

New Life in Christ



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PREFACE

Knowing Jesus and making Him known.

This material is designed to be used by a mature Christian to help a newly committed Christian find his/her feet in the faith. It uses the words and promises in the Bible to show the new believer what he has recently taken place in his/her spiritual life. That way his/her experience will be based firmly on the Scriptures rather than mere emotions. Feelings may come and go but a Christian whose faith is resting on God's Word will stand.

This is a transferable concept, which means this material can also be used by this person, when he/she is more grounded in Christ, to help establish the faith of another new believer.

It is a structured and well-defined means of transferring our experience of Christ to others.

The Great Commission

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations"

(Matthew 28:19)

If this commission of our Lord is to be carried out, the principle of evangelism multiplication commended by Paul will have to become a reality in the church today. In his letter to Timothy Paul said, "And what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." (2 Timothy 2:2)

This simple plan worked so effectively in the Early Church. Without printing press, radio or television to reach the masses, they multiplied greatly and filled the Roman Empire. To fulfill the Great Commission we must get back to the New Testament pattern, and act upon the Reformation message that all believers are called to be ministers.

How to use this booklet for follow-up

This booklet could be used on a one-to-one basis or in a group. Have the individual complete the daily exercise. When you meet, compare key words and phrases. Share answers to the questions and the verse study.

The purpose of each lesson is to discover what God's word says, to understand what it means and to apply it to the life. The counsellor should not do most the talking. He should guide the discussion by skilfully using questions. Remember this is not a lecture but a way to find out how far the person has come in their understanding of their new experience of Christ, and what to do next in order to growth spiritually.

Format

- a) Open in prayer
- b) Read aloud the verses. Have him circle key words or phrases as you read. This will make him look more closely at the content of each verse.
- c) Give him additional time to re-read the verses and circle additional words.
- d) Do a verse study.

How to do a Verse Study

1. List 2 key words and define them
2. Answer the questions
3. Memorize the text given
4. Paraphrase this text. In other words, tell us what the verse says by re-writing it in your own words.
5. Tell us what the verse says to you. How can you apply the truth of this verse to your life today?

Close with a short prayer.

NOTE: All Scriptures are taken from the New KJV

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SALVATION

Salvation means deliverance from sin and its consequence. Meditate on these truths until you can say with confidence: "I know I am saved. I have been born into God's family as His child. I now have eternal life."

Circle key words or phrases

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourself; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. Ephesians 2:8,9

For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Romans 10:13

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16

Study Guide:

In these scriptures, what do we learn about:

- Becoming a child of God
- Eternal life
- Memorize John 3:16
- Paraphrase it
- What it means to you

ASSURANCE

Having assurance means being certain in mind with a freedom from doubt. One of Satan's tricks is to cause believers to doubt their salvation. Meditate on these scriptures to enable you to have victory over your doubts.

Circle key words or phrases

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come. Nor heights nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38,39

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. John 10:27-29

Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. Phil 1:6

Study Guide:

In these scriptures, what do you learn about assurance?

- Memorize Phil 1:6
- Paraphrase it
- What it means to you.

LORDSHIP

When we place our faith in Jesus Christ He becomes not only our Saviour but also our Sovereign Lord and Master. We are under new ownership. We can only enjoy our new life in Christ as we daily seek His will and follow Him in obedience.

Circle key words or phrases.

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. 1 Cor 6:19,20

I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. John 15:5

Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass. Ps 37:4,5

Study Guide:

In these scriptures what do we learn about New Ownership, Obedience, Priorities and Benefits?

- Memorize Ps 37:4,5
- Paraphrase it
- What it means to you.

REVERENTIAL TRUST

As you study the Scriptures you will discover the blessing of placing your full trust in God. The following Scriptures speak about the “fear” of the Lord and what will result if we do have a reverential respect for His authority.

Circle key words or phrases.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him on those who hope in His mercy. Ps 33:18

The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

Ps 34:7,9

He will fulfil the desire of those who fear Him; He also will hear their cry and save them. Ps 145:19

Study Guide:

What do we learn about reverential trust?

- Memorize Ps 34:7,9
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

DISCIPLESHIP

A disciple is a “learner” – a follower of Christ. A true disciple will daily recognize Christ as Lord and be willing to put Him ahead of every pursuit in life.

Circle key words or phrases

And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

Luke 14:27

So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.

Luke 14:33

By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

John 13:35

Study Guide:

What do we learn about discipleship?

- Memorize Luke 14:27
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

WITNESS

When we become a child of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, we become responsible to tell others about Christ. Be prepared to share your faith with others.

Circle key words or phrases.

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defence to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.

1 Peter 3:15

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. Acts 1:8

We are ambassadors for Christ. 2 Cor 5:20

Study Guide:

What do we learn about our responsibility as witnesses?

