

**VICTORY FAMILY CENTRE  
LIFE IN THE WORD - LEVEL I  
FOUNDATIONS OF NEW LIFE I  
STUDENT'S NOTES**

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**LESSON 1    GOD IS (PART 1)**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. It has been said that 'Man is born religious'.
  
2. Man becomes like the God (or gods) they believe in and worship.
  
3. Do you see a connection between a person's belief and his way of living?

**I. THE EXISTENCE OF GOD**

A. Man's religious nature

Man always looks for someone or something to worship.

B. Man's moral nature

C. Cause and effect

The universe did not create itself; it is the effect, the cause is God.

D. Design

The creation is beautifully and wonderfully designed.

E. Purpose

Which of these proofs of the existence of God interests you the most? Why? Discuss.



## II. THE NATURE OF GOD

- A. John 4:24
- B. God is a Person although He is a Spirit.

God has all the characteristics of a person. He knows, feels, has the freedom of choice, and He is in control of what He does. Read **Psalm 94:9-10**.

## III. BASIC TRUTHS ABOUT GOD

- A. What are the basic truths God shows about Himself?
  - 1. The one true God (**Isaiah 43:10-11**).
  - 2. The everlasting "I Am" (**Exodus 3:13-14; John 8:58**).
  - 3. The Maker of heavens and earth (**Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 1:10-12**).
  - 4. The Saviour of man (**2 Corinthians 5:18-19**).
- B. God shows Himself in the Bible as one, but He is also three persons.  
Refer to **Deuteronomy 6:4, Matthew 28:19** and **Isaiah 43:10-11**.
- C. God created man and brought man back to Himself (**Genesis 1:27; 2 Corinthians 5:18a**).

How does this revelation make you feel?

## CONCLUSION

- 1. We believe that God exists.
- 2. We admit that God has the right to claim our lives.
- 3. We choose to serve and give glory to God who made us and brought us back to Himself.

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**LESSON 2    GOD IS (PART 2)**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. God is a Spirit, but He is also a Person. We can have a personal relationship with Him through our born-again spirit.
2. What kind of person is the God we Christians believe in and worship? This lesson will answer this question.

**WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS OUR GOD?**

- A. God is everlasting
  1. Read **Psalm 90:2**.

What does 'everlasting' mean?

How long is everlasting?
  2. What comfort can we get from the fact that our God is everlasting?
    - a. Our God will still be there after everything has come and gone.
    - b. We will live forever because we have everlasting life in Jesus Christ.
- B. God is all-powerful (**Genesis 17:1**)
  1. God can do anything, because even the laws of the universe is set by Him.
  2. Knowing that God is all-powerful should increase our faith in Him.
- C. God is infinite (without end) and Omnipresent (present everywhere) (**Psalm 139:7-10**)
  1. God is present everywhere at the same time.
  2. We cannot hide or get away from God's presence.
- D. God is unchanging (**Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8**)
  1. God is everlasting and He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.
  2. Our God does not need to change because He is perfect.



E. God is all-knowing (**Psalm 147:5**)

God knows even the deepest secrets of our hearts.

F. God is holy (**Isaiah 6:3**)

Even though He is perfect and holy, He still accepts us and loves us.

G. God is fair and righteous (**Deuteronomy 32:4**)

H. God is love (**1 John 4:8**)

The Bible says, "God is love".

How did God show His holiness and His love?

II. WHAT SHOULD BE OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS GOD?

A. God deserves our worship because of who He is (**John 4:24**).

1. We worship 'in spirit' when we allow His Spirit to cause our born-again spirit to worship Him truly from our hearts.
2. We worship God 'in truth' when we worship Him by what He shows us through His Word.

B. God deserves to be glorified in everything we say and do (**1 Corinthians 10:31**).

**CONCLUSION**

How can we become like our God whom we believe in and worship?

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**LESSON 3    GOD THE SON**

**INTRODUCTION**

We have learned in Lesson 1 that “God is one”, but He is also three persons showing Himself as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit i.e. the Trinity.

