

First Step

Lesson One

Deuteronomy 28:1-2 "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. 2 And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God:

Ulysses S. Grant - "To the influence of this Book we are indebted for all the progress made in true civilization, and to this we look as our guide in the future."

Point 1. The Bible is the _____ of God. Writers were inspired by Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 1:20-21 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

Point 2. The Bible is understood with Holy Spirit _____.

1 Corinthians 2:9-11 But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God;

1 Corinthians 12:1-4 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: 2 You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. 3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. 4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

In the Book lie the greatest values to man.

Point 3. The Spiritual Values.

a. The Bible is the only source wherein is unfolded the great plan of full _____.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

b. Spiritual growth comes from the _____.

1 Peter 2:1-2 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, 2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

Hebrews 5:12-14 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need *someone* to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. ¹³ For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. ¹⁴ But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, *that is*, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Matthew 4:4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

Point 4. The Moral Values.

- a. Wherever the Bible goes, _____ goes. "This book will keep you from sin, and sin will keep you from this Book." D.L. Moody
- b. The Bible produces in us the character of God who is holy. **2 Peter 1:4** by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Point 5. The Physical Values.

- a. He sent His Word and healed them. **Ps.107:20** He sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions.
- b. One Word from God will bring _____. **Luke 7:7** Therefore I did not even think myself worthy to come to You. But say the word, and my servant will be healed.
- c. The indirect value of the Bible in healing is evidenced by the multitude of hospitals in western civilization. Such institutions were unknown before the coming of the gospel. Hospitals have resulted from the influence of Christian missionaries and others inspired by Christlike Compassion.

6. The Intellectual Values.

- a. **Ps.119:97-100** Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day. ⁹⁸ You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; For they are ever with me. ⁹⁹ I have more understanding than all my teachers, For Your testimonies are my meditation. ¹⁰⁰ I understand more than the ancients, Because I keep Your precepts.

b. The Bible has made a supreme contribution to popular education. More than any book or force in history, it has been the great liberator of the human mind. It has burst open the doors of superstition. Its translations have been the classic event in the educational advance of any people speaking the language.

c. The founding of Christian colleges and their rapid growth in America is an epic starting with a hunger and thirst for a greater knowledge of Scripture.

Point 7. The Personal Values.

a. Source of peace of mind. **Philippians 4:6-8** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

b. Source of guidance for _____ making. **James 1:5** If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

c. Source of Prosperity. **Deuteronomy 8:18** "And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Point 8. The Social Values.

a. The greatest contribution to society is the Christian ethics that have come from the Bible.

b. The United Nations may ignore God, but it exists because of God. It may flaunt the Bible but it reflects the values of the Book. (Human rights, etc,)

Point 9. The Eternal Values.

a. Living for Eternity. **John 20:31** but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

b. Helping Others find Eternal Life.

First Step

Lesson Two

The Life of Prayer - *"The most untapped resource of the Christian prayer"*

Point 1. Jesus prayed and taught others the value of _____.

a. Luke 5:16 So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed.

b. Luke 11:1 Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples."

Point 2. Private Prayer.

a. Matthew 6:6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Point 3. Corporate Prayer

a. Cornerstone of New Testament Church. **Acts 2:42** And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

b. Source of New Testament Power. **Acts 4:31** And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

Point 4. Praying for Leaders

a. Civil Leaders **1 Timothy 2:1-4** Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, 2 for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

b. 2 Thessalonians 3:1-2 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you, 2 and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith.

Point 5. Praying for other believers

a. Ephesians 6:18-19 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— 19 and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,

b. Ephesians 1:17-19 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power

Colossians 1:9-12 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; 12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

Galatians 4:19 My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you,

Point 6. Praying for the lost

a. Romans 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.

b. 2 Corinthians 4:4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Point 7. Praying in the Spirit

a. 1 Corinthians 14:14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.

b. Praying in known language

c. Praying in unknown language

Point 8. Prayer of Faith

a. James 5:15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

b. Mark 11:24 Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

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Lesson Three

God and Money

Point 1. Misconceptions about money.

a. Money is evil. **1 Timothy 6:10** For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

b. Money is amoral, the use of money can be _____.

Point 2. God wants people to be _____ financially.

a. It is God's will. **3 John 1:2** Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.

b. God gives power to create wealth. **Deuteronomy 8:18** "And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

c. God wants people to have a full supply. **Philippians 4:19** And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Point 3. We are managers, God is the owner.

a. **1 Corinthians 4:1-2,7** Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. 2 Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful... For who makes you differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?

b. God owns it all. **Haggai 2:8** 'The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' says the Lord of hosts.

