

Good Will toward Men

LESSON 1 – OUTLINE

I. Luke 2 is a familiar passage of Scripture.

There were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

LUKE 2:8-12

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

LUKE 2:13-14

- A. Most people think that the angels were proclaiming that Jesus' arrival would stop division, end strife, and usher in a new era of peace on earth.
- B. That's not what Luke 2:13-14 is saying.
- C. You simply cannot defend the position that Jesus came to bring peace among people.

Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.

MATTHEW 10:34-36

And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom...all these are the beginning of sorrows.

MATTHEW 24:6-8

II. The angels were announcing, "Peace. Good will toward men from God!"

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

LUKE 2:14

- A. Prior to the advent of the Lord Jesus Christ, God was at war against man's sins.
- B. His wrath came upon people because of the sin in their lives.

- C. Jesus ended the war between God and man—He made all the difference!
 - D. Yet most people still think of God as being angry at their sins.
- III. The Gospel is the nearly-too-good-to-be-true news that God isn't angry with you, that He loves you, and that He wants to extend all of His blessings toward you.
- A. It's the goodness of God that leads people to repentance (Rom. 2:4).
 - B. God is just, but Jesus paid the price.
 - C. Jesus totally changed the way God deals with mankind.
- IV. The anger and wrath of God have been atoned and appeased.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-18

- A. *Reconcile* simply means “to make friendly” or “to bring back into harmony.”
- B. God's wrath was placed upon His Son, and He isn't angry with us anymore!
- C. The reason Christianity isn't having a greater impact on our world today is because we aren't preaching this message.
- D. The power of God for you and me to receive salvation—forgiveness of sins, healing, prosperity, and deliverance—is released through the Gospel, the nearly-too-good-to-be-true news, of Jesus Christ.

I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.

ROMANS 1:16

- V. God was in Christ not holding man's sins against them.

God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:19, emphasis mine

- A. Jesus—both by His life and message—declared, “God isn't mad at you anymore. Your sins aren't a problem!”
- B. Anyone who takes what I'm sharing and says “This is awesome. I love it! Now I can go live in sin” needs to be born again.

Every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

1 JOHN 3:3

- C. If you are truly born again and have the hope of being like Jesus, then you're looking for a way to overcome sin—not indulge it!
- D. When the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins, His sacrifice forever satisfied the wrath of God.
- E. Sin isn't the issue!

Good Will toward Men

LESSON 1 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. In Luke 2:8-12, to whom did the angel of the Lord come?
2. How did they react when the glory of the Lord shone round about them?
3. What did the angel say to them?
4. Whose birth was being announced?
5. How shall they find the Baby?
6. In Luke 2:13-14, who joined the angel?
7. What were they doing?
8. What were they saying?
9. According to Matthew 10:34-36, did Jesus come to send peace on earth?
10. What did He come to send instead?
11. Who did He say a man's foes would be?
12. In Matthew 24:6-8, Jesus said that all these things must come to pass, but...
 - A. You will not hear of them.
 - B. The end is not yet.
 - C. The end is now.
13. What are all these bad things the beginning of?
14. Which of these best summarizes Luke 6:27-29?
 - A. Bless them who do good to you.
 - B. Curse them who hate you.
 - C. Love your enemies.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
15. Which of these are included in what 1 Corinthians 13 reveals about God's kind of love?
 - A. Charity never fails.
 - B. Charity seeks not her own.
 - C. Charity believes all things.
 - D. Charity is not puffed up.
 - E. All of the above.
 - F. None of the above.

16. According to Romans 2:4, what leads people to repentance?
17. Who is a new creature in 2 Corinthians 5:17-19?
18. What ministry has Jesus given to us?
19. Who was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself?
20. What was He doing with people's trespasses?
21. According to Romans 1:16, Paul was not ashamed of what?
22. It is the power of God unto what?
23. To whom?
24. According to 1 John 3:3, what does everyone who has this hope in them do?
25. Even as who is pure?

Good Will toward Men

LESSON 1 - SCRIPTURES

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

LUKE 2:8-14

Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.

MATTHEW 10:34-36

And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.

MATTHEW 24:6-8

But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also.

LUKE 6:27-29

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall

fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

1 CORINTHIANS 13

Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

ROMANS 2:4

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-19

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

ROMANS 1:16

And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

1 JOHN 3:3

Be Reconciled to God

LESSON 2 – OUTLINE

I. When people don't receive Jesus, they reject the only payment available for their sins.

A. There's no other way to the Father except through His Son.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

JOHN 14:6

B. If they don't accept the payment for their sins—the Lord Jesus Christ—they'll be rejected and cast into hell, not because of their sins, but because of rejecting Jesus.

C. Since all their sins have already been paid for by Jesus, sin really isn't the issue.

D. The issue is, what are you going to do with Jesus?

II. If you have already received the Lord Jesus Christ, then you've been born again.

A. The Lord wants you to stop focusing on sin and start receiving His love.

B. If you could ever get a picture of the price Jesus paid for your sins, you'd fall head over heels in love with Him.

C. Since faith works by love (Gal. 5:6), your faith would shoot through the roof!

D. If you truly comprehended just how much Jesus loves you and the price He paid to reconcile you to God the Father, you'd serve Him more accidentally than you ever have on purpose.

God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:19

III. We should be telling people, "God loves you. He isn't angry with you."

A. A time is coming when this current age of grace—the church age—will come to an end.

B. But right now, the grace of God is extended toward all people.

C. As His ambassadors, we are supposed to be ministering His message, saying what He's told us to say.

Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:20

- IV. Most of us believe that God only moves in our lives when we're worthy.
- A. We've tied His ability to our goodness.
 - B. You must believe to receive.
 - C. You don't have to be holy and do everything just right, but you do have to believe.
 - D. If you understand how much God loves you—that He carries your picture around in His wallet; that He isn't angry, disappointed, or ashamed of you; and that He's proud of you—your faith would go through the roof.
- V. Jesus paid the penalty for your sins and then gave you His righteousness.

We pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he [God the Father] hath made him [Jesus] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:20-21, BRACKETS MINE

- A. You were an "old sinner," but you were saved by grace and are now the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.
- B. God sees you righteous, holy, and pure—He's not angry with you.
- C. Your sins have been obliterated, and He's forgotten them (Heb. 8:12 and 10:17).

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he remove our transgressions from us.

PSALM 103:12

- D. God isn't looking at your sins.
- E. He's not dealing with you based on the way you deal with yourself.

Be Reconciled to God

LESSON 2 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. Who was speaking in John 14:6?
2. What did He say?
 - A. I am the truth.
 - B. I am the life.
 - C. I am the way.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
3. Is there any other way someone can come to God the Father besides through Jesus Christ, His Son?
4. According to 2 Corinthians 5:19, God was in whom?
5. Whom was He reconciling to Himself?
6. What was He not imputing unto them?
7. What has He committed unto us?
8. According to 2 Corinthians 5:20, when are we ambassadors for Christ?
9. What do we pray you in Christ's stead?
10. According to 2 Corinthians 5:21, what did God make Christ to be for us?
11. Had He known sin before that?
12. Why did He do this?
13. According to Galatians 5:6, what does not avail anything in Jesus Christ?
14. In Christ Jesus, what does avail something?
15. How does it work?
16. According to Hebrews 8:12, what is God toward our unrighteousness?
17. What does He do with our sins and iniquities?
18. According to Hebrews 10:17, what does God remember no more?

19. According to Psalm 103:12, what has God removed from us?

20. How far?

A. One mile.

B. One hundred miles.

C. One thousand miles.

D. One million miles.

E. As far as the east is from the west.

Be Reconciled to God

LESSON 2 – SCRIPTURES

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

JOHN 14:6

For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

GALATIANS 5:6

To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:19-21

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

HEBREWS 8:12

And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

HEBREWS 10:17

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he remove our transgressions from us.

PSALM 103:12

Jesus Took it All

LESSON 3 – OUTLINE

I. This is God speaking to John the Baptist.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

ISAIAH 40:1-2

- A. Even though the nation of Israel suffered and was led into captivity, no amount of physical suffering—losing their nation, going into captivity, all the terrible things that happened—can pay for all of their sins.
- B. Anyone who says “I can’t believe that a loving God would ever send someone to hell” has never seen imperfect man in the light of God’s perfection.

Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips.

ISAIAH 6:5

- C. Isaiah 40:2 is a prophetic scripture speaking about the Lord Jesus Christ.
- D. Jesus bore our sins, and now the warfare is over.

II. Jesus took our sins into His own body on the cross.

Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high. As many were astonished [astonished] at thee; his visage [face] was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men.

ISAIAH 52:13-14, BRACKETS MINE

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree.

1 PETER 2:24

He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him.

ISAIAH 53:5

- A. Every sin, sickness, and disease of the entire human race—every deformity, tumor, and perversion—entered into the physical body of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- B. That’s why His face looked worse than any other person who has ever lived, and His form became so distorted that He didn’t even look human.

- C. He had to become that sin so that we could become the righteousness of God.
- D. After putting all of the sin, sickness, disease, and suffering of the entire world upon His Son, the Father turned His back on Him.

My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

PSALM 22:1 AND MARK 15:34

- E. Jesus paid such a great and awesome price for us that it forever satisfied the wrath of God.

III. This is nearly-too-good-to-be-true news!

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

ISAIAH 53:1-2

- A. Jesus was just as plain and normal as any one of us.
- B. The Lord took all of our sorrow, grief, and misery upon Himself.

He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows. Yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

ISAIAH 53:3-5

- C. Jesus suffered so that we could receive healing—spirit, soul, and body—by His stripes.

That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias [Isaiah] the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

MATTHEW 8:17, BRACKETS MINE

- D. Jesus took all of your iniquity—all the iniquity of the entire world—upon Himself.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him [Jesus] the iniquity of us all.

ISAIAH 53:6, BRACKETS MINE

- E. Truly, the iniquity of us all was laid upon Him.

Jesus Took it All

LESSON 3 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. In Isaiah 40:1-2, what two things are the messenger supposed to speak comfortably to Jerusalem about?
2. According to Mark 16:18, what are believers able to do?
 - A. Lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.
 - B. Drink any deadly thing, and it shall not hurt them.
 - C. Take up serpents.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
3. According to Isaiah 6:5, what were Isaiah's first words when he saw the splendor and glory of the Lord?
 - A. "I'm so glad to see You!"
 - B. "Woe is me!"
 - C. "You're bigger than I thought!"
 - D. "Get me out of here!"
4. What does Isaiah 52:13-14 prophesy would happen to Jesus' face and body?
5. What does 1 Peter 2:24 tell us that Jesus bore in His own body on the tree (cross)?
6. Now that we are dead to sins, how should we live?
7. How were we healed?
8. Fill in the blank: According to 1 Peter 2:24, with His "stripes ye _____ healed."
 - A. Were (past tense).
 - B. Are (present tense).
 - C. Will be (future tense).
9. What does Isaiah 53:5 prophesy that Jesus would be wounded for?
10. Why was He bruised?
11. What else was upon Him?
12. Fill in the blank: According to Isaiah 53:5, "with His stripes we _____ healed."
 - A. Were (past tense)
 - B. Are (present tense)
 - C. Will be (future tense)

13. Who was looking ahead to what Jesus would do on the cross and the provision for healing that would be made continuously available thereafter?
 - A. Isaiah.
 - B. Peter.

14. Who was looking back to what Jesus had already done on the cross and the provision made for healing that's been available ever since?
 - A. Isaiah.
 - B. Peter.

15. As Jesus quoted Psalm 22:1 while on the cross in Mark 15:34, what did He say?

16. In Luke 16:24, how did the man in hell describe his condition?

17. According to Isaiah 53:1-6, how was Jesus described by the prophet?
 - A. Despised and rejected of men.
 - B. A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.
 - C. No form, comeliness, nor beauty that we should desire Him.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.

18. All of us have gone astray like what?

19. What has every one of us turned to?

20. What has the Lord laid upon Him?

21. According to Matthew 8:14-17, who did Jesus see sick with a fever in Peter's house?

22. What happened to the fever after Jesus touched her hand?

23. What happened later when many sick and demonized people were brought to Him?

24. Which words of Isaiah the prophet was Jesus fulfilling through these deliverances and healings?

Jesus Took it All

LESSON 3 – SCRIPTURES

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

ISAIAH 40:1-2

They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

MARK 16:18

Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.

ISAIAH 6:5

Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high. As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men.

