

QUESTIONS
1. What is the Lord’s command to the wife? Justify with scriptures.
2. What is the responsibility of the husband in the family?
3. Why does God hate divorce?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
MONDAY: 1 Cor. 7:32 - God will have us care more for the things of heavenly value because that is the ultimate, anyway.
TUESDAY: 1 Cor. 13:1-13 - God is Love. Christian marriages should be wrapped up in Godly love.
WEDNESDAY: Ps.127:3-5 - Children belong to the Lord and are of great significance at home.
THURSDAY: Ex. 20:14-17 - The word of God is forever settled about Christian marriage. Ask for grace to adhere to these precepts.
FRIDAY: Lev.20:10 - The sin of adultery is not ordinary as far as God is concerned.
SATURDAY: Eph. 5:25 - The instruction to the husband is clear and simple and absolute obedience would usher in the blessings.
SUNDAY: 1 Tim. 3:11 - The duty of the wife is simple enough for the sober and sanctified heart.

WEEK THIRTY NINE

WELCOME TO THE THIRD INTERACTIVE SESSION

YOUR PRIVILEGE:
❖ TO ASK QUESTIONS ON TREATED LESSONS FOR CLARITY.
❖ TO GIVE CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF THE OUTLINES.
❖ TO GIVE USEFUL SUGGESTIONS TOWARDS BETTER PERFORMANCE.
❖ TO GIVE USEFUL SPIRITUAL CONTRIBUTIONS.
❖ ETC.
DATE: JUNE 5TH, 2016.

LESSON FORTY

LOVE CONQUERS ALL

MEMORY VERSE: “And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.” Colossians 3:14

BIBLE PASSAGE: 1 John 4:7-11

INTRODUCTION

Different crimes abound all over the world today and these have led to defilements, shame and sorrows. So also are skirmishes and insurgencies which have led to hunger, displacements and the destruction of many destinies. At the bottom of all these is the absence of love 2Tim. 3:1-4.

OUTLINES

1. WHY SHOULD WE TALK ABOUT LOVE?
2. WHAT DOES LOVE ENTAIL?

WHY SHOULD WE TALK ABOUT LOVE?

Love is at the core of the existence of man. God is love and we were created by Love in His image Gen. 1:26. Jesus loves us and love is at the root of our salvation Jn. 3:16; 15:13; Rev. 1:5. More so, the first and second great commandments are hinged on love. All the

WHAT DOES LOVE ENTAIL?
The following are the essentials of love:

1. **Compassion** – This is a strong feeling of empathy for people who are suffering and a desire to help them. Jesus showed compassion throughout His life and ministry here on earth and expects us to do likewise Matt. 15:32; Luke 7:13.

2. **Forgiveness** – A loving heart is central to forgiveness. Love is not easily offended and it keeps no record of wrongs. A man who loves will always forgive Eph. 4:32; 1Pet. 4:8.

3. **Mercy** – A kind attitude towards someone that you have the power to harm, punish or ignore. Mercy is possible when love is present Micah 6:8; Ps. 18:25-26

4. **Giving** – The act of giving is the best expression of love. The one who loves will present a pleasant offering which is sacrificial and is solving a problem Jn. 3:16; Rom. 12:13. We can give time, money, encouragement, a listening ear, influence, energy, help, etc.

CONCLUSION

The word of God says that prophesy and knowledge will fail but love will never fail. We therefore need to cultivate the habit of loving one another for this is God’s will for us 1Cor. 13:1-8.
QUESTIONS

1. Why is love important?
2. Mention the essentials of love

BLESSSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Jer. 31:3 – Thank God for His everlasting love
TUESDAY: Rom. 8:37 - Thank God for making you more than a conqueror
WEDNESDAY: 1Jn. 5:3 – Love for God is to obey His commandments
THURSDAY: Ps. 9:10 – Put your trust in the Lord
FRIDAY: Rev. 12:11 – Live a life of sacrifice unto the Lord
SATURDAY: Rom. 12:13 – Be hospitable
SUNDAY: Col. 3:13 – Be a peace maker

LESSON FORTY ONE

PARENTING IN THE 21ST CENTURY

MEMORY VERSE: “For I know him that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.”. Genesis 18:19

BIBLE PASSAGE: Deuteronomy 6:6-9

Introduction: Parenting refers to the process of raising and educating a child from infancy to adulthood. Parenting involves parent-child relationship. Parenting can be difficult and challenging, but at the same time the most rewarding and fulfilling things we ever do. The bible has a great deal to say about the way we can successfully raise our children to be great men and women of God. It is easier to train a child than to repair an adult Prov. 22:6.

