

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

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**VICTORY FAMILY CENTRE
FOUNDATIONS OF NEW LIFE II
TEACHER'S GUIDE**

Welcome to your guide to Foundations 2. We hope that this Teacher's Guide will be useful to you as you teach your disciple this second series of 12 lessons on Basic Christian Doctrines and Practices (Part 2). This course is a follow up to Foundations 1.

COURSE OVERVIEW

The lessons in the Foundations 2 course can be broadly divided into three distinct units:

- Christian living
- Key doctrines
- Practical Christianity

As you teach each lesson, keep these units in mind and the overall big picture of Foundations 1 to 4.

	LESSON THEMES	LESSONS
FOUNDATIONS 1	Basic Christian Doctrines and Practices (Part 1)	
FOUNDATIONS 2	Christian living	1 - 4
	Key doctrines	5 - 9
	Practical Christianity	10 - 12
FOUNDATIONS 3	Principles of Witnessing	
FOUNDATIONS 4	Principles of Discipling	

Table 1: Breakdown of lessons and themes in Foundations 2.



LESSON OVERVIEW

In each lesson, there will be key concepts that you want your disciples to learn and apply. Bear in mind that some of these concepts can be abstract since they deal with the spiritual and not the natural.

	LESSON	KEY CONCEPT(S)	KEY APPLICATION(S)
CHRISTIAN LIVING	1: The Bible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The content, writer and values of the Bible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bible gives life to those who receive it. We should turn to God's Word daily so that we can grow in our relationship with Him and to be more like Him.
	2: Prayer (Part 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reason for prayer The way we pray 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We can communicate with God through prayer. God hears and answers our prayer when we pray in faith.
	3: Prayer (Part 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forms of prayer Hindrances to prayer Promises of God on prayer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are things in our lives that can stop us from receiving an answer to our prayers.
	4: My Responsibilities in the Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of the church The privileges of being a part of the church Our responsibilities in the church 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are the church. We need to take on responsibilities in the church willingly in order to grow as a Christian.
KEY DOCTRINES	5: Sanctification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meaning and source of sanctification The proof of sanctification The process of sanctification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We need to allow God to sanctify us so that we can become more like Christ.
	6: Baptism in the Holy Spirit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definition of baptism in the Holy Spirit Evidence and effects of baptism in the Holy Spirit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We can receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit if we desire it earnestly.
	7: Divine Healing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Divine healing is a part of the Gospel message Divine healing is the privilege of every believer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We can pray for divine health and healing physically and spiritually.
KEY DOCTRINES	8: Living by Faith	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faith is the means through which we receive salvation and grow in our relationship with God 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We need to choose to live by faith every day and allow God to stretch our faith.



	LESSON	KEY CONCEPT(S)	KEY APPLICATION(S)
	9: The Second Coming of Christ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The promise and purpose of the Second Coming of Christ • Our response in light of His coming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can have hope because Christ is coming back again.
PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY	10: Winning Others to Christ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The biblical command of witnessing • Preparation to be an effective witness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need to share about what Christ has done to others so they can receive the same blessings that we have experienced.
	11: Temptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The definition, source and reason for temptation • Our response to temptation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temptations will come but we have the power to overcome them with God's help.
	12: The Life of Victory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The divine standard of victory • The divine ways for a believer to have victory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When we do our part, we can have divine victory through Christ.



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LESSON 1 THE BIBLE

INTRODUCTION

The Bible:

1. Tells us all about God,
2. Is divine truth,
3. Is our guide to everlasting life.

I. CONTENT OF THE BIBLE

- A. The Bible is made up of 66 books. They are divided into 2 parts - the Old Testament and the New Testament.
 1. The Old Testament has 39 books and the New Testament has 27 books.
 2. Testament means agreement. There must be at least 2 persons or groups in an agreement. Here, it is an agreement between God and man. God sealed both testaments with blood. The Old Testament was sealed with the blood of animals (sacrifices), and the New Testament was sealed with the blood of Christ who died on the cross.
- B. The main subject of the Bible is Christ. Christ is the centre of the Bible. God's main purpose when He gave man the Bible is to lead him to Jesus Christ and be saved.

II. WRITER OF THE BIBLE

- A. Writer of the Bible is the Holy Spirit.
- B. Question: How did the Holy Spirit write the Bible?
Answer: The Holy Spirit inspired more than 40 human writers to write the Bible.
- C. What does 'inspire' mean?
 1. To 'inspire' means to 'breathe on'. The Bible is the inspiration of God, so it is the breath of God.
 2. The Holy Spirit inspired the writers by controlling their thoughts and judgements but allowing them to write in a way that expresses their own personal style and character.
 3. The Bible states that it is inspired. **(2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21)**
 4. The Bible is 'verbally and plenary' inspired. 'Verbally' means even the words the writers used are from God. 'Plenary' means the complete Bible is from God.