ISAIAH 52:13-14

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

1 PETER 2:24

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

ISAIAH 53:5

My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?

PSALM 22:1

And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

MARK 15:34

And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

LUKE 16:24

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

ISAIAH 53:1-6

And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever. And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them. When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

MATTHEW 8:14-17

Pleased to Bruise Him

LESSON 4 – OUTLINE

I. God was pleased to bruise, hurt, and forsake His Son.

A. Jesus never even had a chance to go to prison or have a fair trial.

He [Jesus] was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation?

ISAIAH 53:7-8, BRACKETS MINE

B. Jesus didn't have any physical descendants.

For he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

ISAIAH 53:8-10

C. God was pleased to do this because He knew it would totally solve the problem.

D. By His Son's suffering, the sin issue would be forever settled, and the war would be over.

E. His seed is everyone who places their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

GALATIANS 3:29

II. The Scripture says that God the Father was satisfied with what Jesus paid for your sins.

He shall see the travail of his soul [Jesus' soul, not yours], and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

ISAIAH 53:11, BRACKETS MINE

A. “Justify” means “just as if I had never sinned.”

B. God saw the travail of Jesus and imputed that justification to me just as if I had suffered and paid for my own sins throughout eternity.

C. All my sin was placed on Jesus, and all His righteousness was given to me (2 Cor. 5:21).

D. He made me just as if I'd never sinned!

Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

ISAIAH 53:12

III. Because of what Jesus did—as recorded in Isaiah 52 and 53—you can sing, because you aren't going to be barren anymore.

Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the LORD.

ISAIAH 54:1

A. Through Jesus, you should be expecting nothing but blessings.

Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

ISAIAH 54:2-3

B. You wouldn't be depressed or discouraged if you understood how much God loves you and has forgiven you.

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

PHILIPPIANS 1:21

C. You don't have a right to gripe or complain about anything!

D. You ought to be planning to break forth on the right and the left, because you're going to prosper, prosper, prosper.

E. Enlarge your tent because God is for you!

Pleased to Bruise Him

LESSON 4 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. Who is Isaiah 53:7-9 speaking of?
2. Even though He was oppressed and afflicted, He did not what?
3. For this, to what animal was He immediately compared?
4. Why was He stricken?
5. Had He done any violence?
6. Was there any deceit in His mouth?
7. According to Isaiah 53:10, who did it please to bruise Him?
8. What was His soul made?
9. What shall He see?
10. According to Galatians 3:29, who are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise?
11. Who was made sin for us in 2 Corinthians 5:21?
12. That we might be made what in Him?
13. According to Isaiah 53:11-12, what happened when God the Father saw the travail of Jesus' soul?
14. Why can the knowledge of God's righteous servant enable Him to justify many?
15. For what reasons will God the Father divide Him a portion with the great and the spoil with the strong?
 - A. Because He bore the sin of many.
 - B. Because He made intercession for the transgressors.
 - C. Because He poured out His soul to death.
 - D. Because He was numbered with the transgressors.
 - E. All of the above.
 - F. None of the above.

16. In light of this, Isaiah 54:1-3 says to _____.
 - A. Enlarge the place of thy tent.
 - B. Cry aloud.
 - C. Break forth into singing.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.

17. According to Philippians 1:21, to live is Christ and to die is what?

18. How did Paul exemplify this attitude in Acts 16:16-40?

19. What did Jesus promise in Hebrews 13:5?

20. According to Matthew 22:30, will people marry or be given in marriage in the resurrection?

Pleased to Bruise Him

LESSON 4 – SCRIPTURES

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

ISAIAH 53:7-9

Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

ISAIAH 53:10-12

And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

GALATIANS 3:29

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the LORD. Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

ISAIAH 54:1-3

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

PHILIPPIANS 1:21

And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by

soothsaying: The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

ACTS 16:16-18

And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers, And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city, And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans. And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them. And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely: Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

ACTS 16:19-24

And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas. And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

ACTS 16:25-34

And when it was day, the magistrates sent the serjeants, saying, Let those men go. And the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, The magistrates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace. But Paul said unto them, They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast us into prison; and now do they thrust us out privily? nay verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out. And the serjeants told these words unto the magistrates: and they feared, when they heard that they were Romans. And they came and besought them, and brought them out, and desired them to depart out of the city. And they went out of the prison, and entered into the house of Lydia: and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed.

ACTS 16:35-40

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

HEBREWS 13:5

For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.

MATTHEW 22:30

Established in Righteousness

LESSON 5 – OUTLINE

I. Most Christians aren't established—strong, steady, and secure—because they don't understand that they're righteous.

O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay thy stones with fair colours, and lay thy foundations with sapphires. And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones. And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children. In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee.

ISAIAH 54:11-14

A. If you understood righteousness, you'd be far from oppression.

B. If you understood righteousness, you wouldn't have fear.

II. This covenant that God made with Noah had no qualifications.

For this is as the waters of Noah unto me: for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee.

ISAIAH 54:9

And I will establish my covenant with you [Noah]; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.

GENESIS 9:11, BRACKETS MINE

A. In Isaiah 54, God was saying this New Covenant that Jesus has put into effect is like that covenant with Noah—an unconditional, unqualified covenant.

B. For those who enter into this covenant, God is never, ever, ever angry with you.

C. God is not the author of condemnation.

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

ROMANS 8:1

D. David prayed Psalm 51:10-11 because he was an Old Testament saint, but as a New Testament believer, God created a clean heart in you the very moment you were born again (Eph. 4:24).

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

PSALM 51:10-11

- E. Every time you feel like God is ticked off at you and has left—you're wrong!
(Matt. 28:20 and Heb. 13:5)

For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.

ISAIAH 54:10, EMPHASIS MINE

III. God is now at peace with mankind.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

LUKE 2:14

- A. The war is over—He has made a covenant and signed a treaty.
B. He'll never be angry with us nor rebuke us ever again.

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil...stand therefore, having your...feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

EPHESIANS 6:11-15, EMPHASIS MINE

- C. The reason people aren't responding better is because they haven't heard the true Gospel—the same message Jesus proclaimed.

IV. We've allowed religion to blind us to the truth that Jesus has paid for all sin—not only for the sins of believers—but also for the sins of the whole world.

And he [Jesus] is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 JOHN 2:2, BRACKETS MINE

- A. Everybody's sins are paid for—sin isn't the issue.
B. People are going to hell because they haven't accepted the payment for their sin—they haven't received the Lord Jesus Christ.
C. Are you trusting in the payment Christ made, or are you trusting in your own good works, hoping they'll be enough for you to be saved?
- V. You can't do enough!
- A. There's nothing you can offer that will ever supersede what Jesus has done.

- B. Jesus plus nothing equals everything.
- C. But Jesus plus anything—especially your own effort—equals nothing!
- D. Either you have to trust the Lord one hundred percent or you have to trust yourself, but there cannot be a combination of the two.
- E. You either have a Savior who earned your salvation by what He did, or you must earn salvation on your own merit, which cannot be done.

Established in Righteousness

LESSON 5 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. What two promises concerning our children does God give us in Isaiah 54:11-14?
2. How shall we be established?
3. Which of the following are benefits of being established in this way?
 - A. Fear shall not come near you.
 - B. Terror shall not come near you.
 - C. Oppression shall be far from you.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
4. As the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth, what has God sworn in Isaiah 54:9?
5. According to Genesis 9:11, was the covenant God made with Noah conditional or unconditional?
6. Romans 8:1 says that there is now no _____ to them who are in Christ Jesus.
7. We should not walk after the flesh, but how?
8. Match the aspects of David's Old Testament prayer in Psalm 51:10-11 with the proper corresponding New Testament reality from Ephesians 4:24, Matthew 28:20, and Hebrews 13:5.

David's Prayer	New Testament Reality
A. Create in me a clean heart, O God.	I. I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.
B. Renew a right spirit within me.	II. I will never leave you, nor forsake you.
C. Cast me not away from Your presence.	III. Our born-again spirits were created in true holiness.
D. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me.	IV. Our new man was created—after God—in righteousness.
9. According to Ephesians 4:24, how was the new man—our born-again spirits—created?
10. In Matthew 28:20, what did the Lord commission us to teach people?
11. How long will Jesus be with us?
12. According to Hebrews 13:5, what should our conversation—behavior—be without?
13. What should we be content with?
14. To explain why, what did Jesus say?
15. According to Luke 2:14, what was God announcing toward mankind at the birth of Jesus?
 - A. Wrath and anger.

- B. Hatred and strife.
- C. Judgment and condemnation.
- D. Peace and good will.

16. According to Ephesians 6:11-15, what do we need to put on the whole armor of God to stand against?
17. In order to stand, what must we have our feet shod with?
18. In John 1:29, who did John the Baptist say to behold?
19. What does John continue saying that Jesus came to do?
20. According to 1 John 2:2, Jesus was the propitiation—atonement sacrifice—both for our sins and also for the sins of whom?

Established in Righteousness

LESSON 5 – SCRIPTURES

For this is as the waters of Noah unto me: for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee. For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee. O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay thy stones with fair colours, and lay thy foundations with sapphires. And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones. And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children. In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee.

ISAIAH 54:9-14

And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.

GENESIS 9:11

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

ROMANS 8:1

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

PSALM 51:10-11

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

EPHESIANS 4:24

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

MATTHEW 28:20

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

HEBREWS 13:5

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

LUKE 2:14

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

EPHESIANS 6:11-15

The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

JOHN 1:29

And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 JOHN 2:2

All Judgment

LESSON 6 – OUTLINE

- I. Many people haven't understood the difference between the Old Testament and the New.
 - A. If you don't understand this truth, it'll negatively affect your relationship with God.
 - B. You need to realize that we have a better covenant based upon better promises today (Heb. 8:6).
 - C. Under the New Covenant, the relationship between God and man is totally different.
- II. In your born-again spirit, you are as righteous, holy, and pure as the Lord Jesus Himself.

And that ye put on the new man [your born-again spirit], which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

EPHESIANS 4:24, BRACKETS MINE

- A. God is a Spirit, and He looks at you in the spirit realm—Spirit to spirit:

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

JOHN 4:24

- B. He doesn't see you the way you see yourself.

The LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

1 SAMUEL 16:7

- C. God isn't looking at your actions, sins, and failures.
 - D. If you could just receive this good news, your faith would shoot through the roof, you'd start receiving from God, and His supernatural power would operate in your life much, much greater.
- III. As Jesus was in Jerusalem getting ready to lay His life down for us, He prayed:

Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again. The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him.

JOHN 12:28-29

- A. If you heard an audible voice from God out of heaven, but your heart was hard, you'd explain it away and think, *Oh, that's just thunder.*

- B. This came for the unbelievers' sake, and yet most of those unbelievers couldn't even receive it.

Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes.
JOHN 12:30

- IV. In the King James Version, the word “**men**” is italicized in John 12:32, which means it wasn't in the original Greek.

Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.
JOHN 12:31-32

- A. What, then, is John 12:32 really saying?

And I [Jesus], if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all...unto me.
JOHN 12:32, BRACKETS MINE

- B. Even though the Lord didn't specify in that particular sentence the “**all**” that would be drawn unto Him, the context makes it clear.

Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all [judgment] unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die.
JOHN 12:31-33, BRACKETS MINE

- C. The topic of verse 31—judgment—carries over into verse 32.
- D. Therefore, Jesus was saying, “When I am lifted up upon the cross, I will draw all of God's judgment toward the entire human race to Myself.”
- V. God has already judged our sin in the flesh of His Son.

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh.
ROMANS 8:1-3

- A. The word “**condemned**” here means “judged.”
- B. God the Father judged sin in the flesh of the Lord Jesus Christ.

That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
ROMANS 8:4

C. Jesus suffered the punishment and separation from the heavenly Father that I deserved.

My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

MARK 15:34

D. I am never going to be forsaken by God, separated from God, or punished by God for my sin, because Jesus was forsaken, separated, and punished by God for me.

VI. “Are you saying that there are no consequences to my sin?”

A. No, there are plenty of consequences, because God isn’t the only person you’re dealing with.

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

ROMANS 6:16

B. When you yield yourself to sin, you are yielding yourself to the author of that sin—the devil.

C. You can sin and God will still love you because He’s already placed all of your sin upon Jesus, but it’s stupid to give Satan an inroad into your life.