Psalms 50:10 For every beast of the forest is Mine, And the cattle on a thousand hills

Point 4. Tithing.

a. Tithing one _____ of our income puts God first in our lives. **Proverbs 3:9-10** Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; 10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.

b. Tithing is a test of trust. **Malachi 3:8-10** "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. 9 You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. 10 Bring all the

tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the Lord of hosts,"If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.

c. Tithing is a bill we _____, just like a utility bill.

d. Tithing goes to the _____. **Malachi 3:10** Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the Lord of hosts,"If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.

e. Spiritual leaders are dependent on the tithe. **Numbers 18:25-26** Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 26 "Speak thus to the Levites, and say to them: 'When you take from the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them as your inheritance, then you shall offer up a heave offering of it to the Lord, a tenth of the tithe.

Point 5. Offerings are designated by _____.

a. Giving beyond tithe is a matter of God leading you. **Proverbs 19:17** He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord, And He will pay back what he has given.

b. Offerings are seeds we sow that bring a harvest. **Luke 6:38** Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

Point 6. Give systematically.

a. On the first day of the week. **1 Corinthians 16:2** On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.

Point 7. Give _____ from the heart.

a. **2 Corinthians 9:7** So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

b. Giving should not be done because it is required, but as an act of love and concern for God's work and others. **Matthew 23:23** "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.

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Lesson Four

The Great Commission

Point 1. Three legged plan to build the Church. **Matthew 16:18** And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

- a. Prayer - **Acts 2:42** And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.
- b. Evangelism - sharing the _____ with others
- c. Discipleship - modeling and _____ others who have believed.

Point 2. True Evangelism

- a. Is being so filled with Jesus that wherever we go, we discover people who need to know Him.
- b. Loving God is a call to love _____. **Luke 10:27** So he answered and said, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.'"
- c. Jesus wants to make us fishers of men. **Mark 1:17** Then Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men."

Point 3. The Oikos principle.

- a. Oikos means household or family. The people we relate to on a regular basis.
- b. Cornelius invites his oikos to meet with Peter to hear the gospel. **Acts 10:24** And the following day they entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting for them, and had called together his relatives and close friends.
- c. A jailor's entire household came to Christ in **Acts 16:31** So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household."

Point 4. Kinds of people in your Oikos.

- a. Family, relatives, neighbors, co-workers, and others with whom you have regular contact, your warm market.

b. Levi invites business associates to hear Jesus. **Luke 5:29** Then Levi gave Him a great feast in his own house. And there were a great number of tax collectors and others who sat down with them.

c. Philip's friendship with Nathaniel brought him to Jesus. **John 1:45** Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

Point 5. Spend time _____ others.

a. Jesus spent time with 12 to mentor them. **Mark 3:14-15** Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, 15 and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demon

b. Making disciples is laying down our lives for others. Taking time needed to see them grow spiritually.

Point 6. Hospitality in Homes.

a. Hospitality in homes is a powerful way of being involved in discipleship. **1 Peter 4:9** Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.

b. We should practice hospitality. **Romans 12:13** distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

Point 7. Sowing your life into others.

a. **John 12:24** Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.

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Lesson Five

The Local Church

1. Two Aspects

a. Church Universal is made up of all born again believers on _____.

Revelation 5:9 And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,

b. Church Local is the individual assemblies lead by _____. **Acts 14:23** So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

2. New Testament is written to "churches" in localities that had structure and order. **Colossians 2:5** For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

a. Order means a structure of leadership comprised of Elders, Deacons, Members. **1 Timothy 3:1-10** This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; 3 not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; 4 one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence 5 (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); 6 not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. 7 Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. 8 Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, 9 holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. 10 But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless.

3. Believers are expected to identify with a local congregation for the following reasons.

a. Personal spiritual growth - **1 Peter 2:1-2** Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, 2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

b. Equipping for _____ - **Ephesians 4:11-12** And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

c. Relationship with other believers as _____ - **Ephesians 3:14-15** For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

d. To Care for one another's spiritual progress **1 Corinthians 12:25** that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

e. For protection of _____ covering - **Hebrews 13:17** Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

f. For accountability of spiritual life - **Hebrews 13:17** Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

Ephesians 5:21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.

g. For partnering together in the work of God - **Hebrews 10:23-25** Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

h. For restoration of erring believers - **Galatians 6:1-2** Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

i. To corporately _____ God together - **Psalms 35:18** I will give You thanks in the great assembly; I will praise You among many people.

j. To support world wide effort of Evangelism and Discipleship.

4. Our participation in and support of the Local Church is a reflection of our spiritual maturity, showing that we understand the plan and purposes of God.