III. VALUES OF THE BIBLE

It is good for us to read and study the Bible because:

A. Read **James 1:22-24**.

The Bible shows us who we truly are.

It is like an X-ray instrument that shows us the true condition of our heart and mind.

B. Read **Ephesians 5:26**.

The Bible cleanses us.

It shows us our true spiritual condition and directs us to Jesus Christ who makes us clean.

C. Read **Psalms 119:105**.

The Bible is like a lamp or light that guides us.

We need God's light to show us the way so that we can stand strong and not fall into sin.

The Bible also helps us to be a light that guides others when we share the Word of God with them.

D. Read **Hebrews 5:12-14**.

The Bible feeds us and causes us to grow.

We become what we eat. Therefore, we must always feed ourselves with God's Word so that we can be spiritually healthy.

E. Read **Psalms 19:10**.

The Bible makes us rich in our spiritual lives.

We can be rich in love, joy, peace and strength, and grow to be like Christ through feeding on and practising the Word of God.

F. Read **James 1:18** and **1 Peter 1:23**.

The Bible gives life.

There is spiritual life in the Word of God. His Word grows into life when received by those who believe it.

CONCLUSION

Encourage the student to read and study the Word of God daily and make it a part of his prayer life.

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LESSON 2 PRAYER (PART 1)

INTRODUCTION

Prayer is communion with our God. He speaks to us through His Word, the Bible, Sunday messages, and we talk to the Lord in prayer.

I. WHY DO WE PRAY TO GOD?

A. We pray to God (**Hebrews 11:6**) because:

1. He exists.
2. He is fair and righteous.

B. God desires to answer our prayers (**Jeremiah 33:3**).
He has invited us to call on Him and has promised to answer us.

C. God cares about us and our needs (**1 Peter 5:7**).
He proved it when He gave His Son Jesus Christ to die on the cross for our sins.

Question: How do we give our worries to God?

Answer: Through prayer, someone said, 'The problem is ours before we pray, but it belongs to God after we have prayed'.

D. We need God's help (**John 15:5**).
We are limited in our human intelligence and abilities. One way to seek the help of God is through prayer.

II. HOW DO WE PRAY?

We must practise the following ways to be effective in prayer.

A. Pray to God the Father (**Matthew 6:9**).

This is the right way; our Lord Jesus taught His followers to pray to our Father in heaven.

B. Pray in the name of Jesus (**John 14:6, 13-14**).

Question: What does it mean to pray in the name of Jesus?

Answers:

1. It means to pray in the authority of Jesus that has been given to us. None of us can go to God in our own name or authority.
2. It means we have to depend on Jesus Christ to bring us to God (**1 Timothy 2:5**).
Jesus is the only one who can come between God and man to bring man to God



C. Pray in the Spirit (**Jude 20; Romans 8:26-27**).

Question: How do we pray in the Spirit?

We have to:

1. Depend on the Holy Spirit to show us what to pray, to give us the strength to pray, and to guide us in our prayer.
2. Give our mind and our born-again spirit completely to the Holy Spirit when we pray. The Holy Spirit knows the mind of God, we don't.
3. Ask the Holy Spirit to pray through us when we don't know what or how to pray as we should.

D. Pray in the will of God (**1 John 5:14-15**).

Someone said that every prayer can be answered except that which is not in the will of God.

We must remember 2 things if we want to pray in the will of God:

1. We must know whether that which we pray is God's will for us (**James 4:3**).
2. We must put ourselves under God's will after we know what His will is. Only then we are praying in the will of God (**Matthew 26:42**).

E. Pray in faith and believe (**James 1:6**).

1. Faith is to trust God and be very sure that He will hear and answer our prayer when we pray in the way He teaches us to pray in His Word.
2. Faith in prayer is to believe that God is able to do much more than all we might ask or think (**Ephesians 3:20**).

F. Pray truly from the heart.

Question: Read **Luke 6:12**, what can we learn from the fact that the Son of God Himself prayed all night?

Answer: This example teaches us that we need to spend time and effort in prayer. This is true prayer that comes from the heart.

G. Not to pray as an outward show (**Matthew 6:5**).

True prayer is not an outward show. It is a time to seek God, not ourselves, and a time to honour God, not ourselves.

CONCLUSION

Share one or two testimonies on answers to prayer with the student. Then ask the student if he/she has any need to pray about. Lead in the prayer.

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LESSON 3 PRAYER (PART 2)

INTRODUCTION

Go through quickly with the student what he/she has learnt from the last lesson.

Based on the first part of last lesson, ask, "Why do we pray?".

Based on the second part of last lesson, ask, "Which of the 7 teachings on prayer gave you the deepest impression?".