D. I’m not advocating living in sin, but I am saying that your sin has been paid for.

VII. Jesus drew all judgment unto Himself and suffered your iniquity, shame, and rejection.

A. He’s already done it for you, and for you to bear it is totally unnecessary.

B. For you to feel that you have to do “penance” and somehow or another add to what Jesus has already done is a disgrace, and it dishonors Christ.

C. It’s arrogance on our part to think that what Jesus did wasn’t enough and that we have to add something to it to make it complete.

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us.

TITUS 3:5

D. There’s nothing you can do to add to Jesus!

All Judgment

LESSON 6 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. According to Luke 2:11, where was Christ the Lord born?
2. In Luke 2:14, what are the angels giving God?
3. According to Hebrews 8:6, what has Jesus obtained?
4. What is He the mediator of?
5. What is this better covenant established upon?
6. According to Isaiah 53:4-6, whose griefs and sorrows did Jesus bear?
7. Whose transgressions was He wounded for, and whose iniquities was He bruised for?
8. What does Isaiah 53:11 say that God the Father saw and caused Him to be satisfied?
9. What kind of servant is Jesus?
10. In Isaiah 54:9, who has the Lord sworn not to be wroth with nor rebuke?
11. According to Galatians 5:6, what works by love?
12. In Ephesians 4:24, what are we admonished to put on?
13. Who was he created after?
14. How was he created?
15. According to John 4:24, what is God?
16. How must those who worship Him do so?
17. In 1 Samuel 16:7, why did the Lord tell Samuel not to look on Eliab's countenance or the height of his stature?
18. What does man look upon?
19. What does God look upon?
20. According to 2 Corinthians 5:17, what two things are true about someone who has become a new creature in Christ?

21. In John 12:28-33, who was this voice from heaven for?
22. When was Jesus going to draw all judgment unto Himself?
23. According to Romans 8:1-4, what has made me free from the law of sin and death?
24. How was sin condemned in the flesh?
25. When does Mark 15:34 reveal Jesus cried with a loud voice, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”
26. According to Romans 6:16, what does yielding ourselves to sin produce?
27. How do we produce righteous actions—in this verse, righteousness—which is the fruit of our righteous born-again spirits?
28. According to Titus 3:5, are we saved by the righteous works we have done?
29. What motivated God to save us?
30. How did He save us?

All Judgment

LESSON 6 – SCRIPTURES

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

LUKE 2:11

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

LUKE 2:14

But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

HEBREWS 8:6

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

ISAIAH 53:4-6

He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

ISAIAH 53:11

For this is as the waters of Noah unto me: for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee.

ISAIAH 54:9

For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

GALATIANS 5:6

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

EPHESIANS 4:24

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

JOHN 4:24

But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

1 SAMUEL 16:7

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

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again. The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him. Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes. Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die.

JOHN 12:28-33

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

ROMANS 8:1-4

And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

MARK 15:34

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

ROMANS 6:16

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

TITUS 3:5

Understand the Gospel

LESSON 7 – OUTLINE

I. You are accepted by God because of what Jesus did—plus zero.

A. All you have to do is receive it by faith.

**And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace.
But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.**

ROMANS 11:6

B. That's just Old English for "You're either saved by grace or by works, but not a combination of the two."

C. Yet most of us have fallen under a "works" mentality.

D. The reason you're missing it is because you tie God's movement in your life to your performance.

II. The word translated "Gospel" means more than just "good news"; it's a superlative that literally means "nearly-too-good-to-be-true news."

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

ROMANS 1:16-17

A. Outside of God and the good things He's done through Jesus, life is bad.

B. Jesus came along and took all of God's wrath and judgment for our sin upon Himself. Now, that's amazing love!

C. The religious system of Paul's day just screamed and yelled at this, because they were preaching a bad news "Gospel" that wasn't even Gospel.

D. They were people who were so ritualistic and legalistic that if you didn't do all of these things, God would be angry with you and reject you.

E. Paul just boldly proclaimed, "I'm not ashamed of telling people that God loves them and that their sins are paid for."

III. *Sozo*, the Greek word translated "**salvation**" in Romans 1:16, doesn't only mean "forgiveness of sins," but also includes healing, deliverance, and prosperity.

Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save [SOZO] the sick.

JAMES 5:14-15, BRACKETS MINE

- A. When the Word says that the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation, this also means that the Gospel is the power of God unto your healing, deliverance, and prosperity.
- B. If you really knew the Gospel—the nearly-too-good-to-be-true news of how much God loves you—your body would be healed.
- C. All of these Old Testament dietary laws were shadows and types of New Testament realities that are now fulfilled.

Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink...which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

COLOSSIANS 2:16-17

- D. If someone commands you to abstain from eating meats, it's a doctrine of the devil.

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils...commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

1 TIMOTHY 4:1 AND 3

- IV. Once you understand the Gospel, your natural realm—your body and soul—would improve.
 - A. Concerning health, the Bible speaks of operating in honor and joy.

A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

PROVERBS 17:22

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

EXODUS 20:12

- B. If you understood how forgiven and loved you are, you'd start rejoicing and praising God.
- C. Your immune system would work better if you weren't beaten down feeling unworthy, defiled, and condemned all the time.
- D. Food and exercise are a part of it, but it's much less than people think.
- E. If you would keep your mind stayed on the Lord, you would be in perfect peace.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

ISAIAH 26:3

- F. If you understood the Gospel, it would produce health, joy, peace, and prosperity.
- V. In Romans 1:18-20, Paul basically says, “People already know that they’re sinners. It’s intuitive knowledge. God has revealed Himself from heaven against all sin and unrighteousness of man.”
 - A. You might know people who say they don’t believe in God, but in their hearts they really do.
 - B. Go straight to their hearts, and talk to them like they know the truth.
 - C. You’ll find out that people will respond.
 - D. Everybody knows there’s only one God and that they are not Him.

Understand the Gospel

LESSON 7 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. According to Romans 11:6, can we be saved by a combination of grace and works?
2. How did Paul feel about the Gospel of Christ in Romans 1:16-17?
3. What is the power of God unto salvation?
4. What must we do to receive salvation?
5. Where is the righteousness of God revealed?
6. How shall the just live?
7. Who is the one person who can do everything listed in Isaiah 40:12?
8. What does James 5:14-15 instruct a sick person to do?
9. What two things should they do to minister to the sick person?
10. What is it that saves/heals/delivers the sick?
11. Who raises them up?
12. What happens if they have committed sins?
13. According to Colossians 2:16-17, we are to let no one judge us concerning what?
 - A. In respect of a holy day.
 - B. In drink.
 - C. The Sabbath days.
 - D. In meat.
 - E. All of the above.
 - F. None of the above.
14. These were merely shadows of things to come in whom?
15. According to 1 Timothy 4:1-3, when will some depart from the faith?
16. What will they give heed to?
17. Speaking lies in hypocrisy, what will happen to their consciences?
18. In addition to forbidding marrying, what will they command people to abstain from?

19. God has created these things to be received with thanksgiving by whom?
20. According to Proverbs 17:22, what does good like medicine?
21. What does a broken spirit do?
22. Whom should we honor, according to Exodus 20:12?
23. What are we promised if we do?
24. According to Isaiah 26:3, who will be kept in perfect peace?
25. Why?

Understand the Gospel

LESSON 7 – SCRIPTURES

And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.

ROMANS 11:6

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shown it unto them.

ROMANS 1:16-19

Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

ISAIAH 40:12

Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

JAMES 5:14-15

Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

COLOSSIANS 2:16-17

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

1 TIMOTHY 4:1-3

A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

PROVERBS 17:22

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

EXODUS 20:12

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

ISAIAH 26:3

Justified by Faith

LESSON 8 – OUTLINE

I. In Romans 2, Paul showed that religious people are doubly guilty.

- A. They not only have the witness of their consciences, but they also have what they know of the Word of God.
- B. Therefore, religious people are twice as accountable and doubly guilty before God.
- C. So Paul summed it all up in chapter 3 by saying:

All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

ROMANS 3:23

- D. Whether they are operating only with an intuitive knowledge of God, or also with the Word of God they've been taught, everyone knows they need help.

II. In Romans 4, Paul went back to speaking primarily to religious people.

- A. He took the examples of both Abraham and David, two of the greatest Old Testament patriarchs, and showed how they weren't justified—put in right standing with God—because of their holiness, but by God's grace.
- B. God hasn't had anyone qualified working for Him yet.

For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God.

ROMANS 4:2

- C. In other words, if Abraham would have earned all of these things from God because of his greatness, then he might have been able to boast in front of a person, but not before God.

For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

ROMANS 4:3

- D. Abraham just believed God, so his faith **“was counted unto him for righteousness”** (Gen. 15:6).
- E. Abraham was living in a sexual abomination to God, yet he's the only person in the Old Testament called the friend of God (2 Chr. 20:7 and James 2:23).
- F. God used Abraham because he believed His promise, not because of his goodness or greatness.

III. God justifies the ungodly because He doesn't have anybody else to justify.

Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

ROMANS 4:4-5, EMPHASIS MINE

- A. This same principle applies to our relationship with God after we've been born again.
- B. The only people God can really relate to and fellowship with are those who are willing to admit that it's not their goodness, worth, or value. It's people who come to Him based on His grace and their faith in the Savior.
- C. If you put trust in your own holiness, that's the very thing that is keeping you from receiving from God.

IV. David prophetically saw and spoke of the day of grace when our sins were paid for (Ps. 32:1-2).

Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.

ROMANS 4:6-7

- A. David had a revelation that the blood sacrifices of animals were only types and shadows. He knew that what God really wanted was true repentance from the heart.

For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

PSALM 51:16-17

- B. David was looking forward to his sins being forgiven, which is the reason he felt separated from God when he sinned.

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

PSALM 51:10-12

- C. Jesus promised New Testament believers:

I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

HEBREWS 13:5

V. There's a difference between the way people approached God in the Old Testament and how we are to approach Him in the New.

A. They were looking forward to the price that would be paid, and we're looking back upon it.

B. All sin—past, present, and even future sin—has been dealt with and forgiven.

**Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.
Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not [future tense] impute sin.**

ROMANS 4:7-8, BRACKETS MINE

C. Love is an infinitely stronger motivation than fear.

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

1 JOHN 4:18

VI. Then Paul discussed how Abraham was reckoned righteous long before he performed this religious duty of being circumcised.

Cometh this blessedness then upon the circumcision [Jews; religious people] only, or upon the uncircumcision [Gentiles; nonreligious people] also? for we say that faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness.

ROMANS 4:9, BRACKETS MINE

A. Therefore, it was his faith—not his religious works—that caused God to accept him.

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God.

ROMANS 5:1

B. The only way you can have peace with God is to be justified by faith.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

LUKE 2:14

Justified by Faith

LESSON 8 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. According to Romans 3:23, who has sinned?
2. What have we come short of?
3. Who had the Lord sought after in 1 Samuel 13:14?
4. According to Romans 4:2-3, was Abraham justified by works?
5. Who did Abraham believe?
6. What did God count Abraham's faith unto him?
7. According to Genesis 15:5-6, God promised Abraham that his seed would be as numerous as what?
8. Genesis 20:11-12 reveals that Abraham's wife was his half-sister through whom?
9. According to Leviticus 18:9, the Law forbade uncovering what?
10. According to Malachi 3:6, does the Lord change?
11. Who does Hebrews 13:8 reveal as being the same yesterday, today, and forever?
12. According to Romans 5:13, was sin in the world before the Law?
13. When was sin not imputed—held against us?
14. According to 2 Chronicles 20:7, who drove out the inhabitants of Israel's land before them?
15. What was Abraham called in this verse and in James 2:23?
16. According to Hebrews 7:7, who blesses whom?
 - A. The less is blessed of the better.
 - B. The better is blessed of the lesser.
17. Genesis 14:18-20 reveals that Melchizedek, the king of Salem, was also what?
18. Whom did he bless?
19. What was given to Melchizedek after this blessing?