OUTLINES

1. PARENTING: OLD AND MODERN
2. DIVINE EXPECTATION

PARENTING: OLD AND MODERN
Parenting as of old: In the olden days, parents were directly in charge of the upbringing of their children. They were more firm at educating, objectively criticizing and
instilling discipline in them Gen.18:19. They were more eager to leave sound legacy for the next generation. Deut.6:6-7. Parents trained their children with the fear of the Lord. Eph. 6:4, Deut. 6:2. However, parenting was not absolutely perfect in those days. While some failed in their responsibilities 1Sam. 3:13, some ended up raising children that were timid and lacked confidence Judg. 6:15.

Modern Parenting: In this generation, parents indulge their children all in the name of “what I suffered my children should not.” This has led to the fallen standard of discipline. These days, parents leave the upbringing of their children to house-helps, nannies, gadgets (TV, internet, cellphones, etc.) teachers, religious bodies and the society. In some places, there are legal restrictions to how far you can discipline a child. Many parents are now more career conscious at the expense of the upbringing of their children. However, modern day parents provide enough opportunities for their children to discover and express themselves.

DIVINE EXPECTATION
God expects that:

1. Parents should know and live as His children in order to lead their children in the way of the Lord Gen.17:1.
2. The parent-child relationship must be based on love and care Eph.6:4.
3. Parents should provide for the basic needs (spiritual, material, emotional, educational, etc.) of their children 1Tim.5:8.
4. Parents should relate with their children in truth and openness Prov.12:19.
5. Parents should start training their children early Prov.22:6
6. Parents should teach their children the word of God. Deut. 6:6-7
7. Parents should apply correction and discipline in love, when and where necessary. However, children should not be abused in the name of correction or discipline Prov. 13:24, 29:15, 17.

8. Parents should be good role models 2Tim.1:5

CONCLUSION

God is a parent; a perfect parent, who knows all that parenting entails. It is a great relief to know you are not alone in your parenting responsibility. You can partner with God. Pray and walk with God and He will make you a successful parent indeed.

QUESTIONS

1. Differentiate between parenting as of old and modern parenting

2. Mention five expectations of God on parenting.

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Col. 3:21 Provoke not your children
TUESDAY: Prov. 22:6 Train up your child
WEDNESDAY: Ps. 127:3 Children are the heritage of God
THURSDAY: Prov. 3:12 Parents should discipline their children in love.
FRIDAY: Ps. 1:1 Parents should live godly
SATURDAY: 1Tim. 5:8 Parents should provide for their children

SUNDAY: Ps. 1:2 Parents should delight in knowing the Lord.

LESSON FORTY TWO

FRUITLESSNESS

MEMORY VERSE: “And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire” Matthew 3:10


INTRODUCTION
God is never happy with fruitlessness Matt. 21:19, because it is against His wish and command Gen. 1:28. If any branch of the vine is not bearing fruit it will wither or be detached from the vine Jn. 15:2.

OUTLINES
1. CAUSES OF FRUITLESSNESS
2. DANGERS OF FRUITLESSNESS

CAUSES OF FRUITLESSNESS
1. Ignorance and disobedience to God’s word.Gen. 1:28; Hos. 4:6a; Matt. 21:28-31a
2. Lack of genuine repentance from sin and other vices. Acts 3:19; Matt. 3:8
3. Pre-occupation with the affairs of this world. Matt. 13:22; 1Jn. 2:16-17
4. Failure to evangelize and win souls Rom. 1:13, 16; Jn. 15:16
5. Inadequate understanding of the accompanying blessings of fruitfulness. Rom. 10:15; 1Thess. 2:19; Prov. 11:30

DANGERS OF FRUITLESSNESS
2. Reversal of blessings. 1Sam. 2:30-34; Mk. 11:12-13
3. Separation between God and the fruitless. Rev. 2:4-5

CONCLUSION
Just as there are rewards for fruitfulness, there are also consequences of fruitlessness. Rev. 22:11-12. How prepared are you against fruitlessness?

QUESTIONS
1. Mention some causes of fruitlessness?
2. How does fruitlessness bring about a reversal of blessings?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Matt. 3:8- Do those things that will show that you have turned away from sin.
TUESDAY: Jn. 15:2- Bear fruit, less you will be cut off.
WEDNESDAY: Prov. 11:30- He that wins soul is wise
THURSDAY: Jn. 15:4- Abide in God so as to bear more fruits.
FRIDAY: Jn. 15:18- Fruitfulness is a sign of true discipleship.
SATURDAY: Ps. 1:2- Meditate and obey God’s word to remain fruitful
SUNDAY: Matt. 7:16- Your fruit shows who you are.