I. THE DIFFERENT FORMS OF PRAYER

- A. Adoration
We go to God with praise and worship, and we give Him honour and glory because of who He is.
- B. Confession
We go to God to admit our sins (1 John 1:9).
- C. Gratitude
This is to express our thanks to God for what He has done for us through the saving work of His Son. We thank Him for all His blessings, for who He is to us - Father, Friend, Saviour and Comforter etc.
- D. Petition
God already knew our every need; may it be big or small. But He loves to see us go to Him with our needs.

Note: This is not a fixed prayer pattern, but a good example to follow - worship God first, admit any known sin, thank Him, and then tell Him our needs.

II. THE PROBLEMS OF PRAYER

Turn to the following Bible verses one at a time, read them and explain.

A. **Isaiah 59:1-2**

Iniquity is another word for sin. 'Sin' is going against God and His Word. God will not answer our prayer if there is sin in our life, unless we admit and turn away from it.

B. **James 4:3**

The motive of our prayer is very important. The prayer may be right but the reason behind the prayer may be wrong. For example, it is alright to ask God for material blessing, but God will not answer our prayer if our purpose is to satisfy our pride or other desires of our sinful nature.

At times, we may not know that the motive of our prayer is wrong, so we should ask the Holy Spirit to show us when we pray.



C. **Ezekiel 14:3**

What is an idol? Many think that it is just an image that man made, but an idol is actually any person or thing that we care about and love more than God.

We cannot have idols in our life and expect God to answer our prayers.

III. THE PROMISES OF GOD ON PRAYER

A. We become children of God after we received Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour (**John 1:12**). God answers our prayer because we are His children.

B. Does God always answer prayer?

Yes, He always does.

Sometimes His answer is "Yes", sometimes it is "No", and at times it is "Wait".

God knows what is best for us, so we also thank Him for the "No" and "Wait" answers to our prayers.

C. Look at three examples of answered prayers in the Bible.

1. **1 Kings 3:6-14**

Solomon asked God for wisdom to rule his people, and God gave it to him.

2. **2 Kings 19:14-36**

King Hezekiah asked God to defeat Sennacherib, and God did.

3. **2 Corinthians 12:7-10**

Paul asked God 3 times to take away the 'thorn in his flesh', but God answered that His grace is sufficient for Paul to bear the 'thorn'.

God may answer "No" to our prayer for good reason, and He will give us the grace to accept the "No" answer.

IV. THE PERFECT PRAYER

Read **Matthew 6:9-13**, this prayer that the Lord taught is divided into 2 parts:

A. **V. 9-10**

This part expresses God's holiness, authority and power, and it gives glory to God.

B. **V. 11-13**

This part is requests for God to supply our material and spiritual needs.

Note: This perfect prayer teaches us that we should worship the Lord, and our prayer must be about God first of all. Prayer for needs should come after we have honoured God.

CONCLUSION

Go over the main points quickly and ask the student if he/she has any question or something to share. Close in prayer.

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LESSON 4 MY RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

Responsibilities are a part of privileges.

Examples:

1. It is a privilege to be Singaporeans, but there are responsibilities that come with being Singaporeans.
2. It is a privilege to be a Christian, but there are responsibilities that come with being a member of the body of Christ.

I. NATURE OF THE CHURCH

The church is not a building, it is a body (group) of believers.

A. The church is an organism (**Colossians 1:18; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13**).

1. Christ gives life to the church.
2. We cannot really join the church. Holy Spirit is the one who puts us into the body of Christ. The Holy Spirit did this when we accepted Christ and was given new life.
3. We get our directions from Christ because He is the Head of the church.

B. The church is an organisation (**Ephesians 4:11-13**).

1. Leaders in the church do not put themselves into positions. Christ is the one who chooses them to be leaders of the church and put them in positions.
2. Leaders in the church have different gifts and ministries to meet the different needs of the believers.
3. The chief leader of a local church is the Pastor.
4. Leaders and believers in a local church work toward the same purpose.

To build up the believers in the faith, and to get them ready for the work of the ministry that Christ has given to the church.

This work is to spread the Gospel to all the world and make them followers of Christ.



II. PRIVILEGES OF BEING A PART OF THE CHURCH

- A. The church is both universal and local.
1. The universal church is made up of all the people in the world who have accepted Christ as their Saviour and Lord. It does not matter which denomination* they come from.
 2. A local church is made up of the people who live in the same area, who have agreed to come together as a group, because of their common faith in Christ and their desire to serve God.
- Every true Christian must be an active member of a local body of believers.
- B. The privileges of being a member of the local church.
1. The Word of God is consistently taught in the local churches.
 2. Believers can regularly come together to praise and worship the Lord and enjoy a relationship with one another.
 3. Believers can encourage and build up one another in the Lord like a big family.
 4. Activities can be organised so that believers can serve the Lord together and learn more about the Lord together.
 5. Love and care shown by the pastor to the believers and by the believers to one another.
 6. There is also discipline in the body of Christ. A believer can be corrected in love when he did something wrong, so that he can grow in Christ.