The second person of the Trinity is God the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ:

1. He is divine like the Father.
2. He exists together with the Father in eternity.
3. His person (who He is) and His works make up the central subject of the Bible.

**I.    THE ETERNITY OF JESUS CHRIST**

A.    **John 1:1**

B.    **Colossians 1:17**

1. Jesus Christ “is before all things”.
2. Jesus Christ does not have a beginning because He is not a created being.

Who alone is not made?

**II.   THE MEANING OF THE WORDS ‘JESUS CHRIST’**

A.    ‘Jesus’ is the Greek form of the Hebrew word ‘Jehoshua’ (Joshua).

**Matthew 1:21**

B.    ‘Christ’ is the Greek form of the Hebrew word ‘Messiah’.

**John 1:41**

**III.  THE INCARNATION OF JESUS CHRIST**

A.    Immanuel (God with us) - **Matthew 1:23**

Why did God the Son become a human being? (**John 1:1,14**)

B.    The God-Man



#### IV. THE WORK OF JESUS CHRIST

Jesus is Prophet, Priest and King.

##### A. Prophet

1. Compare these two verses - **Deuteronomy 18:15** and **Acts 7:37**.
2. What was the work of a prophet?

He spoke God's message to man.  
He pointed man to God (John 14:6).  
He also spoke about the future when it was God's message for the people.

##### B. Priest

What did a priest do? Read **Hebrews 8:1-3**.

1. He went to God on behalf of man and He spoke to God for men.
2. Jesus is both Priest and Lamb (the Priest's sacrifice).
3. **Romans 8:34**

##### C. King

Jesus rules as Lord in the hearts of all who receive Him as King. As a people who belongs to King Jesus, we have a duty and a hope:

1. Duty
  - a. To give Him glory and praise, to love Him and obey Him completely
  - b. to admit that He is the King in every area of our lives, to seek His kingdom first.
2. Hope

**Revelation 19:16; 11:15**

Christ's return is our 'blessed hope' (**Titus 2:13**).

#### V. MAN'S RELATIONSHIP TO JESUS CHRIST

There are only two choices regarding Jesus Christ. Either receive Him or reject Him.

Why did Pilate reject Jesus?

#### CONCLUSION

The greatest question that every human being must think about seriously is stated in this poem:

*What will you do with Jesus?  
Neutral you cannot be;  
Some day your heart will be asking,  
What will He do with me?*

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**LESSON 4    MAN'S CREATION AND FALL**

**INTRODUCTION**

Which is more intelligent to believe, that man was made by chance or that God made them?

**THE CREATION OF MAN**

A. The reason for man's creation

Why did God make man?

1. To serve Him?
  
2. To have a relationship with Him?

B. The Creation principles

1. Man was made good and righteous.

Read **Genesis 1:27**.

2. Man was made in the likeness of God.

Read **Genesis 1:26-27**.

In what way was God's image in the first man?

- a. Man had a choice -
- b. Man had a spiritual nature -
3. Man was created with great intelligence (**Genesis 2:19**).

**THE FALL OF MAN**

A. Reasons for the Fall

Read **Genesis 3:1-7**, find out how Satan tempted Eve, and why Adam and Eve sinned.

1. Satan:
  - a. Tempted Eve when she was alone.
  - b. Made her doubt the goodness of God
  - c.
  - d.





2. The nature of man's sin

a. Eve

- i. Doubted God's warning and His goodness.
- ii. Desired to live outside the control of God.
- iii.

b. Adam

He probably listened to Eve telling him what the serpent told her. He did not trust what God had told him.

B. The consequences of man's sin

Read **Genesis 3:8-19** to discover the five serious consequences of Adam and Eve's sin.

1. **V. 8** - Man's close relationship with God was broken.
2. **V. 10, 12** - Man was separated from God, and he began to experience fear, shame and guilt.
3. **V. 16** -
4. **V. 17-19** - The ground was cursed, and man had to work very hard all his life.
5. The eventual spiritual and physical death for Adam, Eve and all their children (**Romans 5:12; 6:23**).

## CONCLUSION

After the Fall, God took the first step to bring man back to Himself.