- Memorize 1 Peter 3:15
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

THE SCRIPTURES

To help us glorify God by our lives and be effective witnesses, we need to know and obey the Scriptures. Make it your habit to daily memorize and meditate in the Scriptures.

Circle key words or phrases

But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.

He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf does not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper. Ps 1:2,3

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Ps 119:105

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. James 1:22

Study Guide:

What do we learn about the value of Scripture?

- Memorize James 1:22
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

OBEDIENCE

God gave us His Word not only to increase our knowledge but to change our lives. It is only as we apply truth to our lives – obey the Scripture that there will be any significant changes made.

Circle key words or phrases

He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him. John 14:21

For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. 1 John 5:3

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Deut 6:5

Study Guide:

What do we learn about obedience?

- Memorize Deut 6:5
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you

SATAN THE TEMPTER

From the day you received Jesus Christ as Saviour, you entered into a spiritual warfare. Your enemy is the devil and he will do everything in his power to make you a discouraged, doubting, defeated Christian. Be aware of his wiles and trust in the Lord for victory.

Circle key words or phrases.

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom to devour. 1 Peter 5:8

Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Ephesians 6:11

Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. Matt 26:41

Study Guide:

What do we learn about Satan and temptation?

- Memorize Matt 26:41
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

VICTORY

As you will learn in the following Scriptures, all believers are subject to temptation. Victory can be yours if you use the resources available.

Circle key words or phrases

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

1 Cor 10:13

You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 1 John 4:4

Your word have I hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You. Ps 119:11

Study Guide:

What do we learn about victory?

- Memorize Ps 119:11
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Although it is God's desire that every believer lives a victorious Christian life. He knows that there will be time when they will yield to sin and temptation. In His graciousness He has provided a way for us, through confession, to be forgiven and cleansed from all sin.

Circle key words or phrases

He who covers his sin will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy. Prov 28:13

I acknowledge my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Ps 32:5

If we confess our sins, He is faithful to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

Study Guide:

What do we learn about forgiveness?

- Memorize 1 John 1:9
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

PRAYER

Prayer is your lifeline to God. Form the habit of starting each day with prayer, and then learn to pray throughout the day as the need arises.

Circle key words or phrases

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened unto you. Matt 7:7

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. 1 John 5:14,15

He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me. John 14:24

Study Guide:

What do we learn about prayer?

- Memorize John 14:24
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

God does hear and answer prayer. The answer is not always "Yes", and sometimes the answer is a long time coming. There are certain hindrances to prayer as the following verses indicate.

Circle key words or phrases

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear. Ps 66:18

But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord. James 1:6,7

You lust and you do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.

You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasure. James 4:2,3

Study Guide:

What do we learn hindrances to prayer?

- Memorize James 4:2,3
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

As you will notice in these Scriptures, taking time for praise and thanksgiving pleases God. On occasion, we ought to take all our prayer time to tell God how much we appreciate all that He is doing for us.

Circle key words or phrases

Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!

For His mercy endures forever. Ps 106:1

Oh, that men would give tanks to the Lord for His goodness, ad for His wonderful works to the children of men. Ps 107:8

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thess 5:16-18

Study Guide:

What do we learn about praise and thanksgiving?

- Memorize 1 Thess 5:16-18
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

HOLY SPIRIT – HIS INDWELLING

God has not left us helpless and alone in the world. He indwells us by His Holy Spirit, who daily ministers to our needs.

Circle key words or phrases

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs – heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ. Rom 8 :16,17

Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 1 Cor 3:16

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I have said to you. John 14:26

Study Guide:

What do we learn about the Holy Spirit?

- Memorize John 14:26
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

HOLY SPIRIT – HIS WORKS

God indwells us by His Spirit who will, if we allow Him to control our lives, give us a dynamic for living and make us more like Jesus.

Circle keys or phrases

And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit. Ephesians 5:18

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. Galatians 5:22,23

Study Guide:

What do we learn about the Holy Spirit?

- Memorize Galatians 5:22,23
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

GUIDANCE

Do you want to save a lot of headaches, wasted time, dead-end roads and wrong turns in your Christian life? Then let God direct your daily path. He sees things from a different perspective.

Circle key words or phrases

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye. Ps 32:8

Cause me to hear your loving kindness in the morning, for in you do I trust; cause me to know the way I should walk, for I lift up my soul to you. Ps 143:8

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5,6

Study Guide:

What do we learn about guidance?

- Memorize Proverbs 3:5,6
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

ADVERSITY

In many respect the Christian life is a life of testing. God, through adverse situations, purifies and takes out of our lives those things that are not pleasing to Him. Trials are to be expected but should never be viewed as punishment.

Circle key words or phrases

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

James 1:2-4

Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

2 Cor 4:16,17

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. Rom 8:28

Study Guide:

What do we learn about adversity?

- Memorize Rom 8:28
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you

CHASTENING

To chasten means to correct or discipline. There are times when God, because of His love for us, must bring a measure of discipline into our lives.