20. According to Romans 4:4-5, what is the reward of work reckoned as?
 - A. Grace.
 - B. Debt.
21. Those who don't work but instead believe on God, their faith is counted for what?
22. Whom does God justify?
23. According to Romans 4:6-9, how does David describe the person whose iniquities are forgiven and sins are covered?
24. How does God impute righteousness to us?
 - A. Without works.
 - B. With works.
 - C. By faith.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
25. Fill in the blank. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord _____ impute sin.
 - A. Did not (past tense).
 - B. Does not (present tense).
 - C. Will not (future tense).
26. According to Psalm 32:1-2, what does David also say concerning this person's spirit?
27. According to Hebrews 10:4, is it possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sin?
28. Instead of burnt offerings and sacrifices, what kind of heart does Psalm 51:16-17 reveal that God looks for?
29. What was David asking God to restore unto him in Psalm 51:10-12?
30. Second Corinthians 5:17 reveals that we who are in Christ are what?
31. According to Hebrews 13:5, will Jesus ever leave or forsake one of His children?
32. First John 2:2 reveals that Jesus is the propitiation—atonement sacrifice—for whose sins?
33. According to Ephesians 4:24, our new man was created how?
34. According to Romans 2:4, what leads us to repentance?
35. First John 4:18 reveals that perfect love casts out what?
36. According to Romans 5:1, how are we justified?
37. How does peace with God come?

38. Read Romans 5:2. How do we access this grace wherein we stand?
39. According to Luke 2:14, God now has what toward men?
40. What does James 4:17 call the good we know to do but don't do?

Justified by Faith

LESSON 8 – SCRIPTURES

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

ROMANS 3:23

But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.

1 SAMUEL 13:14

For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

ROMANS 4:2-3

And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

GENESIS 15:5-6

And Abraham said, Because I thought, Surely the fear of God is not in this place; and they will slay me for my wife's sake. And yet indeed she is my sister; she is the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife.

GENESIS 20:11-12

The nakedness of thy sister, the daughter of thy father, or daughter of thy mother, whether she be born at home, or born abroad, even their nakedness thou shalt not uncover.

LEVITICUS 18:9

For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

MALACHI 3:6

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

HEBREWS 13:8

For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

ROMANS 5:13

Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever?

2 CHRONICLES 20:7

And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

JAMES 2:23

And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better.

HEBREWS 7:7

And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth: And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

GENESIS 14:18-20

Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin. Cometh this blessedness then upon the circumcision only, or upon the uncircumcision also? for we say that faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness.

ROMANS 4:4-9

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

PSALM 32:1-2

For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

HEBREWS 10:4

For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

PSALM 51:16-17

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

PSALM 51:10-12

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

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such

things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

HEBREWS 13:5

And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 JOHN 2:2

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

EPHESIANS 4:24

Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

ROMANS 2:4

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

1 JOHN 4:18

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

ROMANS 5:1-2

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

LUKE 2:14

Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

JAMES 4:17

Shall We Sin?

LESSON 9 – OUTLINE

I. You have access—admission—to the grace of God through faith.

By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

ROMANS 5:2

A. Faith is what gains you access to God’s grace—not your goodness, works, or performance.

B. God loves you because He is love, not because you are lovely. That’s good news!

II. Since Paul had been preaching on grace and emphasizing how God loves us independent of our performance, immediately this question was raised: “Are you saying that we should continue in sin so that grace may abound?”

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

ROMANS 6:1

A. Paul was adamant, saying, “No, that’s not what I’m saying!”

God forbid.

ROMANS 6:2

B. If this logical question isn’t coming up, then you aren’t hearing the same Gospel that the early New Testament church heard.

C. That’s the reason we aren’t getting the same results that the early New Testament church had.

III. Regardless of how much you’ve failed in any area, God loves you.

A. If you could really understand that and receive it, there would be such a reciprocal love on your part toward God.

We love him, because he first loved us.

1 JOHN 4:19

B. If you understood how much God loves you, you’d be a stark raving mad fanatic.

C. You need to let people know how much God loves them.

D. They’ll serve Him infinitely more out of love than they ever will out of fear.

- IV. Many people are going through the motions—giving, going to church, reading the Bible, and so on—doing all of the right things, but from the wrong motive.
- A. They're trying to earn God's favor and make themselves acceptable to Him.
 - B. That's the wood, hay, and stubble that will be torched when we stand before Him (1 Cor. 3:11-15).
 - C. None of these religious works will endure the fire.
- V. If no one asks, "Can I just live in sin because God has forgiven all of my sins?" then they haven't heard the Gospel that Paul preached.
- A. The answer to this question is, "Of course not! God forbid! Living in sin is stupid!"
 - B. Satan will take advantage of your sin, so you ought to live as holy as you possibly can. But it's not in order to receive God's blessing, because you have already received it (Eph. 1:3).
 - C. You live holy because you're just so thankful, you'll want to live in a way that glorifies God.
 - D. You don't want to yield yourself to your Enemy, who has come to steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10).
- VI. If you truly understand the grace of God, you'll live holier accidentally than you ever have on purpose.

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.

TITUS 2:11-12

- A. You'll wind up glorifying and serving God, but you'll do it out of a pure heart.
- B. God will be pleased, and He'll inhabit the good works that you do because you're not trying to earn anything—they're just done out of love.
- C. The Lord will be pleased, and you'll be satisfied.
- D. This is the Gospel, and we need to be proclaiming it.
- E. It'll release people from religious bondage and set them free. Thank You, Jesus!

Shall We Sin?

LESSON 9 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. According to Romans 5:2, how do we access this grace wherein we stand?
2. As we access this grace, what do we rejoice in hope of?
3. How many questions are included in Romans 6:1-2?
4. Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?
5. What question does Paul then employ to continue his answer to the previous question?
6. What are born-again believers dead to?
7. Since we are dead to it, should we live any longer in it?
8. How many questions are asked in Romans 6:15?
9. Shall we sin because we are not under the Law but under grace?
10. Are born-again believers under the Law?
11. What are we under?
12. According to 1 John 4:19, who loved whom first?
13. Why can we love Him now?
14. According to 2 Corinthians 9:7, how should we give?
15. What two ways should we not give?
16. What kind of giver does God love?
17. According to 1 Corinthians 3:11-15, who is the foundation?
18. As we build upon this foundation, how will the nature of our works one day be revealed?
19. What will we receive if our works abide?
20. If all our works are burned, what will we suffer?
21. Will we ourselves be saved?

22. According to Ephesians 1:3, God is the Father of whom?
23. What has He blessed us with?
24. Where are these blessings right now?
25. According to John 10:10, who is it that only comes to steal, kill, and destroy?
26. Who has come that we might have an abundance of life?
27. According to Titus 2:11-12, what does the grace of God bring?
28. What has appeared to all men?
29. What does this grace teach us?
 - A. Live righteously.
 - B. Deny worldly lusts.
 - C. Live godly.
 - D. Deny ungodliness.
 - E. Live soberly.
 - F. All of the above.
 - G. None of the above.
30. When and where should we live this way?

Shall We Sin?

LESSON 9 – SCRIPTURES

By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

ROMANS 5:2

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

ROMANS 6:1-2

What then? Shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.

ROMANS 6:15

We love him, because he first loved us.

1 JOHN 4:19

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:11-15

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

EPHESIANS 1:3

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

JOHN 10:10

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.

TITUS 2:11-12

Eternal Redemption

LESSON 10 – OUTLINE

I. Jesus bore the sins of everyone—not just those He knew would accept Him.

He [Jesus] is the propitiation [atoning sacrifice] for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 JOHN 2:2, BRACKETS MINE

A. God has made the payment, but you must receive it.

B. Each individual must appropriate by faith what God has already provided by grace, for it to take effect in their life.

II. You are saved by grace through faith.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.

EPHESIANS 2:8

A. Grace is what God has done for us independent of us—completely separate from anything we deserve.

B. For God’s grace to affect you, you must put faith in it.

C. God’s grace that brings salvation has come to every person, but not everyone has responded to God’s grace.

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men.

TITUS 2:11

III. Multitudes of religious people go to hell because they thought that by attending church, paying their tithes, reading the Bible, and trying to be good, they could pay for their sins.

A. Christianity is the only faith in the world that has a Savior.

B. Every other religious system makes you try to earn God’s favor through your own “good works.”

C. It’s sad to say, but there are huge amounts of so-called “Christians” trapped in our churches today who are doing the exact same thing as Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, and others—trying to be good enough for God to accept them. This isn’t true Christianity.

IV. Others have truly been born again, but Christ is not profiting them anything in this life (Gal. 5:2-4).

- A. They may be on their way to heaven, but they have fallen back into the same old legalistic mindset and pattern.
- B. We know God is powerful, but we think, *How could He ever use His power on my behalf?*
- C. What you doubt is His willingness to use His ability on your behalf, because you feel He's still holding sin against you.
- D. The Lord will tell you to quit sinning because He knows that the devil will come in, hinder, hurt, and otherwise take advantage of you.
- E. God doesn't convict you of sin because He's going to punish or reject you.

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

JOHN 10:10

- F. God isn't ignorant of sin in your life, but it doesn't change His attitude toward you.
- V. We limit what God can do because we've tied His willingness to use His ability in our lives to our worth and value.
- A. You may not commit adultery, murder, or steal, but you're not perfect.

For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

JAMES 2:10

- B. That's how the Law works—if you miss it, you miss it!
- C. We've all sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23).

VI. God has dealt with sin.

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

HEBREWS 9:11-12

- A. This wasn't a short-term redemption—only good until the next time you sin (and then you have to repent, get the blood reapplied, and be redeemed again).
- B. Christ entered in once and obtained for us an eternal redemption.

- C. Sin isn't only violating a command not to do something; it's also not doing the good you know to do.

Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

JAMES 4:17

- D. If it were true that you can't fellowship with God as long as there's sin in your life, nobody could ever fellowship with God.
- E. Jesus obtained for us an eternal redemption!

Eternal Redemption

LESSON 10 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. According to 1 John 2:2, who is the propitiation for our sins?
2. Who is the propitiation for the sins of the whole world?
3. According to Ephesians 2:8, how are we saved?
4. What is not of ourselves, but is the gift of God?
 - A. Grace.
 - B. Salvation.
 - C. Faith.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
5. According to Titus 2:11, whose grace has appeared to all men?
6. Who was God speaking through in Galatians 5:2-4?
7. According to Galatians 5:4, if we trust in our own Law keeping and religious works, what will happen?
8. Christ becomes of no effect to those who are trying to be justified (made righteous) how?
9. What have they fallen from?
10. According to John 10:10, why does the thief come?
 - A. To kill.
 - B. To destroy.
 - C. To give life.
 - D. To steal.
 - E. All of the above.
 - F. None of the above.
11. Why did Jesus come?
12. According to James 2:10, is it possible to keep the whole Law and yet offend at one point?
13. What happens when even just one point of the Law is offended?
14. According to Romans 3:23, what happens when we sin?

15. What does Exodus 20:14 command us?
16. The main idea of Romans 13:1-7 is to **“let every soul be subject unto”** whom?
 - A. The powers that be.
 - B. Rulers.
 - C. The higher powers.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
17. According to Leviticus 19:16, we should not go up and down as _____ among other people.
18. Proverbs 23:20-21 reveals that drunkards and gluttons come to what?
19. According to Matthew 5:28, at what point does God consider that adultery has taken place in a man’s heart?
20. What does 1 John 3:15 call a person who hates his brother?
21. What does this person not have abiding in him?
22. According to Hebrews 9:11-12, who came as high priest of good things to come?
23. Whose blood did Jesus enter into the holy place in heaven with?
 - A. The blood of calves.
 - B. The blood of goats.
 - C. His own blood.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
24. How many times did He enter in?
25. What has He obtained for us?
26. What does James 4:17 call sin?

Eternal Redemption

LESSON 10 – SCRIPTURES

And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 JOHN 2:2

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.

EPHESIANS 2:8

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men.

TITUS 2:11

Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.

GALATIANS 5:2-4

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

JOHN 10:10

For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

JAMES 2:10

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

ROMANS 3:23

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

EXODUS 20:14

Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also

for conscience sake. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

ROMANS 13:1-7

Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people: neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbour: I am the LORD.

LEVITICUS 19:16

Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh: For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

PROVERBS 23:20-21

But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

MATTHEW 5:28

Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

1 JOHN 3:15

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

HEBREWS 9:11-12

Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

JAMES 4:17

The Real Deal

LESSON 11 – OUTLINE

- I. The author of Hebrews was writing to Jewish Christians who were aware of all the covenants, laws, and rituals involved in the Old Testament.

For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh.

HEBREWS 9:13

- A. The author was saying, “If the Old Testament sacrifices had any benefit to them, how much greater, then, is the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ? All those Old Testament sacrifices were pointing toward the sacrifice that Jesus was going to make.”