1. He called out to Adam, "Where are you?" (**Genesis 3:9**).
2. He made 'coats of skin' for Adam and Eve (**Genesis 3:21**).
3. Let's thank God for His marvellous salvation through His Son Jesus Christ.

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**LESSON 5 THE PROBLEM OF SIN**

**INTRODUCTION**

Why is sin a problem?

Three proofs of the presence of sin in man's life:

1. The witness of history -
2. The sense of right and wrong in man -
3. The witness of the Bible -

**I. THE NATURE OF SIN**

What does the Bible say about sin?

A. Not doing what God tells us to do.

1. Sin is either doing anything that is wrong or failing to do what is right.
2. The Bible calls sin 'transgression' (**Romans 4:15**) and 'lawlessness' (**1 John 3:4**).

B. Sin appears in two Forms.

1. Sin in action
2. Sin in the heart

Read **Mark 7:21-23**. Man is a sinner both in condition and by actions.

**II. SIN IS PRESENT EVERYWHERE AND IS FOUND IN EVERY PERSON**

A. No one can be free from the guilt of sin.

**Isaiah 53:6** and **Romans 6:22-23**

B. Every child is born with a nature to sin.

Read **Psalm 51:5**.

C. Sin is found in everyone (**Psalm 51:1-3**).

What should we do with our sin?



### III. THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

- A. Man's condition gets worse.

His desires are not pure and his spiritual sight is blinded. Read **Romans 1:29-32**.

- B. Man is condemned.

Read **Romans 6:23**.

Every sin committed has to be punished, the righteous judgement of God cannot be changed.

- C. Separation from God - death.

Read **Ephesians 2:1**.

God is holy, so He cannot have a relationship with people who are not holy.

### IV. THE ANSWER TO THE PROBLEM OF SIN

- A. Man is not able to resolve the problem of sin.

Man has tried in their own ways to remove this sinful nature by religion, good works or self-discipline. But it is a fruitless attempt, unless God intervenes.

- B. The only answer is through Jesus Christ.

Read **Hebrew 7:25**.

### CONCLUSION

Read **Romans 7:15-25**. To have victory over sin:

1. V. 17 & 24
2. V. 25

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**LESSON 6    REPENTANCE**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. The Bible's teaching on repentance is not often talked about today. Why?
2. Repentance is necessary for salvation. Why?

**I. THE MEANING OF REPENTANCE**

- A. Repentance means a change of mind.

Examples from the Bible:

**Matthew 21:28-29**

**Luke 15:17-18**

- B. Repentance is to be deeply sorry for our sins.

Read **Psalm 38:18**.

A person who repents before God is sorrowful because he has hurt God and sinned against Him.

- C. Repentance is to admit our sin to God (**Luke 18:13**).
- D. Repentance is to put away our sin (**Isaiah 55:7; John 8:11**).
- E. Repentance is to turn to God from sin (**Acts 26:18; 1 Thessalonians 1:9**).

**II. THE RESULTS OF REPENTANCE**

- A. Forgiveness

What does **Isaiah 55:7** say God will do if a person turns from his sins?

Read **Acts 3:19-20**, 2 things are promised to anyone who turns away from his sins:

- B. The Holy Spirit is promised to those who truly repent.

Read **Acts 2:38**.



### III. THE CALL TO REPENTANCE

All the world needs to repent. Statemen, scientists, clergymen, economists, and sociologists say that the future does not look very good for man. There are more killing, fighting, rape, robberies etc. everyday. Moral standards are becoming very low. Almost all men agree that hope for the future lies in bringing back spiritual values. The clear call of the hour is to repent.

1. Why doesn't the future look good for man?
  
2. What are the spiritual values we need to bring back?
  
3. How can we bring back these spiritual values?

#### A. National Repentance

Read **Psalm 9:17**.

National sins must be openly admitted and forsaken. No nation can get away from the judgement of God unless it repents.

#### B. Personal Repentance

Where do you think national repentance should begin?