III. OUR RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE CHURCH

- A. We are to love the body of Christ (**Ephesians 5:25**).
- Question: How did Christ show His love for us, the church?
- Answer: He died on the cross for us. So, we must be willing to sacrifice for the body of Christ if necessary.
- B. We have to attend the church services regularly as the Word of God tells us to (**Hebrews 10:25**).
- Think of the reasons why you attend church services and share them with your student.
- C. God has created us to serve Him in the body of Christ in whatever way He asks us to, and in whatever way we can (**Ephesians 2:10**).



- D. We are to support the body of Christ financially with our tithes and offerings (**Malachi 3:10; Mark 12:41-44**).
- E. All Christians should be a good example to one another, and also to those pre-believers (**1 Timothy 4:12**).
- F. There may be brothers and sisters in the Lord who are weak spiritually and need our help. There may also be believers in our midst who have physical and financial needs.

We should help in whatever way we can (**Galatians 6:2**).

- G. Learn from the faithful teaching and conduct of our church leaders and obey them. We should put ourselves under their authority (**Hebrews 13:7, 17**).

Sometimes we may not like the leader or pastor, but still we must put ourselves under their authority because Christ has put them in position as the pastor or leader over us.

- H. Pastors would become better and more effective leaders if the church members pray for them.

Feedback/comments that can help the pastors become better leaders are good; but criticism that is meant to destroy not only harm the pastor, but also the church (**2 Thessalonians 3:1-2; Hebrews 13:18**).

CONCLUSION

One of the signs of a growing Christian is he is willing and able to take responsibilities in both his natural and spiritual life.

May the Lord help us to become responsible members of His Church.

Footnotes

Denomination Christians who belong to a certain group for example, Baptist, Methodist or Anglican, Charismatic.

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LESSON 5 SANCTIFICATION

INTRODUCTION

Question: How do you feel if someone called you a saint?

Answer: We should not feel embarrassed because Christians were called saints in the New Testament.

Read **2 Corinthians 1:1** and **Philippians 1:1**.

I. THE MEANING OF SANCTIFICATION

To sanctify means to separate, to make pure, to be set apart, to be made free from sin.

For Christians, it means to be separated from sin to obey God, and to become more like Christ.

II. THE SOURCE OF SANCTIFICATION

Sanctification does not come from the church, and it is not the leaders of the church who sanctify the believers.

Only God the Father (**Jude 1**), Jesus Christ the Son (**Hebrews 13:12**), and the Holy Spirit (**1 Corinthians 6:11**) can sanctify us.

III. THE PURPOSE OF SANCTIFICATION (COLOSSIANS 3:5-14)

A. We still have the old sinful nature in us. God wants us to choose to put away the sinful activities of our old nature.

B. God wants us to live out the new nature that Christ gives to us.

IV. THE PROOF OF SANCTIFICATION (GALATIANS 5:22-23)

A. Love, joy and peace can be seen outwardly only when they first exist in a person.

B. Patience, kindness and goodness have to do with a person's relationship with other people.

Patience speaks of his relationship with man. Kindness is a person's attitude in life, and goodness speaks of his character.

Faith, meekness and self-control have to do with a person's relationship with God.

Faith speaks of a person's will and heart. Meekness is the attitude of a person's heart, and self-control speaks of his actions.



V. THE PROCESS OF SANCTIFICATION

A. John 17:17

God uses His Word to show us our sins and to point us to Christ.

B. 1. Prayer and worship

This is our direct communion with the Holy God.

2. Preaching of the Word of God

This will build up our faith.

3. Fellowship with other believers

This will help us strengthen our faith and will lead us toward sanctification.

C. Hebrews 12:10

God disciplines us to sanctify us, just like an earthly father who disciplines his child when the child does something wrong.

For example, God sometimes allows problems or sufferings to mould us into the person He wants us to be.

D. 2 Corinthians 6:17

But it is up to us to separate ourselves from sin so that we can be sanctified.

CONCLUSION

The goal of sanctification is to become like Christ in our holiness.

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LESSON 6 BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

INTRODUCTION

Read **Matthew 28:19** and **Luke 3:16**.

There are 2 main differences between the baptism in the Holy Spirit and the baptism in water.

1. Believers are baptised in water in the water baptism, but they are baptised in the Holy Spirit in the Holy Spirit baptism.
2. Christian leader is the one who helps a believer get baptised in water, but Jesus Christ is the one who baptises a believer in the Holy Spirit.

Ask the student to read the questions in his/her notes and the answers are as follow:

A. Luke 24:49

What did Jesus call the baptism in the Holy Spirit?

Jesus called the baptism in the Holy Spirit 'the Father's promise', and He said this power is from God.

B. Acts 1:4-5

How do we know the baptism in the Holy Spirit is important and necessary for Christian to receive?

We know the Holy Spirit baptism is important and necessary, because Jesus ordered His followers to wait in Jerusalem 'for the Father's promise' ie. the Holy Spirit.