LESSON FORTY THREE

THE BLESSEDNESS OF FRUITFULNESS

MEMORY VERSE: “And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth” Gen 1:28

BIBLE PASSAGE: John 15:1-8

INTRODUCTION

It is the plan of God that man should be fruitful and multiply Gen 1:28 – 29. To be fruitful means being productive in any sense and yielding benefits. Fruitfulness and increase whether in plants and animals depend upon the blessing of God which have allowed the human race to be perpetuated because as one generation passes away another one appears for continuity.

OUTLINES

1. WHY MUST WE BE FRUITFUL?
2. GOD’S EXPECTATION IN GENUINE FRUITFULNESS
3. ACCOMPANYING BLESSINGS OF FRUITFULNESS
WHY MUST WE BE FRUITFUL?

1. It is both a command and a blessing from the Almighty God. Gen. 1:28
2. It agrees with the divine principle that fruitfulness precedes multiplication. Gen. 17:20; 35:11
3. To be able to disciple or mentor others. 2 Kgs. 2:9-12
4. To enjoy a covenant blessing of overflowing fruitfulness on every side. Deut. 7:12 – 14
5. To ensure complete compliance of all men to God’s will. Matt. 28:18 – 20

GOD’S EXPECTATION IN GENUINE FRUITFULNESS

1. Be a worthy living epistle to other brethren and believers alike. 2 Cor. 3:1-3
2. It serves as an essential proof of the fruit of the spirit. Gal. 5:22 – 26
3. Not forsaking the assembly of one another. Heb. 10:25
4. Covet the usage of the best spiritual gifts. 1 Cor. 12: 8-10
5. Be divinely committed to a holy and obedient lifestyle. Acts 8: 26 31, Acts 16:25
ACCOMPANYING BLESSINGS OF FRUITFULNESS

There are things you stand to gain if you are fruitful. These include

1. Assurance of answered prayers. \textit{Jn. 15: 16}
2. Unspeakable joy. \textit{1 Sam. 2:1; Luke 10:17}
3. A sense of fulfilment. \textit{2 Tim. 4:7-8}
4. Opportunity to produce more fruits. \textit{John 15: 3, 5}
5. Divine security is guaranteed to ensure a continuous regular output. \textit{John 15: 4-6}
6. Rewards on earth and in eternity. \textit{1 Tim. 5: 18, Matt.19:27-29}

CONCLUSION

Since we have been blessed from the inception by the Almighty God at creation, we should do everything to ensure our fruitfulness so that the blessing would manifest. May God give us this enabling grace in Jesus name Amen?

QUESTIONS

1. What were the first pronouncements made on man after creation?
2. Why must man be fruitful?
3. What is the covenant blessings attached to our fruitfulness?
BLESSDED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Gen 9:1- Be fruitful and multiply.
TUESDAY: Jn. 15:5- Stay connected to the vine.
WEDNESDAY: Deut. 7; 14- God’s covenant of blessing is for you.
THURSDAY: Jn. 15:8- God reckons with only the obedient.
FRIDAY: Ps. 128:3- Barrenness is not your portion.
SATURDAY: Matt. 3:8- Repent from your sinful ways.
SUNDAY: Col. 1:10- Live your life to please God.

LESSON FORTY FOUR

OVERFLOWING BLESSINGS

MEMORY VERSE: “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.” John 10:10

BIBLE PASSAGE: Deuteronomy 28:1-13

INTRODUCTION: God wants us to have overflowing blessings. This gives us a picture of blessings without limits. Deut. 28:2. Do not place limits on God. Gen 18:14. How much we get from God depends on how much we trust Him. Ps. 34:8; Jer. 17:7.

OUTLINES

1. SECRETS OF OVERFLOWING BLESSINGS

2. HOW DO WE BEGIN TO OVERFLOW?

SECRETS OF OVERFLOWING BLESSINGS
1. Be born again. Jn. 3:3; Matt. 6:33
2. Consistent and generous sowing. Prov. 11:24-25
3. Honour the Lord with your tithe and offering. Prov. 3:9-10
4. Diligent obedience. Deut. 28:1
5. Hard work. Prov. 10:4
7. Prayers. Jam. 5:16
8. Commitment to God’s work. Acts 19:8-12
HOW DO WE BEGIN TO OVERFLOW?

2. Get thirsty for God. Matt.5:6; 2 Kgs.2:9-15
3. Be an active soul winner. Jn. 15:16
4. God has already set the table before us and all we need is to key ourselves into it. Ps. 23:5
5. Be a blessing to others. Prov. 22:9

CONCLUSION

God wants you to have overflowing blessings. The question is what are your expectations? Are you willing to key into the spiritual virtues that will bring this to pass?