### CONCLUSION

1. Read **2 Chronicles 7:14**.
  
2. Read **Matthew 7:3-5**.

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**LESSON 7 THE SAVIOUR**

**INTRODUCTION**

In Lesson 3, we learned about God the Son, Jesus Christ. We will study more about Jesus Christ in this lesson. We will look at the person and the passion of Jesus, His power and His presence.

Read **Matthew 11:28-29**.

**I. THE PERSON OF JESUS**

- A. The Son of God

Read **John 3:16**.

In what sense is Jesus the unique Son of God?

Read **John 5:16-19; 10:30**.

- B. The second person of the Trinity

Read **John 1:1,14**.

Jesus has existed in eternity before He became a human being.

- C. God-incarnate (**Matthew 1:23; John 1:1,14**)

Jesus is called 'Immanuel'.

**II. THE PASSION (DEATH) OF JESUS**

The purpose of His death:

- A. To save man from sin. Read **1 Peter 1:18-19**.

What was the price Christ paid to save us?

**Ephesians 1:7**

- B. To bring man back to God.

Read **Romans 5:10**.

1. Why do we need to be united again with God?
2. How can we be united again with God?

- C. To destroy the works of the devil.

1. Who is the enemy of God and man?
2. How did Christ destroy the works of the devil?

Read **1 John 3:8** and **Hebrews 2:14**.



D. To destroy the devil.

The final destruction of Satan is yet to come, but as Christians we have power (in Christ) over the devil.

### III. HIS POWER

Jesus had and still has the power:

- A. To heal sicknesses (**Matthew 8:14-15**).
- B. To cast out demons (**Matthew 8:16**).
- C. To forgive sins (**Mark 2:5-12**).
- D. To answer prayer (**John 14:13-14**).
- E. To keep us from falling into sin (**Jude 24-25**).
- F. To save “to the end” (**Hebrew 7:25**).
- G. He has “all power in heaven and on earth” (**Matthew 28:18**).

### IV. HIS PRESENCE

- A. His presence in us (**Ephesians 3:17; Revelation 3:20**).
- B. His presence with us (**Matthew 28:19-20**).
- C. His presence among us (**Matthew 18:20**).

### CONCLUSION

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**LESSON 8     SALVATION**

**INTRODUCTION**

Let us turn to the Bible for the answers to four basic questions about salvation.

**I.    WHY IS SALVATION NEEDED?**

Everyone needs salvation. Why?

A.    Because of sin

Read **Romans 3:10, 23**.

All of us have sinned against God, this makes it necessary for us to be saved.

B.    The result of sin

Read **Romans 6:23**. Death is separation from God and in hell forever.

Read **Matthew 25: 41, 46** and **Revelation 21:8**.

Hell awaits all who are not saved!

**II.    WHAT IS SALVATION?**

A.    Salvation is to be saved from:

1.    The punishment of sin

Read **John 5:24** and **Romans 8:1**.

Christ took the punishment of our sins on the cross.

2.    The power of sin

Read **Romans 6:14, 7:21-25** and **8:1-3**.

The tendency to sin does not control us, Christ who is in us saves us from the power of sin.

3.    The presence of sin

Read **Hebrews 9:28**.

There is no sin in heaven.





B. Salvation is new life in Christ

1. Spiritual life

Read **1 John 5:12**.

2. Abundant life

Read **John 10:10**.

3. New life

Read **2 Corinthians 5:17**.

### III. HOW CAN WE BE SAVED?

A. Not by what we do.

Read **Titus 3:5**. Religious works and good works cannot save us.

B. But by faith in Jesus Christ.

1. Salvation is by God's mercy alone.

2. Read **Ephesians 2:8-9**.

3. **Acts 16:31** - Believing and trusting Jesus as our Saviour and Lord.

### IV. WHEN SHOULD A PERSON BE SAVED?

A. Now is the best time.

Read **2 Corinthians 6:2**.

B. Procrastination is dangerous.

Satan wants people to put off salvation so that they will not be ready for heaven when they die.

Read **Proverbs 27:1; 29:1**.

C. The Holy Spirit is speaking to us now.

Read **Hebrews 3:7-8**.

When God's Spirit urged people to accept Christ as their Saviour but they didn't listen to His voice, their hearts would become hardened.