C. Acts 1:8

For whom is the Holy Spirit baptism? What power does it give them?

Jesus was speaking to His followers in this verse, so the Holy Spirit baptism is for all the followers of Christ.

The baptism in the Holy Spirit gives the 'power from God' that Jesus promised in **Luke 24:49**.

This power gives the believers the supernatural ability to witness for Jesus.

D. Acts 2:4; 10:44-48; 19:1-7 What was the common experience of those who were baptised in the Holy Spirit?

We can see from all these verses that 'speaking in other languages' is the common experience of all those baptised in the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we believe that even today, the first physical proof that a believer is baptised in the Holy Spirit is when he 'speaks in other languages'.

We do not teach people 'how to' speak in other languages. Holy Spirit is the one who gives those baptised the ability to speak in an unknown language as they give their mind and tongue completely to the Holy Spirit.



E. **Acts 2:36-39**

Whom did Peter preach about?

Peter preached about Jesus Christ who died on the cross but was raised to life by God, this is the Gospel. Peter became a powerful witness for Christ after the Holy Spirit baptism in **Acts 2:4**.

F. **Acts 2:37**

What was the effect of Peter's message on those who heard him?

The listeners were greatly troubled in their hearts when they heard Peter's anointed message. The Holy Spirit convicted them of their sins.

G. **Acts 2:38**

What did Peter tell those who were convicted to do?

Peter told them to repent i.e. to admit and turn away from their sins, and to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

H. **Acts 2:38**

What gift will those who repented receive?

Besides the forgiveness of sins, Peter said that those who repented will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The gift of the Holy Spirit (the baptism in the Holy Spirit) is a separate experience, to be received only after the sinner has repented and his sins are forgiven.

I. How do we know 'the promise' that Peter talked about in **Acts 2:39** is the baptism in the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit baptism is called 'the Father's promise' in **Acts 1:4-5** and **Luke 24:49**. So we know 'the promise' in **Acts 2:39** is also talking about the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

J. How do we know that the Holy Spirit baptism is not only for the Apostles and the early Christians but also for us today?

We know that the Holy Spirit baptism is for us today because it is stated in **Acts 2:39**. Ask the student to read it.

K. **Luke 11:9-13**

How can we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit?

We must know 3 things clearly so that we can receive the gift of the Holy Spirit:

1. We must be sure that God is our Heavenly Father. This means that we must accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour (**John 1:12-13**) and be born again (**John 3:3**).
2. We must know and believe that God our Heavenly Father wants to give us the Holy Spirit when we ask Him (**Luke 11:13**).
3. All we have to do is to ask the Father for the Holy Spirit. We don't have to work for the gift or to beg for the Holy Spirit. Just ask in faith and receive.

CONCLUSION

Ask the Lord Jesus to baptise you in the Holy Spirit if you have not been baptised. Then pray with the student, so that he can receive the Holy Spirit baptism too.

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LESSON 7 DIVINE HEALING

INTRODUCTION

The Bible teaches that there is healing for our spirit, soul and body. Divine healing is for the believers today.

Some people say that miracles were for the believers of long ago. But we believe the same Jesus who healed the sick 2000 years ago still heals people today.

I. DIVINE HEALING IS PART OF THE GOSPEL

A. Matthew 8:16-17

1. Sickness is a result of sin that Satan brought about.
2. Christ came to set people free from Satan's kingdom into the Kingdom of God.
3. Healing sickness was one-way Jesus set people free from Satan's power. Jesus still does that today.

The main point of Jesus' message was 'The Kingdom of God'.

He taught His 12 followers to preach the Kingdom of God and heal those who were sick when He sent them out. Read **Luke 9:1-2**.

B. Mark 16:15-20

1. The Lord told us in His word that one of the signs that will follow the believers of the Gospel is:

When they place their hands on the sick people, they will become well.

2. The Gospel is for all time, from the beginning of the church until Jesus comes again.

So, we can expect healing to happen wherever and whenever the Gospel is preached and believed.

3. The Gospel heals both physical body and soul.

Those who do not believe in healing cannot prove from any part of the Bible that what they say is true.

4. **Mark 16:20** is still true today.

Jesus Christ is still working with His people when they preach the Gospel. He does miracles and heals the sick to prove that what His people preach is the truth.



II. DIVINE HEALING IS GIVEN TO US IN THE ATONEMENT

- A. Atonement is the death of Christ on the cross to save men from sin and death.
1. Healing is part of the atonement because Jesus' death is to bring salvation to a person's spirit, soul and body.
 2. We believe that healing is part of the atonement because Jesus is the atonement.
 3. We depend completely on the finished work of Christ on the cross when we pray for the sick to be healed.
- B. Read **Isaiah 53:4-5** and **1 Peter 2:24-25**.

Some people said that the healing that Isaiah and Peter said in these verses is spiritual healing, not physical healing. This is just human reasoning, not what the Bible is teaching.