QUESTIONS

1. Mention secrets of overflowing blessings.
2. How do you begin to overflow?

BLESSING WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Jn. 7:37 – Come unto Jesus and overflow abundantly.
TUESDAY: Jn. 15:16 – Answer to prayers is linked to winning souls.
WEDNESDAY: Jn. 3:3 – Be born again today, and see the kingdom of God on earth and eternally.
THURSDAY: Matt. 6:33 – Seek God’s righteousness and you will prosper.
FRIDAY: 2 Tim.2:22 – Follow righteousness and call on God with a pure heart.
SATURDAY: Jn. 5:40 – Come to Jesus and receive abundant life.
SUNDAY: Matt. 7:7 – Ask, seek and knock and be blessed.

LESSON FORTY FIVE

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

MEMORY VERSE: “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.” Acts 10:38

BIBLE PASSAGE: Mark 16:15-18

INTRODUCTION
The new man in Christ, 2 Cor.5:17 is easily identified by a sanctified and Holy Spirit controlled life. Rom.8:14. He must therefore, operate a powerful ministry, like father like son, and a proof producing ministry. May the watering ministry of the Holy Spirit refresh us today as we study in Jesus' Name. Amen.

OUTLINES
1. 'LIKE FATHER LIKE SON' IN POWERFUL MINISTRY
2. PROOF-PRODUCING MINISTRY

'LIKE FATHER LIKE SON' IN POWERFUL MINISTRY
The Lord Jesus Christ is our perfect example in ministry Acts 2:22. He went about preaching, teaching, healing and delivering the oppressed Acts 10:38. He became a celebrity of His days for He was outstandingly known for signs and wonders because God was with Him Mk.1:14-15, 21-22; 40-45. Nothing less than the Master's perfect example is expected of the new man Mk.16:15-18. This is because the new man as a carrier of the Holy Spirit is empowered to be a true witness of the Lord Jesus Christ at home and abroad Acts 1:8. He has a mandate of the
Master to 'GO' and with a full assurance of His ever present Mt. 28:18-20.

PROOF PRODUCING MINISTRY

CONCLUSION
Decide today to operate in a powerful and proof-producing ministry. Get connected to the Author and Finisher of your faith, the Lord Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS
1. Illustrate the new man in a powerful ministry, "'like father like son.”
2. What is God's expectation of the anointed new man?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
MONDAY: Zech. 4:6 – Physical ability is inadequate. The Holy Ghost power is super power.
TUESDAY: Lk.4:14 – God is not expecting anything less than success.
WEDNESDAY: Acts 19:11-12 - The New man can perform spectacular miracles too.
THURSDAY: Eph. 3:16 - God wants the new man strengthened
FRIDAY: 1Thess.1:5 - The new man has no other Gospel than that of power in the Holy Ghost.
SATURDAY: 2 Tim. 1:7 – The true man has no spirit of fear but of power.
SUNDAY: Dan.11:32 – The only language of the new man is exploits for God.
DATE: JULY 17TH, 2016.

LESSON FORTY SIX

MISSIONS: MORE URGENT NOW THAN EVER (Part 1)

MEMORY VERSE: “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” Matthew 24:14.

BIBLE PASSAGE: LUKE 4:17-21

INTRODUCTION

The Great Commission tells us to go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation Mk. 16:15. This has been the privilege of every believer throughout the history of the church 2Cor. 5:18. While “missions” is a vital and important assignment given by God to every believer, this key to world evangelization seems to have been lost by the church. Hence, “missions” has become more urgent today, than it has ever been and the question is how relevant is it to you?

OUTLINES

1. THE URGENT MISSION
2. ERRORS ASSOCIATED WITH MISSIONS
THE URGENT MISSION
The word ‘urgent’ means compelling or requiring immediate action or attention. It is about ‘now’ 2Cor. 6:2. Jesus from the start of His ministry to the end of it never stopped to rest Jn. 4:34; 9:4. The urgent mission is salvation for the lost, today 2Cor. 6:2. David recognized the urgency in God’s mission 1Sam. 21:8. Opportunity for missions is time-bound Neh. 2:6; Ps. 90:12. Life itself is short Jam. 4:14. The harvest season is brief Jer. 8:20 Jn. 4:35. An eternity of punishment will be too much to bear, yet hell is unsatisfied Isa. 5:14. The urgent task before the church today is evangelism Matt. 24:14; Luke 10:2.

ERRORS ASSOCIATED WITH MISSIONS
Urgent does not imply ‘anyhow’ or ‘whatever’. One error associated with missions is that in haste, many have embarked on the Great Commission wrongly resulting in “Great Omission”. This implies failure even if we complete the tasks. It is an error to think that we can make disciples without first having converts Matt 4:19; 28:19-20. Discipleship that is not centred on soul-winning is incomplete Rom. 10:13-15. True and complete missions outreach involves a good mix of evangelism and discipleship Matt. 28:19-20.