Circle key words or phrases

Behold, happy is the man whom God corrects; therefore do not despise the chastening of the Almighty. Job 5:17

My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him. For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives. Heb 12:5,6

For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world. 1 Cor 11:31,32

Study Guide:

What do we learn about discipline?

- Memorize 1 Cor 11:31,32
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

SUFFERING

The apostle Paul had a permanent physical infirmity. He suffered from beatings and imprisonment. Job had boils from head to foot. Stephen gave his life for the faith. We too can expect suffering in this life. However we should not view suffering as punishment.

Circle key words or phrases

For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake. Phil 1:29

Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. 1 Pet 4:12,13

For I consider that the sufferings of the present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. Rom 8:18

Study Guide:

What do we learn about suffering?

- Memorize Rom 8:18
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

SELF-DENIAL

As Christians, we have two natures. To grow in Christ we must learn to say "No" to the flesh, the old nature, and say, "Yes" to Christ who lives within.

Circle key words or phrases

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Gal 2:20

That you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, And that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. Eph 4:22,24

Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me". Luke 9:23

Study Guide:

What do we learn about self-denial?

- Memorize Luke 9:23
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

GENEROSITY

The Bible says, "God loves a cheerful giver." We should give for no reason than that. The following Scriptures will give you many more reasons for giving generously.

Circle key words or phrases

Honour the Lord with your possessions, and with the first fruits of all your increase;

So your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

Prov 3:9,10

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Cor 9:6,7

There is one who scatters, yet increases more; and there is one who withholds more than is right, but it leads to poverty.

The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself. Prov 11:24,25

Study Guide:

What do we learn about generosity?

- Memorize Prov 11:24,25
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

PROVIDENTIAL CARE

In spite of all the trials, testing and suffering, God sovereignly watches over us and meets our every need.

Circle key words or phrases

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flames scorch you. Isa 43:2

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all. Ps 34:19

Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7

Study Guide:

What do we learn about God's care

- Memorize 1 Peter 5:7
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

LOVE

A popular song says, "What the world needs is love." People all around us are starving for love and affection. May our love reach out and help to meet that need.

Circle key words or phrases

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. John 13:34

But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts his up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? My little children, let us not love in words or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. 1 John 3:17,18

Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honour giving preference to one another. Rom 12:9,10

Study Guide:

What do we learn about love?

- Memorize Rom 12:9,10
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

HUMILITY

It is natural for a person to want recognition and to achieve in this life. The following Scriptures will give you some real insight as to how this can become a reality.

Circle key words or phrases

A man's pride will bring him low, but the humble in spirit will retain honour.

Prov 29:23

For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. Luke 14:11

God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Humble yourself in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

James 4:6,10

Study Guide:

What do we learn about humility?

- Memorize James 4:6,10
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

HONESTY

Credibility is most essential in building strong personal relationships. We must believe in each other to develop a trust. Credibility is especially important in our witness. If our life does not back up our witness, very little is likely to happen.

Circle key words or phrases

But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending to everyman's conscience in the sight of God. 2 Cor 4:2

Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds. Col 3:9

Providing honourable things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men. 2 Cor 8:21

Study Guide:

What do we learn about honesty?

- Memorize 2 Cor 8:21
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

THE HEART

In many Scriptures the words heart, thoughts, mind or affections are one and the same. What we are or do daily will be greatly determined by what is in our heart, because what is there will lead to action, good or otherwise.

Circle key words or phrases

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it springs the issues of life. Prov 4:23

What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceits, lewdness, and evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness.

Mark 7:20-22

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Ps. 139:23,24

Study Guide:

What do we learn about the heart?

- Memorize Ps 139:23,24
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

THE TONGUE

You will learn in the following Scriptures that the tongue, though a very small member of the body, has enormous power for good or evil and must be continually controlled.

Circle key words or phrases

He who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit. 1 Peter 3:10

Whoever guards his mouth and tongue keeps his soul from trouble. Prov 21:23

That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak. Col 4:6

Study Guide:

What do we learn about the tongue?

- Memorize Col 4:6
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

FORGIVING OTHERS

If you want to be forgiven and be at peace with God and your fellowman, then learn to forgive others. An unforgiving attitude can lead to your ruin.

Circle key words or phrases

Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?"

Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven." Matt 18:21,22

Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not and you shall not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Luke 6:37

And be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. Eph 4:32

Study Guide:

What do we learn about forgiving others?

- Memorize Eph 4:32
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you.

PROPER PERSPECTIVE

One day, we do not know the day or hour, Jesus Christ is coming again to take us to be with Him forever. The Scriptures clearly tell us how we should live daily as we await His coming.

Circle words or phrases

Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. John 14: 1-3

When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Col 3:4,5

Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ. Titus 2:12,13

Study Guide:

What do we learn about proper perspective?

- Memorize Titus 2:12,13
- Paraphrase
- What it means to you