God cares for us and wants to heal the complete person in us, that is our body, soul and spirit. So, we believe that the finished work of Christ is for both our spiritual and physical healing.

III. DIVINE HEALING IS THE PRIVILEGE OF EVERY BELIEVER

- A. Even Christians fall sick. Read **James 5:14-17**.
- B. The believers of early church prayed for those believers who were sick.
- C. The kind of prayer that will make a sick person well is done in faith (**James 5:15**).
- D. A believer must confess and repent of his sin, so that God can forgive him if it was sin that caused him to be sick (**1 John 1:9**).

There are times when we have to first confess our sin to other Christians before God can heal our sickness. Personal grudges or bitterness can stop a believer from being made well.

A sick believer should confess to another believer what he has done wrong if the Holy Spirit leads him to do so. But be careful, we need the wisdom and guidance from the Holy Spirit for this.

CONCLUSION

1. We as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ today, can expect both divine healing and divine health.
2. The word for 'salvation' in the Hebrew and Greek languages includes both spiritual and physical healing.
3. Divine healing of the physical body is for us today.

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LESSON 8 LIVING BY FAITH

INTRODUCTION

Look at the Introduction in the Student's Notes and explain the spelling of F A I T H.

- ` F ' stands for Forsaking i.e. giving up
- ` A ' speaks of ALL the sins and idols in a person's life (**1 Thessalonians 1:9**).
- ` I ' refers to I, we, the believers.
- ` T ' stands for Trust
- ` H ' is Him, Jesus Christ, our Saviour (**Acts 16:30-31**).

All Christians live by faith. The Christian life is a life of continuous faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

I. WE RECEIVE GOD'S GIFT OF SALVATION BY FAITH

A. Read **Ephesians 2:8-9**, look at the words 'grace' and 'faith'.

1. Grace is God's blessings.
2. Faith is the hand that receives God's blessings to us.
3. God has given salvation as a free gift to everyone, but it must be received by faith.

B. Read **Romans 1:16**.

The Gospel is the power of God for salvation, but it is only for those who believe.

II. WE GROW IN OUR CHRISTIAN LIFE BY FAITH

A. Read **Romans 1:17**.

1. Salvation is by faith from the beginning to the end.
2. The same faith that saved us is the same faith that will help us stand strong to the end. Our faith becomes stronger as we grow in the Lord.

B. Read **Galatians 3:1-11**.

1. The problem with the Galatian Christians was, they started their Christian life by faith in Christ, but later began to believe (in false teaching) that they could grow in the Lord by keeping the law.
2. But no, we are not saved partly by grace and partly by law.
3. In the first and continuous experience of salvation, grace and law cannot mix together. Today there are also Christians who try to mix them.



III. WE PLEASE GOD BY FAITH

A. Read **Hebrews 11:6**.

1. It is clear from this verse that we must have faith to please God.
2. This faith is based on the belief that our God exists and that He is true and righteous.

B. Read **Hebrews 11:5**.

1. This is a good example of a man of faith. He believed the Lord and walked in His ways even though he lived in a sinful world.
2. No matter where we are and what our living conditions may be, we can walk in the Lord's way by faith, like Enoch.

IV. WE RECEIVE GOD'S ANSWER TO PRAYER BY FAITH

A. **Mark 11:24**

Question: How should we pray so that God will answer our prayers?

Answer: We must pray in faith and believe.

B. **James 1:5-6**

It is not how much or how long we pray that really counts, but it is how much we really believe God when we pray.

V. BY FAITH WE DO GOOD WORKS TO PROVE WE KNOW GOD

A. **James 1:27; 2:20-26**

True faith in God always shows itself in good works. For example, Abraham believed by faith, and he proved his faith by offering up his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice to God.

B. **Hebrews 6:10**

Questions: Does God really know what we do for Him? Does He know when we serve in the church and do good to our brothers and sisters in Christ?

Answer: Yes, He does, and He promised to reward us one day for all the good works we do because of our faith in Him.

CONCLUSION

Read **Galatians 2:20**. Living by faith is to allow Jesus Christ to live His life in and through us every day.

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LESSON 9 THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

INTRODUCTION

The condition of this world gets worse every day, but there is a 'blessed hope' for Christians. This hope is the second coming of Christ (**Hebrews 9:28**).

I. THE PROMISE OF HIS SECOND COMING

A. John 14:1-3

The Lord Jesus Christ Himself promised that He will return to take us with Him.

Illustration: When the Japanese took over Philippines, General Douglas McArthur promised his Filipino friends, "I will return". He did return and set Philippines free from the Japanese rule.

Christ is greater than McArthur, He will return as He has promised.

B. Acts 1:9-11

Two angels came and gave the same promise that Christ will return the same way He left the earth.

It comforts us to know that Jesus our Saviour will come again.