CONCLUSION
“Missions” is more urgent today than before. At the same time, there is the need to do the right thing the right way. We must recover a scriptural sense of urgency for God to be truly glorified.
QUESTIONS
1. How urgent is the work of missions?
2. Mention two errors associated with missions.

BLESSSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

TUESDAY : Matt. 4:19- God make me fisher of men.
WEDNESDAY : Luke 10:2- God please send more laborers into the vineyard.
THURSDAY : Neh. 2:6- God give me grace for your work.
FRIDAY : 1Sam. 21:8- I shall not be lazy in the work of God.
SATURDAY : Jer. 8:20- God save the body of Christ.
SUNDAY : Jam. 4:14- I shall live a purposeful life.

LESSON FORTY SEVEN

MISSIONS: MORE URGENT NOW THAN EVER (Part 2)

MEMORY VERSE: “Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil” Eph. 5:14-16.

BIBLE PASSAGE: Luke 15:3-6

INTRODUCTION

We live in a world that is uncertain. Current data for mortality rates, life expectancy and the degree of man’s inhumanity to man are alarming, hence the need for us to rise and do something concrete about missions. Today’s lesson is a continuation of the cry for revival in missions.

OUTLINES

1. THREE TYPES OF LOST SOULS
2. THE TRINITY’S RESPONSE TO LOST SOULS
THREE TYPES OF LOST SOULS

1. The careless (The Lost Sheep)

Like sheep, many people in the world, wander away. While keeping its focus on its immediate needs and environment, the sheep goes farther and farther away from the shepherd’s care. Sheep gets lost without any intention to do so, but as a result of carelessness. Isa. 53:6; Ezek. 34:6. So also, many people never ask important questions like; where did I come from? Why am I here? Where am I going? They are lost in the cares of this life and the deceitfulness of riches Mk. 4:19. Souls of men lost in this category are usually due to personal carelessness.

2. The uncared for (The Lost Coin)

Some people are lost as a result of the carelessness of others in handling them. Jesus warned His disciples never to offend the little ones Matt 18:6, 10. The woman in Luke 15:8-9 was responsible for keeping her coin, but due to her carelessness, the coin was lost. The coin cannot help itself, either by bleeping like the sheep or by tracing its way back like the son Jn. 6:44.

3. The backsliders (The Lost Son)

The lost son decided deliberately to go astray, just like many have chosen by reason of love for sin and therefore hatred for God and His principles. Souls in this category
live in their own wills and go in their own ways. These men live completely ungodly lives. Their talents are wasted on eternally unprofitable ventures Luke 15:12-13.

THE TRINITY’S RESPONSE TO LOST SOULS
The Trinity is dissatisfied, so long there are still lost souls, even if only one Luke 15:4, 8. Church Growth statistics of only 1% lost sheep (1 out of 100), or 10% lost coin (1 out of 10), or 50% lost sons (1 out of 2), is admirable but not to the Trinity. Rather, this is reason for urgent missions’ activity. The Holy Spirit seeks the Helpless Jn. 16:7-8, 13. Jesus seeks the Ignorant and the Careless. He seeks the sheep until He finds the sheep Matt. 15:24; Luke 15:4. The Father waits for the rebellious son to return Luke 15:20-21. The son must first return to himself Luke 15:17, before returning to his father Luke 15:18. The Trinity rejoices when lost souls are found, as represented by the shepherd in Luke 15 v 6, the woman- v 9 and the father- v 32.

CONCLUSION
We must develop a sense of urgency for reaching the lost. Hence, be dissatisfied as long as souls are still perishing and be burdened for the lost. Matt. 11:29a, 30. Seek till you find, do not give up on any type of lost souls Matt 7:8; Acts 10:34-35.

QUESTIONS

1. Mention the three types of lost souls.

2. How does the trinity respond to the lost souls?
BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY : Eph. 5:14-16- Redeem the time
TUESDAY : Isa. 53:6- Forgive us oh Lord
WEDNESDAY : Mk. 4:19- Let your word be fruitful
THURSDAY : Matt. 18:6- Children also need the word
FRIDAY : Jn. 6:44- Draw me nearer
SATURDAY : Jn. 10:11- Jesus the good shepherd cares for you
SUNDAY : Jam. 2:26- Faith without work is dead
DATE: JULY 31ST, 2016.