### CONCLUSION

*"The Lord is my light and my salvation. Whom will I fear?" (Psalm 27:1)*

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**LESSON 9     ASSURANCE OF SALVATION**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Not all Christians are sure of their salvation. Why?
  
2. But God wants all Christians to be sure of their salvation by relying on His word:
  - a. Fact - Christ died for my sins and He rose again.
  - b. Faith -
  - c. Feeling -

**I. THE MEANING OF ASSURANCE**

- A. Assurance is to know for sure in our mind and spirit that we have salvation and do not doubt.
  
- B. Read **2 Timothy 1:12**.

**II. THE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION**

- A. The promise of God

Read **John 6:37**, and answer these questions:

1. Have you come to Jesus?
2. Did Jesus reject you?
3. If Jesus did not reject you, do you believe Jesus has accepted you?
4. Are you saved if Jesus has accepted you?

- B. The love of God

Read **Romans 8:31-39**.

- C. The keeping power of God

Read **1 Peter 1:5** and **Jude 24-25**.

All God asks us to do is to trust and depend on Him.

- D. The witness of the Holy Spirit

Read **Romans 8:16**. God's Spirit confirms to our spirit that we are God's children.



### III. THE AREAS OF ASSURANCE

A. Salvation itself

Read **Isaiah 12:2**.

B. Eternal life

Read **1 John 5:13**.

C. God has chosen us

Read **1 Thessalonians 1:4**.

### IV. THE EFFECTS OF ASSURANCE

A. Praises to God

B. Love towards others

Read **1 John 3:14, 5:1**.

C. Witness with conviction

Read **1 Thessalonians 1:5**.

D. Confidence and hope

Read **Hebrews 3:6,14; 10:35**.

### CONCLUSION

Name the three Fs of assurance from memory.

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**LESSON 10    BAPTISM IN WATER**

**INTRODUCTION**

Water baptism is commanded in the Bible.

We will see in this lesson what the Bible says about baptism in water by answering five simple questions about this command.

**I.    WHO ORDERED BAPTISM IN WATER?**

A.    Jesus

Read Matthew **28:18-20**.

- a. It was the Lord who ordered water baptism; therefore all believers must be baptised.
- b. Water baptism is an act of obedience to the Lord.

B.    Apostles

Read **Acts 2:41**.

The apostles carried out the Lord's command to baptise new Christians.

**II.   WHO SHOULD BE BAPTISED?**

A.    True believers only

Read **Acts 2:37-38, 41**.

Those who turn away from their sins and accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

B.    Pre-believers cannot be baptised

C.    Babies are not to be baptised

Babies do not have the ability to understand and therefore accept the Gospel.



### III. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF WATER BAPTISM?

- A. Through baptism, the believer is joined with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection.

Read **Romans 6:3-4** and **Colossians 2:12**.

In baptism, the believer openly declares that: he died with Christ, he was buried with Christ, and he has risen to new life in Christ.

So, water baptism is the public witness of a believer that he is a part of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.

Every believer should be taught what repentance, faith and putting himself under the Lordship of Jesus Christ are before he is baptised in water.

- B. It also represents the believer's desire to be a part of the Body of Christ, especially the local church.

Read **Acts 2:41**. To enter into a relationship with Jesus Christ is also to enter into a relationship with His Body, the church.

### IV. WHAT IS THE BIBLICAL WAY OF BAPTISM?

- A. Sprinkling or pouring

- B. Immersion

Read **Mark 1:9-11** and **Acts 8:36-39**.

1. These verses teach baptism by immersion.
2. The meaning of the word 'baptise' -
3. Immersion shows most clearly what baptism really means -

### V. HOW SHOULD A PERSON BE BAPTISED?

Read **Matthew 28:19**.

### CONCLUSION

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**LESSON 11 TESTIMONY**

**INTRODUCTION**

One of our first responsibilities as Christian is to tell others about Christ and our relationship with Him.

**I. THE CONTENT OF OUR TESTIMONY**

A. The resurrected Christ

Read **Acts 2:32** and **3:14-15**.