II. THE PURPOSE OF HIS SECOND COMING

A. Jesus will judge the works of the believers (Romans 14:10; 2 Corinthians 5:10**).**

It is the believer's work and not the believer himself who will be judged. Christ will judge our motives and faithfulness in serving Him, and not just how much we have done.

B. Jesus will establish His kingdom on earth for 1000 years (Luke 1:32-33; Revelation 20:1-6**).**

1. This will prove true the church's prayer in **Matthew 6:10** "Your Kingdom come..."
2. This will be a time of complete peace on earth because Christ will be the Ruler.

C. Jesus will judge the nations (Matthew 25:32, 46**).**

1. There are 2 kinds of people in the sight of God, the sheep (believers of God) and the goats (non-believers).

When Jesus returns, He will separate the believers from the non-believers forever.

D. Jesus will destroy death completely (1 Corinthians 15:24-26**).**

1. Christ conquered death when He rose from His death on the cross.
2. He will completely destroy death for the believers when He returns to give us new bodies that will never die.



- E. Jesus will complete His saving work in the believers (**Romans 8:23**).
 - 1. Now our bodies still become sick and will die one day.
 - 2. Paul was talking about the redemption of our bodies in this verse. It means that our bodies will rise from death or be changed when Christ returns.

III. THE PEOPLE WHO WILL MEET HIM AT HIS RETURN

A. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

- 1. People who are 'in Christ' i.e. those who believe in the Lord by faith. Some of the people would have already died, and the others still alive.
- 2. Christ will raise the bodies of the believers who have died, and they will be changed together with those believers who are still alive, and they will meet Christ 'in the air'.

B. 2 Timothy 4:8; Hebrews 9:28

Those who eagerly 'wait' are the believers who are ready to meet Christ. Every Christian should make himself/herself ready to meet Christ any time He returns.

IV. WHAT SHOULD WE BE DOING WHEN WE WAIT FOR HIS RETURN?

A. Mark 13:33; 14:38

- 1. Christ should find us watching (getting ready) and praying when He comes back. Watching and praying will prepare us for His second coming.
- 2. We must be busy doing the Lord's work while we watch and pray (**Luke 19:13 and Acts 1:8**).

B. 1 John 3:1-3

- 1. The hope of the second coming of Christ has the power to keep us pure.
- 2. The promise of Christ's return gives us hope and strength to live holy lives.

CONCLUSION

We know for sure that Christ will return because He came the first time and gave that promise. There are increasing signs all over the world that point to the second coming of Christ. Be ready! It can be any time from now.

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LESSON 10 WINNING OTHERS TO CHRIST

INTRODUCTION

Question: How do we win others to Christ?

Answer: By sharing the Gospel with them.

I. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT WITNESSING?

Matthew 28:16-20

- A. Witnessing is a command from Christ to the church.
- B. This work is for all Christians: Pastors, Evangelists, Bible teachers, Missionaries, and church members.
- C. The purpose of witnessing is not only to tell a person about Christ, but also to bring that person to Christ and make him a follower of Christ. Then he, in turn, can witness to others and make them followers of Christ.
- D. The Gospel is for everyone.

II. HOW DO WE PREPARE FOR WITNESSING?

- A. Pray that God will guide us to meet the right person who is ready to receive the Gospel and pray for God's power to flow through us.
- B. Be separated from the world.

 We do not avoid sinners, but we don't do the things that sinners do (**John 17:11, 16**).
- C. Be prepared to do whatever the Lord tells us, just like Philip did (**Acts 8:29-30**).
- D. Have love and mercy for those whom the Lord led us to witness to.
- E. Use tact when we talk to sinners.
- F. Have courage and be confident when we witness. This kind of courage and confidence come from the Holy Spirit.
- G. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide us to the right person, at the right time, to the right place.
- H. Have a good knowledge of the Word of God, because it will be useful for witnessing.

III. WHERE DO WE START WITNESSING?

- A. We should begin where we are (**Acts 1:8**). We can start at home, among our family, relatives and neighbours
- B. A person who desires to be a witness in another country must start to be a witness at home first. It will be more difficult for us to witness in another country if we cannot witness in our own country.



IV. HOW TO DO WITNESSING?

There is no fixed formula for witnessing, but there is a general way we can follow.

Turn to **Acts 8:26-40** and ask the student to read it.

Then explain the points below:

A. Philip opened his mouth (**v. 35**).

We must speak to the person we want to witness to. Though we can be a witness to people through our actions and lives, there will come a time when we have to verbally share the Gospel with them.

B. We must use the Word of God to present Christ to people, like Philip did.

C. We should ask the person if he wants to accept Christ, but we should not force a person if he is not ready. Philip asked firmly but gently for a decision.

D. After a person accepted Christ, we should let him know what water baptism is, and get him ready for it.

We can explain to him ourselves and then ask him to join the class in church that teaches about water baptism.