LESSON FORTY EIGHT

CHRIST IS COMING AGAIN

MEMORY VERSE: “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is”. 1John 3:2

BIBLE PASSAGE: John 14: 1 – 4

INTRODUCTION: Christ is coming back again! Nothing can be more certain and imminent than this Jn. 14:3; Rev. 1:7. His first coming was prophesied by the prophets and it was fulfilled Isa. 7:14. The angels talked about the second coming of Christ Acts 1: 10, 11. The apostles taught it 1 Thess. 4: 16 and Christ Himself disclosed it Rev. 22:12. Why is He coming and how do we prepare for His coming?

OUTLINES

1. THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING
2. THE PREPARATION FOR HIS COMING

THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING
Christ came the first time, as the Lamb of God, to offer His life as atonement for our sins. The purpose of His second coming includes:

1. To complete the salvation of saints – He came the first time to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin. He is
coming the second time to deliver us from the presence of sin *Heb. 9:28*.

2. To receive us to be with Himself *Jn. 14:3*.

3. To be glorified in His saints *2Thess. 1:10*.

4. To be married, as the bridegroom, to His church, the bride *Matt. 25:10; Isa. 62:5*.

5. To bring to light the hidden things of darkness *1Cor 4:5*.

6. To judge the works of believers (living and dead) and give rewards *2 Tim. 4:1; 2Cor. 5:10; Rev 22:10*.

**THE PREPARATION FOR HIS COMING**

The signs of the second coming of Christ have almost been fulfilled before our eyes *Matt. 24:3-14*. “The night is far spent, the day is at hand” *Rom. 13:12*. In order not to be caught unaware and be disqualified, we must be prepared daily. Our preparations must include:

1. Daily self-examination *2 Cor. 13:5*.

2. Hope and sanctification *1Jn. 3:2-3; Titus 2:11-13*

3. Watchfulness and prayer. The enemy of our soul (Satan) attacks at the unguarded moment. Watchfulness and prayer will keep him at bay *Mk. 13:33*.

4. Walking in the Spirit. Live under the influence of the Holy Spirit and follow His direction – *Gal. 5:16*

5. Making no provision for the flesh. The flesh can be fed by where we go, what we watch, what we listen to or what we do *Rom. 13:14*

6. Steadfastness in fellowship. There is safety, strength and growth in fellowship *Heb. 10:25*. 
7. Put off the works of darkness. Dishonesty, envying, strife, carnal pleasures, etc. are works of darkness Rom. 13: 12


CONCLUSION
Christ is coming back again. This is the living hope of the Christians 1Jn. 3:2-3. His coming will be like a thief in the night 1Thess. 5:2 Are you prepared for His coming? Are you saved from sin? Do what you must do today; tomorrow might be too late 2Cor. 6:2.

QUESTIONS.
1. Why is Christ coming back the second time?
2. How can we be prepared for the coming back of Jesus Christ?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
MONDAY: 1Cor. 15:19 – Our hope in Christ is beyond earthly treasures
TUESDAY: 1Jn. 3:3 – Those who hope to see Christ in glory must be pure.
THURSDAY: Matt. 7:22, 23 – You must not allow anything to disqualify you.
FRIDAY: Rev. 3:11 – Keep your salvation. Do not trade it away for anything.
SATURDAY: Rom. 8:38-39 – Do not allow anything come between you and Christ.
SUNDAY: Rom. 13:11 – The day of our ultimate salvation is at hand. Don’t miss it.
DATE: AUGUST 7TH, 2016.

LESSON FORTY NINE

THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB

MEMORY VERSE: “And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.” Revelation 19:9b

BIBLE PASSAGE: Revelation 19:1-14

INTRODUCTION
Marriage, in this context, symbolizes the union between Christ and the Church Eph.5:22-32. It is, however, important to note that the Marriage Supper of the Lamb is the next event after the second coming of Christ for the saints.
May the Holy Spirit teach us and bless us richly as we look at this topic in details 1 Tim.6:14; Acts 1:10-11.

OUTLINES
1. WHAT, WHEN AND WHERE IS THE MARRIAGE?
2. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO SAINTS?
3. WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE MARRIAGE?

WHAT, WHEN AND WHERE IS THE MARRIAGE?
The Marriage Supper of the Lamb is the consummation of the union between Christ, the Bridegroom and the Church, the bride, without spot or wrinkles Eph.5:27; Rev.19:1-14; Matt.25:1-13. The marriage will take place after the second coming of Christ to the earth. Christ is the Bridegroom. The wife is the redeemed or saints of all ages who will have part in the first resurrection and who will live in the New Jerusalem forever Rev.21:2.
WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO SAINTS?

i. To assemble the saints for the last supper with Christ.
ii. To present the just of all ages to God, the Father and fulfil their main eternal purpose.
iii. To wipe away tears from the faces of the saints.
iv. To take away the saints from the earth before the activities of the anti-Christ.
v. To take away the saints before the tribulation.

WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE MARRIAGE?

i. Those who belong to Christ 2 Cor.5:17
ii. Those who earnestly desire His second coming and are watchful Matt.25:1-13, whose patience and visions are not darkened.
iii. Those who do not get distracted and lose focus completely before the Bridegroom comes.
iv. Those whose holiness has not been polluted and whose garment of righteousness has not been stained Rev.21:8, 27; Heb.12:14
v. Those who obey His commands and whose citizenship is in Heaven Rev.22:14-15; Eph.2:14 - 16; Matt.7:21-23.

CONCLUSION

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb, like all biblical prophecies, will be fulfilled. You cannot afford to miss it. Pray to God to keep you standing in Him and count you worthy of this great and unique event.

QUESTIONS

1. Who qualifies for the marriage?
2. Name four important reasons for the Marriage?
BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Heb.9:27 – No one will escape judgement.
TUESDAY : Matt.25:46 – Faithful ones will enjoy eternal life.
WEDNESDAY : 1 Cor.3:15 – Every man's work shall be judged.
THURSDAY : Matt.25:25 – Use your talent wisely.
FRIDAY : Rev.22:12 – Christ is coming soon.
SATURDAY : Heb.12:29 – God is a consuming fire.
SUNDAY : 2 Pt.3:10 – Be prepared for the day of the Lord.

LESSON FIFTY

THE CRUCIAL JUDGMENTS

Memory Verse: “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment” Hebrews 9: 27

BIBLE PASSAGE: Revelation 20:11 – 15

INTRODUCTION: Judgment is one of the common destinies awaiting all men Heb. 9: 27. Believers and unbelievers, the young and old, the rich and poor, will all face judgment. The judgment will not be corporate but personal. As there is more than one resurrection, there is more than one judgment. Some of the judgments the Bible speaks about include the believers’ self-judgment at the communion table 1Cor. 11: 29-31, the judgment of the believers at the judgment seat of Christ 2Cor. 5: 10, the judgment of the nations Matt. 25: 32 and the judgment of the unsaved at the Great White Throne Rev. 20: 11. In this lesson, our focus is on the judgment of the believers and the judgment of the unsaved.

OUTLINES

1. THE JUDGMENT OF THE SAINTS
2. THE JUDGMENT OF THE SINNERS

THE JUDGMENT OF THE SAINTS

Believers will no longer be judged for sin, as long as they do not go back to sin. The believers’ sins, which have been repented of and forsaken, have been judged in Christ at Calvary Rom. 8:1. However, there is a judgment the believers must go through. This is the judgment of the believers’ works for the purpose of rewards Matt. 16: 27.
• **The focus of the judgment:** The quality of work, the motive behind every work and the level of faithfulness 1Cor. 3:13; 2Tim. 2:20
• **The candidates for the judgment:** The resurrected “dead in Christ” and the living who remain in Christ when He comes at rapture 1Thess. 4:16-17
• **The place of the judgment:** The judgment seat of Christ 2Cor. 5:10
• **The time for the judgment:** After Christ’s coming at rapture, during the Marriage supper of the Lamb Matt. 16:27; Rev. 19:9
• **The result of the judgment:**
  i. Rewards and crowns for the faithful 1Cor. 3:14; 2Tim. 4:7-8
  ii. Losses for those whose works lack the required divine quality 1Cor. 3:15

**THE JUDGMENT OF THE SINNERS**
This is the final judgement that will climax the end of this age.

The judgment of sinners is certain Prov. 11:21.

• **The candidates for the judgment:** Those whose names are not in the Book of life Rev. 20:15. These include the abominable (homosexuals, lesbians, etc.), all liars, sexually immoral, the friends of the world, idolaters, murderers, thieves etc. Rev. 21:8
• **The place of the judgment:** The great white throne. God, the impartial and all-knowing God sits on the throne Rev. 20:11
• **The time for the judgment:** After the millennial (One thousand years), reign of Christ on earth Rev. 20:5-6
• **The result of judgment:** Sinners shall be cast into the lake of fire Rev. 20:15; Ps. 9:17.
CONCLUSION
Earthly judgment can be influenced and compromised, divine judgment cannot. It is judgment in righteousness and truth. The judgment of both the saints and the sinners is certain Gal. 6: 7-8.