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

HEBREWS 9:14

- B. The problem is that we have consciences that have been defiled—we haven’t purged our consciences with the truth about what Jesus has done with our sins.
- C. Jesus entered into the holy place one time and obtained for us an eternal redemption.
- D. He paid for all of your sins—past, present, and even the ones you haven’t committed yet.
- E. Your sins have been forgiven.

And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

HEBREWS 9:15

- II. In your born-again spirit, you are as clean, holy, and pure as Jesus Himself (1 John 4:17).
- A. Your spirit—not your body or soul—is the part of you that’s created in righteousness and true holiness.
- B. However, you can’t see your spirit in a mirror or feel it with your senses.
- C. If you want to know what you’re like in your born-again spirit, you have to look in the Word of God—the spiritual mirror (James 1:23-25).

The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

JOHN 6:63

D. Your body and soul didn't change the instant you became born again, but your spirit did.

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

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

E. Jesus only purges us one time—He doesn't have to re-purge us (Heb. 9:12 and 15).

III. The Old Testament tabernacle and temple were full of these symbols of actual things in heaven (Ex. 25:40 and Heb. 8:5).

It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

HEBREWS 9:23

A. Each one symbolized something that Jesus was going to do (e.g., the veil).

The veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom.

MATTHEW 27:51

B. Jesus died for the sins of the entire world one time.

C. He dealt with all sins of all people for all time.

D. You don't have to go back to the Lord every time you mess up, or feel like you have to work your way back into His favor.

For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world.

HEBREWS 9:24-26

IV. This whole passage is contrasting the Old Testament sacrifices with the sacrifice of Christ.

For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: so Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

HEBREWS 9:26-28

- A. In the Old Testament, the same sacrifices were offered over and over again, because they couldn't really work—they were only types, shadows, and pictures of the real deal to come.
- B. Since Jesus' sacrifice was the real deal, it only had to be offered once.

For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? Because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.

HEBREWS 10:1-2

- C. The Old Testament sacrifices couldn't work, so there was sin-consciousness, and they offered the same sacrifices over and over again.
 - D. But the New Testament sacrifice of Jesus *did* work, and therefore we should have no more sin-consciousness.
- V. Most Christians are sin conscious.
- A. The entire world around us is based on performance.
 - B. However, the Lord made a sacrifice and forgave you.
 - C. Therefore, you shouldn't have sin-consciousness.

The Real Deal

LESSON 11 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. What does Hebrews 9:13-15 reveal that the blood of Christ should purge our consciences from to serve the living God?
2. For this cause, Jesus is the mediator of what?
3. Those who are called are to receive what promise?
4. According to 1 John 4:17, how should believers be on the Day of Judgment?
5. We are, right now, as who is?
6. We are as He is where?
7. According to John 6:63, what part of our beings quickens us (gives life)?
8. What part of our beings profits nothing?
9. What are Jesus' words to us?
 - A. Flesh.
 - B. Life.
 - C. Death.
 - D. Spirit.
10. According to James 1:23-25, who will be blessed in his deed?
 - A. The one who hears the Word, but forgets it and doesn't do it.
 - B. The one who hears the Word, continues therein, and does it.
11. According to Ephesians 1:3, who has blessed us?
12. What has He blessed us with?
13. Where are they?
14. According to Deuteronomy 28:13, the Lord has made you what?
15. What shall you be?
16. What are we to hearken (listen) to?
17. According to 2 Corinthians 5:17, what passed away?

18. What have become new?
19. According to Ephesians 4:24, how was our new man created after God?
20. Hebrews 9:12 and 15 reveal that both our redemption and inheritance are what?
21. According to Matthew 27:51, what was ripped in two from top to bottom when Jesus died?
22. According to Hebrews 9:23-28, where did Christ enter into on our behalf?
23. How many times did Jesus appear to put away sin?
24. How did He do it?
25. Once we die, what comes next?
26. How many times was Christ offered to bear the sins of many?
27. According to Exodus 25:40, where was the pattern Moses was shown to follow?
28. What does Hebrews 8:5 reveal as being the example and shadow of heavenly things?
29. According to Hebrews 10:1-2, could the Law and its continual sacrifices make the comers thereunto perfect?
30. What would have happened if it had?
31. Because the worshipers once purged would have had what?

The Real Deal

LESSON 11 – SCRIPTURES

For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

HEBREWS 9:13-15

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

1 JOHN 4:17

It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

JOHN 6:63

For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: for he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

JAMES 1:23-25

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

EPHESIANS 1:3

And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them.

DEUTERONOMY 28:13

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

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

EPHESIANS 4:24

Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us...And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

HEBREWS 9:12 AND 15

And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent.

MATTHEW 27:51

It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

HEBREWS 9:23-28

And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount.

EXODUS 25:40

Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

HEBREWS 8:5

For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.

HEBREWS 10:1-2

Spirit vs. Flesh

LESSON 12 – OUTLINE

- I. Most of us are modeling our relationship with God after the way our fathers or someone else has treated us.
 - A. But God is greater than any person you've ever dealt with.
 - B. He has forgiven all of your sins, so you should have no more sin-consciousness.
 - C. If you approach God, saying "I'm so ungodly and unworthy. How could You love me?" then you're in the flesh.

- II. Your born-again spirit isn't defiled or ungodly—it's righteous, holy, and pure.

- A. When you first believed on Jesus, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit.

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise.

EPHESIANS 1:13

- B. Your born-again spirit, a.k.a. new man, was created in righteousness and true holiness.

Put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

EPHESIANS 4:24

- C. As Jesus is, so became your spirit in this world.

As he is, so are we in this world.

1 JOHN 4:17

- D. Your spirit became one with the Lord.

But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:17

- E. Then, all of this goodness was immediately sealed tight with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 1:13).

- III. When you were born again, your spirit was immediately encased—vacuum packed—by the Holy Spirit for the purpose of preservation.

- A. When you fail in any area of your life after being saved, the rottenness, uncleanness, and defilement that comes to your body and soul doesn't penetrate your spirit.

B. If you don't understand that the Holy Spirit encased your born-again spirit, your conscience will eventually give you the impression that you've lost the righteousness and true holiness your spirit was created in.

C. However, the truth is that your spirit was sealed.

D. Sin and its effects cannot enter your spirit.

IV. When you sin, your spirit does not participate.

A. It retains its original holiness and purity—and will for eternity!

Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

1 JOHN 3:9

B. This means you are as righteous and holy now—in your spirit—as you will ever be.

V. However, many people struggle to understand 1 John 3:9 because its context clearly shows that Christians do sin.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1 JOHN 1:8

If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 JOHN 1:10

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

1 JOHN 2:1

A. If you interpret 1 John 3:9 to mean that you cannot habitually sin if you're truly born of God, then nobody would qualify, because we all habitually sin.

B. If you understand spirit, soul, and body, the interpretation of 1 John 3:9 is obvious.

C. Your spirit is the only part of you that's been born of God.

D. Your soul and body have been purchased, but not yet redeemed.

E. Therefore, your spirit cannot sin even though your body and soul can, which means your performance doesn't affect the purity and holiness of your spirit.

VI. Since God is a Spirit, He always deals with (and relates to) you Spirit to spirit (John 4:24).

A. When you sin as a Christian, it affects your physical body, mind, and emotions.

- B. Satan has an opportunity against your physical and soulish realms, but your born-again spirit remains sealed (Rom. 6:16).
- C. Since your spirit was created in righteousness and true holiness—and sin can't penetrate that Holy Spirit seal—you don't lose your right standing with God.
- D. Your spirit is as pure right now as it was the instant you were born again, and as righteous this moment as it will ever be throughout all eternity (2 Cor. 5:21).
- E. Because you are righteous in your born-again spirit, you can approach God with confidence. It doesn't matter that you haven't done everything you should have done in your physical actions. Now, that's good news!

Spirit vs. Flesh

LESSON 12 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. Ephesians 1:13 describes the Gospel of our salvation as what?
2. What happened when we first believed?
3. According to Ephesians 4:24, what should we do with our new man, which was created in righteousness and true holiness?
4. According to 1 John 4:17, as who is, so are we in this world?
5. First Corinthians 6:17 reveals that we are what unto the Lord?
6. According to James 4:17, is it enough to know the good we ought to do?
7. According to 1 John 3:9, can someone who is born of God sin?
8. What remains in them?
9. According to 1 John 1:8, what are we if we say we have no sin?
10. What is not in those who say they have no sin?
11. According to 1 John 1:10, what do we make God when we say that we have not sinned?
12. What is not in those who say they haven't sinned?
13. Who was being addressed in 1 John 2:1?
14. What was his purpose in writing them?
15. If anyone sins, who is their advocate with the Father?
16. How is this advocate described?
17. In Deuteronomy 21:20, who were the parents of a stubborn and rebellious child instructed to address?
18. In addition to being a glutton and a drunkard, how was this son's stubbornness and rebellion described?
19. According to Romans 6:16, does it matter who we yield ourselves to?
20. What's the fruit of serving sin?

21. What's the fruit of obedience to God?
22. According to 2 Corinthians 5:21, Jesus became sin for us so that we could become what?
23. Had Jesus known sin before He became sin on the cross?
24. We are made the righteousness of God in whom?
25. Since John 4:24 reveals that God is a Spirit, what must we do in spirit and truth?

Spirit vs. Flesh

LESSON 12 – SCRIPTURES

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise.

EPHESIANS 1:13

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

EPHESIANS 4:24

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

1 JOHN 4:17

But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:17

Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

JAMES 4:17

Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

1 JOHN 3:9

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1 JOHN 1:8

If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 JOHN 1:10

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

1 JOHN 2:1

And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard.

DEUTERONOMY 21:20

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

ROMANS 6:16

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

JOHN 4:24

Born Again Perfect

LESSON 13 – OUTLINE

I. Jesus died to put His will into effect, and then rose again to enforce—probate—it.

By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

HEBREWS 10:10

A. The Word says we are sanctified—made holy—through the offering of the Lord Jesus Christ once for all.

And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man [Jesus], after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God.

HEBREWS 10:11-12, EMPHASIS AND BRACKETS MINE

B. Notice the contrast between the way it was done in the Old Testament (“daily” and “oftentimes”) and the way it’s done in the New (“one sacrifice for sins for ever”).

From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

HEBREWS 10:13-14

C. This is speaking of the part of you that totally changed the instant you were born again—your spirit.

II. Your spirit is identical to the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 6:17).

A. Your spirit has been sanctified and perfected forever.

But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect.

HEBREWS 12:22-23, EMPHASIS MINE

B. Now, God is aware that you have a physical body and a soul that does things wrong, but He looks at you in the spirit.

C. You are His workmanship (Eph. 2:10).

D. You have all of the benefits and privileges that Jesus has.

God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

GALATIANS 4:6

E. The Spirit of Christ is in you.

Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

ROMANS 8:9

III. God deals with you based on who you are in the spirit.

A. When we stand before God, all of a sudden we'll know all things (1 Cor. 13:9-12).

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

ROMANS 8:18, EMPHASIS MINE

B. In an instant, the Lord will straighten out our theology, and we'll understand everything even as we are known.

IV. You need to start thinking this way and acknowledging the good things in you in Christ!

That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

PHILEMON 6

A. When you were born again, God put His Son on the inside of you.

B. You have the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, and more (Gal. 5:22-23).

C. Your spirit is always rejoicing, always healthy, always believing, always full of hope, and always exactly like Jesus is.

D. The only reason you don't benefit from it is because your flesh is going more by what it feels in the physical realm than what you see in the Word of God.

E. Maturity in the Christian life isn't trying to grow your spirit up; it's trying to educate your brain to what you already have in your spirit.

V. We all fail, but the Lord never turns His back on us.

A. Sin is the only inroad the devil has ever had on us.

B. You're sin conscious and still thinking, *I have to get over these things before the Lord will answer my prayers.*

All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient [helpful]: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:12, BRACKETS MINE

C. We've condemned ourselves when God isn't condemning us.

Born Again Perfect

LESSON 13 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. According to Hebrews 10:10-14, how are we sanctified?
2. After Jesus offered one sacrifice for sins forever, what did He do?
3. For by one offering, He has perfected whom forever?
4. According to 1 Corinthians 6:17, who is one spirit with the Lord?
5. Ephesians 4:24 reveals that our new man is created in righteousness and what?
6. According to Ephesians 1:13, what happened immediately after we believed?
7. Romans 6:16 shows us that we are servants to whom?
8. According to Hebrews 12:22-23, what part of just men have been made perfect?
9. In 1 Corinthians 13:9-12, what happens when that which is perfect is come?
10. How do we see now?
11. How will we see then?
12. We know in part now, but then we shall know how?
13. According to 1 Samuel 16:7, does God look at our inner man or our outer man?
14. What does John 4:24 reveal that God is?
15. According to Ephesians 2:10, whose workmanship are we?
16. What were we created in Christ Jesus unto?
17. When was it that God ordained for us to walk in them?
18. What does Galatians 4:6 say that we are?
19. Whom has God sent forth into our hearts?
20. What does He cry to God?
21. If the Spirit of God dwells in us, what does Romans 8:9 reveal that we are?