1. Christ died for our sins and rose from death is the Gospel.
2. Our Saviour is alive and He is Lord over sicknesses, evil spirits and even death!

Read **Acts 2:33-36**. He is not only alive in heaven, but He is alive in our hearts!

B. The Saviour Christ

Christ is doing His work in people's lives to save and to transform.

1. Christ's work in us.

Read **1 John 1:7, 9**.

2. Christ's work through us.

Jesus can help others through us only if we give ourselves to Him and allow Him to use us in the way He wants to.

3. Christ's work for us.

a. **John 14:13-14**

b. **Matthew 6:31-33**

**II. HOW DO WE SHARE OUR TESTIMONY?**

Read **Acts 1:8**. We are witnesses for the Lord through the things we say and do.

A. Through our words

1. We share our testimony in line with the Word of God.
2. We share truthfully.
3. We keep our testimony short and centred on God.
4. We share with enthusiasm.



B. Through our life

1. By our clean and changed life.

Read **2 Corinthians 5:17**.

2. At home and outside our home.

3. Separation from sin.

4. Love for other Christian brothers and sisters. Read **John 13:35**.

5. Commitment to Christ and His work.

Value Christ and His work more than money, position or success.

6. By our death.

Read **Revelation 12:11**.

- a. Thousands of Christians lost their lives in the first 300 years of the Church to stay faithful to Christ.
- b. God will give us the strength to go through such experience if He allows it.

### III. THE RESULTS OF OUR TESTIMONY

- A. Point or direct others to Christ
- B. Encourage believers like us
- C. Build up our own faith
- D. Bring glory to God

### CONCLUSION

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**LESSON 12 TITHING**

**INTRODUCTION**

Who should pay for what it costs to take care of the church and to share the Gospel?

Tithing is not only a responsibility God gives, but it is also His way to bless and prosper His people.

**I. THE PRINCIPLES OF TITHING**

Tithing becomes a natural part of our life when we accept these principles:

- A. God is the owner of everything.

Read **Psalm 24:1, Psalm 50:10-12** and **Haggai 2:8**.

God owns the world and everything in it, including all the money. He is also the One who gives us strength and ability to earn money.

- B. Christians are only managers of God's properties.

Read **1 Corinthians 4:2**. God expects us to be faithful to Him as His managers.

- C. Every Christian must be found faithful as God's manager.

Read **Matthew 25:14-28**.

We are accountable to God on how we spend the money He has provided.

**II. THE PROMISES OF GOD TO THOSE WHO PAY TITHES**

Read **Malachi 3:8-10**, three things are clear from these verses:

- A. Those who don't pay tithes are robbing God.
- B. Those who don't pay tithes are cursed.
- C. God has promised blessings to those who pay tithes.

**III. HOW TO TITHE?**

- A. How much do we tithe?

We tithe 10% of everything we earn or receive.

- B. What is the difference between 'tithes' and 'offerings'?

Tithes is a fixed percentage based on what we have but offerings can be any amount we give after we paid our tithes.

- C. Where should we bring our tithes to?

The Lord said that we are to bring our tithes to 'His house', read **Malachi 3:10**.

Christians today pay their tithes to the church they go to.





D. When should we tithe and give our offerings?

Read **1 Corinthians 16:2**.

E. What should our attitude be when we pay our tithes and give our offerings?

Read **2 Corinthians 9:7**.

#### IV. SOME PROBLEMS ON TITHING

A. Fear that people would not like it.

B. The law and grace issue

Some people think that Christians do not have to pay tithes because we are no longer under the law, but under grace.

1. However, the people of God in **Genesis 14:17-20** and **28:22** paid tithes before the law was given by Moses.
2. Jesus, through whom grace came, talked about tithing in **Matthew 23:23**.

C. Love of money

The love of money stops many believers from paying tithes (**2 Corinthians 8:9**).

D. When a wife is Christian but her husband is not.

E. Borrowing one's tithes

Read **Leviticus 27:30-31**.

#### CONCLUSION

Someone said, "Money is the 'acid test' of a man's character".