Philip led the new believer to admit his new faith openly by water baptism.

CONCLUSION

The Bible says, "... the person who wins souls is wise ..." (**Proverbs 11:30**). Let us win others to Christ and be 'wise' in God's sight.

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LESSON 11 TEMPTATION

INTRODUCTION

Explain the Chinese saying in the Student's Notes, it means:
You may not be able to stop temptations from coming to your mind, but you can stop them from staying in your mind.

I. WHAT IS TEMPTATION?

A. **1 Peter 1:6-7**

1. A 'trial' is a trouble or suffering that God allows to test our faith.
2. But a temptation is from the devil or our sinful nature that causes us to sin.

B. Temptation is an enticement that causes a desire to rise up in a person so as to lead him to sin (**James 1:14**).

Illustrations: the desire for food is a normal physical desire, but to eat more than what is enough is sin. Sex is a normal desire, but sex outside of marriage is sin.

II. THE SOURCE OF TEMPTATION

Temptation comes from inside ourselves and outside.

A. Temptation from inside ourselves is from our sinful human nature (**James 1:14**).

B. Temptation from outside is from Satan and the World (**Matthew 4:1; 18:7**).

III. THE REASON FOR TEMPTATION

James 1:12

Our faith to become purer and stronger when we go through temptations but do not sin.

There is a reward promised to those who overcame temptations.

IV. PROTECTION AGAINST TEMPTATION

Read **1 Corinthians 10:13** and **2 Peter 2:9**.

- A. God helps us and protects us when we are tempted.
- B. God knows how to save us from temptation.
- C. So, we need not give in to temptation.



V. THE BELIEVER HAS A FRIEND WHEN HE IS TEMPTED

Jesus Christ understands, and He can help us when we are tempted.

Because Jesus Himself was tempted, but He did not sin (**Hebrews 2:18, 4:15-16**).

Christ is always praying to the Father for us, so that we will become overcomers.

Read **Luke 22:31-32** and **John 17:15**.

VI. WHAT MUST WE DO WHEN WE ARE TEMPTED?

A. Hold on to our faith in the Lord that will help us stand firm.

Read **Ephesians 6:16** and **1 Peter 5:8-9**.

B. Our prayer will guard us against temptation.

Read **Matthew 26:41**.

C. We should not cause other believers to sin, especially those who are weaker in faith.

Read **Romans 14:13**.

CONCLUSION

What can a Christian do when he has given in to temptation?

1. Give up his Christian life completely? - No!
2. He should admit his sin to God immediately, turn away from sin, and be brought back into communion with God again (**1 John 1:7, 9**).

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LESSON 12 THE LIFE OF VICTORY

INTRODUCTION

How can a Christian live a life of victory?

Victory is a spiritual gift from the Lord Jesus Christ, because Christ rose from death and won victory over sin and death.

I. THE DIVINE STANDARD OF VICTORY

- A. Read **Hebrews 12:14, 1 Thessalonians 4:7, 2 Corinthians 7:1** and **Ephesians 1:4**.

It is clear from these verses that God wants us to have victory over sin and live a holy life.

- B. God has made it possible for us to have this victory:

1. **Romans 7:21-25**

This victory is through our Lord Jesus Christ, we must give ourselves to the Lord and depend on Him for daily victory.

2. **Romans 12:1**

We must offer our bodies as living sacrifices to God, so that we can have victory.

Meaning, we set ourselves apart from all others (e.g. sin, worldliness etc.) in devotion to God alone.

3. **Galatians 2:20**

We must let our self-life die, and let Christ live His life in and through us, so that we can have victory.

II. THE DIVINE WAYS TO HAVE VICTORY

- A. Faith in Jesus Christ will give us victory over the world (**1 John 5:4-5**).

- B. We can learn from the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

Jesus used the Word of God to gain victory over the devil's temptations (**Matthew 4:2-10; Ephesians 6:17**).

- C. Let the Holy Spirit be in control of our lives and allow Him to fill us continuously and completely (**Ephesians 5:18**).



III. THE BELIEVER'S PART IN RECEIVING THE LIFE OF VICTORY

- A. We must be completely made clean by the blood of Jesus Christ (**1 John 1:7, 9**).

There should not be any sin in our life that we know about but not confessed to God.

The blood of Jesus Christ continues to make us clean as we admit our sins to God.

- B. Every area of our life must be given to God (**Romans 6:13**).

- C. No Christian can have and enjoy victory without a fight (**2 Timothy 4:7**).

We must continue to fight against the selfish desires of our sinful nature, Satan and the world.

- D. We must live as a child of God who is filled with the Holy Spirit.

We can do all things through Christ who gives us strength. We should live a life of victory every day.

CONCLUSION

1. Christians who do not have victory do not know their privileges in Christ. This is because God has given the victory of Christ to be every Christian's victory.
2. We have Jesus Christ who has won the victory, so we can and should be Christians who have the victory.