22. What are we not?
23. People without _____ are none of His.
24. According to Romans 8:18, _____ are not worthy to be compared.
25. Compared with the glory that shall be revealed _____ us.
 - A. To.
 - B. In.
 - C. For.
 - D. Above.
26. According to Ephesians 1:18-19, what is being enlightened?
27. What should we know?
 - A. The exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward who believe.
 - B. The riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.
 - C. The hope of His calling.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
28. In Daniel 10:11-14, what did the angel say when he saw Daniel trembling?
29. When was Daniel's prayer heard and the answer sent by God?
30. How many days had this answer been withstood and delayed?
31. According to Philemon 6, how does the communication of our faith become effective?
32. By whose stripes does 1 Peter 2:24 reveal that we were healed?
33. According to Romans 5:8, who did God commend His love toward?
34. When did He do this?
35. How did He do this?
36. Which of the following does Galatians 5:22-23 include as part of the fruit of the Spirit?
 - A. Longsuffering.
 - B. Temperance.
 - C. Joy.
 - D. Love.
 - E. Meekness.
 - F. Goodness.
 - G. Peace.
 - H. Faith.
 - I. Gentleness.
 - J. All of the above.

37. Is there any law against such fruit?
38. According to 1 Corinthians 6:12, what did the Apostle Paul say is lawful unto us?
39. But they are not all what?
40. Was Paul brought under the power of anything?

Born Again Perfect

LESSON 13 – SCRIPTURES

By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

HEBREWS 10:10-14

But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:17

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

EPHESIANS 4:24

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise.

EPHESIANS 1:13

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

ROMANS 6:16

But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect.

HEBREWS 12:22-23

For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:9-12

But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not

as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

1 SAMUEL 16:7

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

JOHN 4:24

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

EPHESIANS 2:10

And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

GALATIANS 4:6

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

ROMANS 8:9

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

ROMANS 8:18

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power.

EPHESIANS 1:18-19

And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling. Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.

DANIEL 10:11-14

That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

PHILEMON 6

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

1 PETER 2:24

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

ROMANS 5:8

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

GALATIANS 5:22-23

All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:12

Steady and Secure

LESSON 14 – OUTLINE

I. You can feel condemned when God isn't the one condemning you.

For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

1 JOHN 3:20

A. It was my own religious thinking.

B. Many Christians can't even blame the devil for all the condemnation they suffer.

C. All he did was teach them something, and they've been doing such a good job ever since, he's been on vacation.

II. We pray stupid prayers because we don't understand that what we're asking for is already done.

A. In your spirit, you have all of God you can get (Matt. 28:20 and Heb. 13:5).

B. The same power that raised Christ from the dead already indwells you (Rom. 8:11 and Eph. 1:19-20).

C. You just need to find out what you have.

D. Then acknowledge the good things that are in you in Christ Jesus, and your faith will start working (Philem. 6).

E. God has already done everything in the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

III. *Repent* means "to turn and go the other way."

A. Yes, you need to repent—turn and go the other way—because if you persist in sin, Satan will eat your lunch and pop the bag.

B. You don't need to give the Enemy that kind of inroad into your life.

C. You don't lose your salvation every time you sin.

D. God knew you were going to sin and has already dealt with it.

E. He's not going to make you pay for what His Son has already paid for.

F. You can't add anything to what Jesus has done.

- IV. God loves you not because of your goodness but because of Christ's goodness and what He did for you.
 - A. You need to change the basis of your relationship with God from being on your own goodness and performance to relating to God based on faith in what Jesus did for you.
 - B. When you do that, you'll find that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb. 13:8).
 - C. Therefore, your relationship will become steady and secure.
- V. God has been good to us, and it's only our own religious bondage that is keeping us from appreciating and receiving it.

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.

HOSEA 4:6

- A. You don't have to fluctuate between a strong and weak relationship with God.
- B. If you would get into Jesus and start basing your life on what He has done and not letting Satan put you back under the sin you've been redeemed from, nothing—absolutely nothing—could destroy you.

Steady and Secure

LESSON 14 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. According to 1 John 3:20, what is it that condemns us?
2. Who is greater than that?
3. What does He know?
4. According to Matthew 18:20, how should we gather?
5. What minimum number must gather before He's there in the midst of us?
6. According to Matthew 28:20, what should be taught for disciples to observe?
7. Who is with us?
8. For how long?
9. According to Hebrews 13:5, what can we be since Jesus will never leave us nor forsake us?
10. Romans 8:11 reveals that what Spirit lives in us?
11. What shall He also do to our mortal bodies?
12. How?
13. According to Ephesians 1:19-20, the exceeding greatness of His power is toward us who what?
14. This same power raised whom from the dead?
15. This same power set Him where?
16. According to Philemon 6, what happens when we acknowledge the good things in us in Christ?
17. According to Hebrews 13:8, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever?
18. The love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance listed in Galatians 5:22-23 are all part of what?
19. Fill in the blanks from Philippians 1:21. For to me to live is _____, and to die is _____.
 - A. Christ, gain.
 - B. Gain, loss.
 - C. Gain, Christ.
 - D. Christ, loss.
20. According to Hosea 4:6, why are God's people destroyed?

Steady and Secure

LESSON 14 – SCRIPTURES

For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

1 JOHN 3:20

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

MATTHEW 18:20

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

MATTHEW 28:20

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

HEBREWS 13:5

But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

ROMANS 8:11

And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places.

EPHESIANS 1:19-20

That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

PHILEMON 6

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

HEBREWS 13:8

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

GALATIANS 5:22-23

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

PHILIPPIANS 1:21

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

HOSEA 4:6

What about 1 John 1:9?

LESSON 15 – OUTLINE

- I. First John 1:9 is the only New Testament scripture I know of that makes God’s forgiveness of our sins conditional on us confessing them.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 JOHN 1:9

- A. The belief that we won’t be forgiven if we don’t confess our sins is a major doctrine of the church, and it only has one supporting verse in New Testament scriptures (Matt. 18:16; Deut. 17:6, and 19:15).
- B. Having to repent and ask forgiveness before the Lord forgives our sins is an Old Testament concept (Lev. 26:40-42; 1 Kin. 8:47; 2 Chr. 6:37-38, 7:14; Neh. 1:6, and 9:2).
- C. When John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness, he was still a preacher under the Old Covenant (Mark 1:4; Luke 3:3, and 16:16).
- D. He was announcing the coming of the kingdom of God, but the new birth and all the “in Christ” realities didn’t come into being until after the resurrection of Jesus.
- II. Under the New Covenant, remission of our sins comes through faith in the atoning sacrifice of Jesus’ blood (Rom. 3:25; Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14; and Heb. 9:22).

For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

MATTHEW 26:28

- A. It is no longer the turning from our sins that saves us, but the turning to Christ in faith in what He did for us (John 16:8-9 and 1 John 2:2).

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.

ACTS 16:31

- B. In the New Covenant, we confess our faith in Christ—not our sins—in order to receive the salvation that Jesus has already provided.

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

ROMANS 10:9-10

- C. Many New Testament scriptures promote repentance (Acts 26:20, Rom. 2:4, and 2 Cor. 7:10).

And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

LUKE 24:47

- D. But there is a difference between preaching repentance and faith toward God (Acts 20:21 and Heb. 6:1) and preaching repentance *for* the remission of sins, which is what John the Baptist and the Old Testament prophets preached.

III. We are constantly falling short of what God wants us to be.

- A. That's what fallen humans do, even saved and forgiven humans.
B. But the very context of 1 John 1:9 deals with this problem.

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us [a continuous process] from all sin.

1 JOHN 1:7, BRACKETS MINE

- C. When we walk in the light of God that we have, the blood of Jesus constantly cleanses us from sins of ignorance and omission.

IV. Every time we knowingly yield to sin, we are yielding to Satan—the author of that sin.

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

ROMANS 6:16

- A. That doesn't mean we lose our salvation—it just means we have opened a door into our lives for the devil to come in and do what he wants.

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

JOHN 10:10

- B. How do we cancel Satan's legal claim to inflict pain in our lives when we have given him that right?
C. We confess those known sins, and the forgiveness that is already a reality in our born-again spirits comes out into our flesh (souls and bodies) and drives the Enemy out (1 John 1:9).

- D. When Christians confess their sins, they are simply saying the same thing as God—that their sins were wrong.
1. They are coming back into agreement with the Lord and turning away from Satan.
 2. This shuts the door on him and stops his work in their life.
- V. It is necessary for Christians to repent and ask forgiveness for their sins, but it *must* be understood that this only affects their relationship with the devil—not with God.
- A. All sin does to the believer is open a door to the devil.
1. When you sin, recognize that it didn't separate you from the love of God—He still sees you perfect in Christ, and all your rights and privileges are still intact.
 2. However, you have made your life miserable by inviting Satan into your affairs.
 3. Therefore, be quick to repent, confess that sin, and get the forgiveness—which is already resident in your spirit—out into your flesh so the devil can't have his way with you.
- B. Praise God for 1 John 1:9, and the truths it reveals to us!

What about 1 John 1:9?

LESSON 15 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. According to Hebrews 10:10 and 14, who is sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ?
2. By this one offering, He has perfected those who are sanctified for how long?
3. According to Hebrews 12:23, what part of just—righteous—people has been made perfect?
4. According to John 4:24, how must we worship God?
5. Who does 1 John 1:9 reveal as faithful and just to forgive us our sins?
6. What does He do with all our unrighteousness?
7. According to Deuteronomy 17:6, 19:15; and Matthew 18:16, in the mouth of how many witnesses should every word/matter be established?
8. Old Testament scriptures like Leviticus 26:40-42; 1 Kings 8:47; 2 Chronicles 6:37-38, 7:14; Nehemiah 1:6, and 9:2 all make _____ a condition of receiving forgiveness.
9. According to Luke 16:16, the Law and the Prophets were until whom?
10. Since that time, what is preached?
11. According to Mark 1:4 and Luke 3:3, what did John the Baptist preach?
12. According to Matthew 26:28, what was Jesus' blood of the New Covenant shed for?
13. Romans 3:25 reveals that we are to place our faith in what?
14. What does Ephesians 1:7 and Colossians 1:14 say we have through Jesus' blood?
15. According to Hebrews 9:22, there is no _____ without the shedding of blood.
16. What does Acts 16:30-31 say we must do to be saved?
17. According to John 16:8-9, what will the Holy Spirit reprove the world of?
 - A. Sin.
 - B. Righteousness.
 - C. Judgment.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.

18. First John 2:2 reveals that Jesus is the propitiation—atonement sacrifice—for the whole world's what?
19. According to Romans 10:9-10, what must we confess with?
20. What must we believe with?
21. Who must we confess?
22. What must we believe?
23. This results in what?
24. Acts 20:21, 26:20; Romans 2:4; 2 Corinthians 7:10; and Luke 24:47 all refer to what?
25. What does Hebrews 6:1 say we should repent from?
26. According to James 4:17, what should we do?
27. Romans 14:23 reveals that whatsoever is not of faith is what?
28. According to 1 John 1:7, what happens when we walk in the light as Jesus is in the light?
29. The good things mentioned in 2 Corinthians 5:17 are true of any man in whom?
30. What part of our beings is Ephesians 4:24, 1 John 4:17, and 1 Corinthians 6:17 speaking of?
31. Ephesians 1:13 reveals that the Holy Spirit did what the instant we believed the Word and received salvation?
32. According to Romans 6:16 and John 10:10, who brings death into our lives?
33. Who brings righteousness and abundant life?
34. According to Hebrews 9:12 and 15, who is the mediator of the New Covenant (Testament)?
35. According to Romans 8:2, what has the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus made us free from?
36. Isaiah 59:1-2 reveals that under the Old Covenant, people's iniquities did what between them and God?
37. What else did their sins do?
38. According to Romans 8:35-39, what are we through Him who loved us?
39. Is there anything or anyone that can separate us from the love of God?
40. Where is this love?