QUESTIONS
1. Mention some people who will face the great white throne judgment.
2. Will some be judged righteous at the great white throne judgment?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Ps. 9: 17 – There is no escape for the wicked, who fail to repent.
TUESDAY: Gal. 6: 9 – There is a sure reward for the righteous in the end.
WEDNESDAY: 1Cor. 3:13- The Day of Judgment shall reveal the quality of your work.
THURSDAY: Rev. 20: 12 – The quality of reward depends on the quality of work.
FRIDAY: 1Cor. 11: 31 – Self-judgment and repentance ensures eternal safety.
SATURDAY: 2Cor. 13: 5 – Examine yourself daily. Christ’s coming is near.

SUNDAY: John 12: 48 – Judgment will be based on the word of God.
DATE: AUGUST 21\textsuperscript{ST}, 2016.

LESSON FIFTY ONE  
ETERNAL REWARDS

MEMORY VERSE: “And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be” Revelation 22:12

BIBLE PASSAGE: Luke 19: 11–19

INTRODUCTION: Reward is something given to or received by someone in appreciation for work done. Reward could either be positive or negative, depending on the nature of what is done, whether good or bad Esth. 6:1-3,11; 2 Kgs. 5:26-27. Usually, the quality of the reward is proportional to the quality of the work done. Also, there is earthly and heavenly reward. Earthly reward is temporal while heavenly reward is eternal John 6: 27.

OUTLINES
1. FUTURE GLORY AND REWARDS FOR THE VICTORS

2. CONDITIONS FOR PARTAKING OF THE FUTURE GLORY AND ETERNAL REWARDS

3. CROWNS FOR THE SAINTS

FUTURE GLORY AND REWARDS FOR THE VICTORS
Believers who endure to the end in Christ will enjoy the following glory. They will; reign with Christ 2Tim. 2:12, have free and unlimited access to the tree of life Rev. 2:7, have power over nations Rev. 2:26, be clothed in white raiment Rev. 3:5a, be the pride of Jesus before the Father
and the angels Rev. 3:5c, behold the awesome glory of Christ Jn. 17:24, be pillars in the presence of the Father Rev. 3:12, be seated with Christ on His throne Rev. 3:21, inherit all things Rev. 21:7, shine as the stars Dan. 12:3

CONDITIONS FOR FUTURE GLORY AND ETERNAL REWARDS
Those who desire to partake of the future glory and reward must:
1. Be faithful to God till the end Luke 19:17; 1Cor. 4:2
2. Overcome every form of temptation and ungodliness in the world Jam. 1:12.
3. Be diligent in the business of the Master Heb. 6k:11-12; Luke 19:13
4. Live a consistent lifestyle of holiness 1Jn. 3:2-3
5. Endure trials of faith 2Tim. 2:10
6. Diligently seek the Lord in all things till the end Heb. 11:6
7. Willing to forsake all things to follow Christ Matt. 19:27, 29

CROWNS FOR THE SAINTS
Different crowns would be given to the saints who endure to the end. These include:
1. Incorruptible crown for those who finish the race well and strong 1Cor. 9:24-25
2. Crown of rejoicing for the soul-winners 1Thess. 2:16-19
3. Crown of righteousness for those waiting for the coming of Christ 2 Tim. 4:8
4. Crown of glory for the true and committed ministers of the gospel 1Pet. 5:4
5. Crown of life for those who are faithful till the end Rev. 2:10
CONCLUSION
To have the hope of receiving any eternal reward you must first make it to heaven. To make it to heaven, you must be born again and be holy Jn. 3:3. Beloved, are you truly born again?

QUESTIONS
1. What are the future glory and rewards that await the victors?
2. What are the conditions for future glory and rewards?
3. Mention four types of crowns and for whom?

BLESSED WEEK WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY: Gal. 6:7– You will receive the due reward for what you do
TUESDAY: Rev. 22:12– Jesus is coming soon with His reward for you
WEDNESDAY: Rev. 3:11– Let nothing or no one make you lose your crown
THURSDAY: Jn. 6:27– Earthly reward is uncertain but heavenly reward is certain.
FRIDAY: Phil. 3:13– Do not look backward; look forward.
SATURDAY: 2Tim. 2:3– Endure any hardship that comes while doing God’s will.
SUNDAY: Rom. 13:11– Make sure you stay spiritually awake.

WEEK FIFTY TWO

FOURTH QUARTER INTERACTIVE SESSION

WELCOME TO THE FOURTH INTERACTIVE SESSION

YOUR PRIVILEGE:
❖ TO ASK QUESTIONS ON TREATED LESSONS FOR CLARITY.
❖ TO GIVE CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF THE OUTLINES.
❖ TO GIVE USEFUL SUGGESTIONS TOWARDS BETTER PERFORMANCE.
❖ TO GIVE USEFUL SPIRITUAL CONTRIBUTIONS.
❖ ETC.