What About 1 John 1:9?

LESSON 15 – SCRIPTURES

By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all...For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

HEBREWS 10:10 AND 14

To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect.

HEBREWS 12:23

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

JOHN 4:24

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 JOHN 1:9

But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

MATTHEW 18:16

At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death.

DEUTERONOMY 17:6

One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established.

DEUTERONOMY 19:15

If they shall confess their iniquity, and the iniquity of their fathers, with their trespass which they trespassed against me, and that also they have walked contrary unto me; And that I also have walked contrary unto them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if then their uncircumcised hearts be humbled, and they then accept of the punishment of their iniquity: Then will I remember my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land.

LEVITICUS 26:40-42

Yet if they shall bethink themselves in the land whither they were carried captives, and repent, and make supplication unto thee in the land of them that carried them captives, saying, We have sinned, and have done perversely, we have committed wickedness.

1 KINGS 8:47

Yet if they bethink themselves in the land whither they are carried captive, and turn and pray unto thee in the land of their captivity, saying, We have sinned, we have done amiss, and have dealt wickedly; If they return to thee with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, whither they have carried them captives, and pray toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, and toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house which I have built for thy name.

2 CHRONICLES 6:37-38

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned.

NEHEMIAH 1:6

And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers.

NEHEMIAH 9:2

The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

LUKE 16:16

John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

MARK 1:4

And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

LUKE 3:3

For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

MATTHEW 26:28

Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.

ROMANS 3:25

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.

EPHESIANS 1:7

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.

COLOSSIANS 1:14

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

HEBREWS 9:22

And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

ACTS 16:30-31

And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me.

JOHN 16:8-9

And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 JOHN 2:2

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

ROMANS 10:9-10

Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

ACTS 20:21

But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

ACTS 26:20

Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

ROMANS 2:4

For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

2 CORINTHIANS 7:10

And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

LUKE 24:47

Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God.

HEBREWS 6:1

Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

JAMES 4:17

And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

ROMANS 14:23

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

1 JOHN 1:7

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

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

EPHESIANS 4:24

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

1 JOHN 4:17

But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:17

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise.

EPHESIANS 1:13

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

ROMANS 6:16

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

JOHN 10:10

Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us...And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, that which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

HEBREWS 9:12 AND 15

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

ROMANS 8:2

Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

ISAIAH 59:1-2

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 8:35-39

God's True Nature

LESSON 16 – OUTLINE

- I. When I first started understanding the grace of God, I had many questions.
 - A. I saw that Jesus had paid for all of my sins and that God wasn't angry with me anymore.
 - B. I received a revelation of the truth that God wasn't imputing man's sins unto him, and I experienced His unconditional love.
 - C. God is a merciful God.
 - D. I knew that, but as I studied the Word, I ran across a number of things that seemed contrary to this.

- II. Take, for instance, when Ahaziah hurt himself and sent messengers to inquire of Beelzebub whether he would live or die.

- A. The king became mad at Elijah and sent a captain and fifty soldiers out to get him.

Behold, he [Elijah] sat on top of an hill. And he [the captain] spake unto him, Thou man of God, the king hath said, Come down. And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, If I be a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

2 KINGS 1:9-10, BRACKETS MINE

- B. Elijah didn't have to kill those 102 men (2 Kin. 1:11-12).
- C. He didn't have to handle the situation this way.
- D. Although there are some things in the Bible that look contrary to this truth that the war is over, a closer examination confirms that the Lord is now truly at peace with us.
- E. Jesus rebuked His disciples for wanting to do the same thing Elijah had done (Luke 9:51-56).

Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them.

LUKE 9:55-56

- F. If Christ had been on the earth in His physical ministry back in the days of Elijah, He would have rebuked him for calling fire down from heaven too.

III. There is a difference between the way God dealt with mankind under the Old Covenant and the way He deals with us now under the New.

A. How do we harmonize the judgment we see under the Old Covenant with the mercy we see under the New?

B. We need to understand the true nature of God (Mal. 3:6 and Heb. 13:8).

IV. God is a merciful God.

A. Romans 5:13 is a pivotal scripture that's helped me understand the entire Bible.

For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

ROMANS 5:13

B. Until the time of Moses, God wasn't holding men's sins against them.

C. Then the Law came and was in effect for the following 1,500 years, until the time when Christ came.

The law and the prophets were until John [the Baptist]: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

LUKE 16:16, BRACKETS MINE

D. The Law was only temporary until Jesus came to end it.

But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

GALATIANS 3:23-26

E. Jesus established grace and truth.

For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

JOHN 1:17

F. In the nearly 6,000 years since creation—2,500 from the Fall to Moses; 1,500 from Moses to Jesus; and 2,000 from Christ until now—it was less than 2,000 that people were actually under the Law with sin being imputed unto them.

G. Since the time of Christ, the Law has ceased being the way God deals with people—He's not imputing men's sins unto them anymore.

- V. The reason God sent Adam and Eve out of the Garden was so they wouldn't eat of the Tree of Life and so live forever.

The LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

GENESIS 3:22-23, EMPHASIS MINE

- A. These verses don't say that God "kicked" Adam and Eve out of the Garden because "He was holy, and a holy God could have no communion or fellowship with unholy man."
- B. In the next chapter, after they left the Garden of Eden, we find God still walking and talking with man—He's still talking with them in an audible voice and fellowshiping with them.

And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

GENESIS 4:16

- C. God didn't take His presence away from man—man left the presence of God.
- D. God was still dealing with man in mercy, not imputing his sins unto him until the time of the Law.
- E. God didn't want Adam and Eve to eat of the Tree of Life and have the ability to live forever in corruption and sin.
- F. Love—not rejection—motivated God to send Adam and Eve out of the Garden.

God's True Nature

LESSON 16 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. Which Old Testament prophet was 2 Kings 1:9-12 talking about?
2. How many captains of fifty addressed him in these verses?
3. What did he do to both them and their men?
4. How many people were killed through this?
5. In Numbers 16:28-33, who was the prophet God had sent to do all these works?
6. Who had provoked the Lord?
7. In Luke 9:51-56, where was Jesus traveling to?
8. Where was He traveling through?
9. When they would not receive Him, which two disciples spoke up?
10. What did they ask Jesus?
11. How did Jesus respond?
12. Did the Son of Man come to destroy men's lives, or to save them?
13. According to Malachi 3:6, who never changes?
14. According to Hebrews 13:8, when is Jesus Christ the same?
15. Romans 5:13 reveals that sin was in the world before what?
16. When there is no Law, sin is not what?
17. According to Luke 16:16, the Law and the Prophets were until whom?
18. Since that time, what is preached?
19. Read Galatians 3:23-26. When were we kept under the Law?
20. The Law shut us up (kept us) until what came?
21. The Law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto whom?

22. How are we justified—made righteous?
23. When are we no longer under the schoolmaster?
24. How did we become the children of God?
25. According to John 1:17, who gave us the Law?
26. Grace and truth came by whom?
27. According to Genesis 2:22-23, what did God say man had become?
28. What did they know?
29. What would have happened if man had put forth his hand and eaten of the Tree of Life?
30. To prevent that from happening, what did God do?
31. What was Adam to do out there?
32. According to Genesis 4:16, what did Cain go out from?

God's True Nature

LESSON 16 – SCRIPTURES

Then the king sent unto him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him: and, behold, he sat on top of an hill. And he spake unto him, Thou man of God, the king hath said, Come down. And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, If I be a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty. Again also he sent unto him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said unto him, O man of God, thus hath the king said, Come down quickly. And Elijah answered and said unto them, If I be a man of God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And the fire of God came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

2 KINGS 1:9-12

And Moses said, Hereby ye shall know that the LORD hath sent me to do all these works; for I have not done them of mine own mind. If these men die the common death of all men, or if they be visited after the visitation of all men; then the LORD hath not sent me. But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that appertain unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD. And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them: And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation.

NUMBERS 16:28-33

And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem, And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him. And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem. And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.

LUKE 9:51-56

For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

MALACHI 3:6

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

HEBREWS 13:8

For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

ROMANS 5:13

The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

LUKE 16:16

But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

GALATIANS 3:23-26

For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

JOHN 1:17

And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

GENESIS 3:22-23

And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

GENESIS 4:16

Acting in Mercy

LESSON 17 – OUTLINE

- I. God didn't quit fellowshiping with Adam and Eve, or their descendants, after He sent them out of the Garden.

And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering.

GENESIS 4:3-4

- A. Most people just read through this and miss the subtle truths embedded within.
B. A couple of verses later, God spoke to them in an audible voice.

And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth?

GENESIS 4:6

- C. God was still walking and talking with them.

But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. And the LORD said unto Cain.

GENESIS 4:5-6

- D. God was talking to Cain in an audible voice, the same way He talked to Adam and Eve in the chapter before.

Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

GENESIS 4:6-7

- II. Cain was the very first person to ever murder another person.

And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother?

GENESIS 4:8-9

- A. For Cain to respond the way he did, putting his hands behind his back and lying after hearing the audible voice of God, speaks volumes.

- B. It's obvious that Cain was used to hearing the voice of God—familiarity breeds contempt.
- C. Cain was the one who left God's presence, not vice versa.

And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

GENESIS 4:16

- III. God was walking with man, still being merciful to him and not imputing his sins unto him during those first 2,500 years.
 - A. Abraham married his half-sister, but instead of God punishing him, He dealt with him in mercy and made him His friend (Lev. 18:9, 2 Chr. 20:7, Is. 41:8, and James 2:23).
 - B. On two separate occasions, Abraham was going to let someone else commit adultery with his wife in order to save his own neck.
 - C. It was wrong on Abraham's part, yet God blessed him and rebuked the king as if he were the one who was wrong.
 - D. Jacob married two sisters—Leah and Rachel—while they were both alive, which is an abomination in God's sight (Lev. 18:18).
 - E. Yet Jacob wrestled with God and prevailed, so the Lord changed his name from Jacob to Israel (Gen. 32:24-28).
 - F. God deals with people based on covenant, not who's right and who's wrong.
- IV. Prior to the Law, God dealt with people in mercy, not imputing their sins unto them (Rom. 5:13).
 - A. Under the Law, the first person to violate the Law was killed for picking up sticks to make a fire (Num. 15:32-36).
 - B. The first person who transgressed after the Fall of Adam and Eve killed his brother, and the Lord extended mercy toward him and protected him (Gen. 4:15).
 - C. Can you see the difference between God's dealings with people during the Law, and before and after?
 - D. The Law wasn't truly God's heart.
- V. "But what about the Flood and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah? Those happened before the Law."
 - A. In these two cases, God acted in judgment toward a certain segment of mankind in order to show mercy toward the human race as a whole.

B. These people couldn't be purged and cleansed of their sin, because they couldn't be born again (Jesus hadn't come, died, and been resurrected yet).

C. We are just now beginning to approach a time that is as bad as those days.

And as it was in the days of Noe [Noah], so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man...Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot...Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

LUKE 17:26, 28, AND 30, BRACKETS MINE

D. The sin cancer was so bad in the earth that if God had not destroyed those people, there wouldn't have been a virgin left for Him to fulfill His promise through.

E. Acting in mercy toward mankind as a whole, God cut out the cancer so the corruption couldn't escalate and spread to a point of defiling the whole human race.

VI. The Law was only temporary.

A. It served as a **“schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ”** (Gal. 3:24).

B. The Law shut us up **“unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed”** (Gal. 3:23).

C. But now that Christ has come, we're no longer under this schoolmaster (Gal. 3:25).

D. Before someone is born again, they don't have the capacity to understand spiritual things.

The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:14

E. The Law taught people right from wrong, but their motivation for obedience was fear.

Acting in Mercy

LESSON 17 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. According to Genesis 4:3-5, what did Cain and Abel bring to the Lord?
2. What kind did Cain bring?
3. What kind did Abel bring?
4. The Lord had respect unto whom and what?
5. The Lord did not have respect unto whom and what?
6. Who was very wroth and whose countenance fell?
7. According to Genesis 4:6-7, what did the Lord do?
8. What does Exodus 22:29 say concerning the first of our ripe fruits?
9. According to Hebrews 11:4, how did Cain offer unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Abel?
10. After speaking to him, what did Cain do to his brother, Abel, in Genesis 4:8-9?
11. What did the Lord do?
12. How did Cain answer?
13. After leaving the presence of God, where does Genesis 4:16 say Cain dwelt?
14. What does Leviticus 18:9 forbid the uncovering of?
15. What does Leviticus 18:29 say will happen to anyone who commits any of these abominations?
16. Who does Hebrews 13:8 reveal as always the same?
17. What does the Word call Abraham in 2 Chronicles 20:7, Isaiah 41:8, and James 2:23?
18. In Genesis 12:10-20, what king did God protect Sarai from?
19. In Genesis 20:1-18, what king did God protect Sarah from?
20. Who does Leviticus 18:18 forbid a man from marrying—uncovering her nakedness—while his wife is still alive?

21. Even though he had married sisters at the same time, what did Jacob do in Genesis 32:24-28?
22. God changed Jacob's name to what?
23. According to Genesis 4:15, how did the Lord treat the first murderer?
 - A. With vengeance.
 - B. With mercy.
 - C. By killing him.
 - D. By protecting him.
24. According to Numbers 15:32-36, how did the Lord instruct Moses to treat the first person who had broken the Law?
 - A. With mercy.
 - B. To protect him.
 - C. To put him to death.
 - D. To stone him.
25. According to Luke 17:26-30, whose days will it be like in the day when the Son of man is revealed?
 - A. Moses and Joshua.
 - B. Peter and Paul.
 - C. Elijah and Elisha.
 - D. Noah and Lot.
26. According to Romans 5:13, what was in the world before the Law?
27. When there is no Law, what is not imputed?
28. According to Galatians 3:23-25, what were we kept under before faith came?
29. Who did the Law bring us to?
30. How are we justified?
31. What happens after that faith is come?
32. According to 1 Corinthians 2:14, does the natural man receive the things of the Spirit of God?
33. What are they to him?
34. Can he know the things of the Spirit of God?
35. Why?

Acting in Mercy

LESSON 17 – SCRIPTURES

And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him. And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?

GENESIS 4:3-9

Thou shalt not delay to offer the first of thy ripe fruits, and of thy liquors: the firstborn of thy sons shalt thou give unto me.

EXODUS 22:29

By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

HEBREWS 11:4

For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

ROMANS 5:13

And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

GENESIS 4:16

The nakedness of thy sister, the daughter of thy father, or daughter of thy mother, whether she be born at home, or born abroad, even their nakedness thou shalt not uncover.

LEVITICUS 18:9

For whosoever shall commit any of these abominations, even the souls that commit them shall be cut off from among their people.

LEVITICUS 18:29

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

HEBREWS 13:8

Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever?

2 CHRONICLES 20:7

But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend.

ISAIAH 41:8

And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

JAMES 2:23

And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine was grievous in the land. And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sarai his wife, Behold now, I know that thou art a fair woman to look upon: Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see thee, that they shall say, This is his wife: and they will kill me, but they will save thee alive. Say, I pray thee, thou art my sister: that it may be well with me for thy sake; and my soul shall live because of thee.

GENESIS 12:10-13

And it came to pass, that, when Abram was come into Egypt, the Egyptians beheld the woman that she was very fair. The princes also of Pharaoh saw her, and commended her before Pharaoh: and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house. And he entreated Abram well for her sake: and he had sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels. And the LORD plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai Abram's wife.

GENESIS 12:14-17

And Pharaoh called Abram, and said, What is this that thou hast done unto me? why didst thou not tell me that she was thy wife? Why saidst thou, She is my sister? so I might have taken her to me to wife: now therefore behold thy wife, take her, and go thy way. And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him: and they sent him away, and his wife, and all that he had.

GENESIS 12:18-20

And Abraham journeyed from thence toward the south country, and dwelled between Kadesh and Shur, and sojourned in Gerar. And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, She is my sister: and Abimelech king of Gerar sent, and took Sarah. But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, Behold, thou art but a dead man, for the woman which thou hast taken; for she is a man's wife. But Abimelech had not come near her: and he said, Lord, wilt thou slay also a righteous nation? Said he not unto me, She is my sister? and

she, even she herself said, He is my brother: in the integrity of my heart and innocency of my hands have I done this. And God said unto him in a dream, Yea, I know that thou didst this in the integrity of thy heart; for I also withheld thee from sinning against me: therefore suffered I thee not to touch her. Now therefore restore the man his wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that are thine.

GENESIS 20:1-7

Therefore Abimelech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told all these things in their ears: and the men were sore afraid. Then Abimelech called Abraham, and said unto him, What hast thou done unto us? and what have I offended thee, that thou hast brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? thou hast done deeds unto me that ought not to be done. And Abimelech said unto Abraham, What sawest thou, that thou hast done this thing?

GENESIS 20:8-10

And Abraham said, Because I thought, Surely the fear of God is not in this place; and they will slay me for my wife's sake. And yet indeed she is my sister; she is the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife. And it came to pass, when God caused me to wander from my father's house, that I said unto her, This is thy kindness which thou shalt shew unto me; at every place whither we shall come, say of me, He is my brother.

GENESIS 20:11-13

And Abimelech took sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and womenservants, and gave them unto Abraham, and restored him Sarah his wife. And Abimelech said, Behold, my land is before thee: dwell where it pleaseth thee. And unto Sarah he said, Behold, I have given thy brother a thousand pieces of silver: behold, he is to thee a covering of the eyes, unto all that are with thee, and with all other: thus she was reprov'd. So Abraham prayed unto God: and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare children. For the LORD had fast closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech, because of Sarah Abraham's wife.

GENESIS 20:14-18

Neither shalt thou take a wife to her sister, to vex her, to uncover her nakedness, beside the other in her life time.

LEVITICUS 18:18

And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him. And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. And he said unto him,

What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

GENESIS 32:24-28

And the LORD said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.

GENESIS 4:15

And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the sabbath day. And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation. And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him. And the LORD said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp. And all the congregation brought him without the camp, and stoned him with stones, and he died; as the LORD commanded Moses.

NUMBERS 15:32-36

And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

LUKE 17:26-30

But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

GALATIANS 3:23-25

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:14

Old vs. New

LESSON 18 – OUTLINE

I. In the New Covenant, we aren't supposed to be serving God out of fear of punishment.

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

1 JOHN 4:18

A. Now that we're new creatures in Christ, we have an intuitive knowledge.

B. God is inside us, informing us of right and wrong, and leading us in the way we should go.

C. As a Christian, you don't have to fear the wrath and judgment of God.

D. Now I do what's right, but with a totally different motivation.

II. The Old Testament Law was a brief period of time—until people could be born again—that God used fear, wrath, and punishment to motivate people.

A. The negative side effect of fear is torment (1 John 4:18).

B. Most people are tormented and aren't able to enter into the closeness and relationship God desires, which is the reason He didn't start imputing man's sins unto him from the very beginning.

C. The Law was never God's best.

D. God didn't want us to know the depths of our sin.

III. God extended mercy to people for 2,500 years, but they were taking His lack of judgment as approval.

A. After Cain got by with murder, his great, great, great-grandson, Lamech, killed a man in self-defense.

If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy and sevenfold.

GENESIS 4:24

B. In other words, Lamech said, "I am more justified in my murder than Cain was. So if God protected Cain, then He has to protect me that much more."

C. God had to do something to impose a standard on people because they didn't know what was right or wrong anymore.

IV. The Law was given to give you such a standard that it would condemn you.

The strength of sin is the law.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:56

The letter [of the Law] killeth.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:6, BRACKETS MINE

I had not known sin, but by the law...For without the law sin was dead. For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.

ROMANS 7:7-9

- A. The Law was given to take away your self-righteousness, condemn you, and make you feel unworthy.
 - B. The purpose of the Law was to drive you to the mercy and grace of God.
 - C. The Law made all of us guilty before God (Rom. 3:23).
 - D. The Law was meant to kill and destroy (2 Cor. 3:7).
 - E. The Law was meant to shut you up—make you hopeless and helpless—so that you would cry out to God for mercy (Gal. 3:23).
- V. We need to get out from under the Law and start relating to God based on His mercy and grace.
- A. For those first 2,500 years, God dealt with mankind in mercy.
 - B. But when people began to take His lack of judgment as approval, He needed to do something.
 - C. They had lost their concept of right and wrong because they were comparing themselves among themselves.
 - D. They were getting into self-righteousness, living ungodly, but thinking, *I'm wonderful even though I've done all of these things.*
 - E. God had to bring an end to that, so He gave the Law and started judging and punishing people for their sin—which put fear in them.
 - i. It limited the amount of sin they did, but it caused the sin they committed to destroy them (Prov. 16:6).
 - ii. Instead of enjoying relationship with God, people were living under condemnation.

F. Jesus came to redeem us from the Law and condemnation, and He has put us back into right relationship with the Father.

G. Now we can just love God—and He’s not imputing our sins unto us.

God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:19-20

VI. As believers, we need to have enough discernment to know what the Old Testament Law was and why He gave it. We need to recognize that under the New Testament, we have a better covenant.

A. Now that we’re born again, God isn’t imputing our sins unto us.

B. Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law (Gal. 3:13).

C. Most Christians have been looking at the New Testament through Old Testament glasses.

D. However, once you understand these truths, you’ll be able to look at the whole of God’s Word in proper perspective—you’ll start seeing the Old Covenant through New Covenant eyes.

E. We need to recognize and receive a revelation of the New Covenant we’ve been given.

Old vs. New

LESSON 18 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. According to 1 John 4:18, what does fear produce?
2. Who is not made perfect in love?
3. What does perfect love do to fear?
4. According to Genesis 4:24, how much more did Lamech presume God would protect and avenge him than Cain?
5. When we measure and compare ourselves with other people, what does 2 Corinthians 10:12 say we are?
6. According to Leviticus 19:19, what were people under the Law not allowed to do?
 - A. Wear a garment mingled of linen and wool.
 - B. Sow their fields with mingled seed.
 - C. Allow their cattle to gender with a diverse kind.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
7. The Law gives instruction in Deuteronomy 23:12-14 on what?
8. According to 2 Corinthians 3:6-7, what has God made us?
9. The letter of the Law does what?
10. What does the spirit of the New Testament (Covenant) do?
11. What was written and engraved on stones?
12. Was it glorious?
13. Was it permanent?
14. Who does the Word reveal that the Pharisee in Luke 18:11-12 was really praying with?
15. According to 1 Corinthians 15:56, what is the sting of death?
16. What is the strength of sin?
17. According to Romans 3:19-20, we know that what things the Law says, it says to whom?
18. This causes every mouth to be stopped and the whole world to what?

19. Shall anyone be justified—made righteous—in God’s sight by the deeds of the Law?
20. What knowledge comes to us by the Law?
21. According to Romans 4:15, can there be transgression where there is no Law?
22. What does the Law work?
23. According to Romans 6:14, the Law gives sin _____ over us?
24. Are we under the Law, or under grace?
25. According to Romans 7:7-9, how did we know sin?
26. Without the Law, what was sin?
27. What happened when the commandment came?
28. According to Romans 3:23, sinners come short of what?
29. According to Galatians 3:23, when were we kept under the Law?
30. What were we shut up unto?
31. Even though fear limits sin, Proverbs 16:6 reveals that it takes mercy and truth to purge what?
32. By what do men depart from evil?
33. According to 2 Corinthians 5:19-20, what has been committed unto us?
34. As ambassadors for Christ, what do we beseech and pray people in Christ’s stead?
35. According to Romans 2:4, what should we be careful not to despise?
 - A. God’s forbearance.
 - B. God’s longsuffering.
 - C. The riches of His goodness.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
36. What should we know?
 - A. That the goodness of God leads us to repentance.
 - B. That the judgment of God leads us to fear.
 - C. That the holiness of God leads us to condemnation.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
37. According to Matthew 22:37-39, what did Jesus say was the first and greatest commandment?

38. How should we love God?
- A. With all our minds.
 - B. With all our souls.
 - C. With all our hearts.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
39. Who else are we commanded to love?
40. How?
41. According to 1 John 4:8, what can we tell about someone who doesn't love others?
42. What is God's very nature?
43. According to Galatians 3:13, what has Christ done for us?
44. What was He made in order to accomplish this?
45. What is everyone who hangs (is crucified) on a tree?

Old vs. New

LESSON 18 – SCRIPTURES

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

1 JOHN 4:18

If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy and sevenfold.

GENESIS 4:24

For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

2 CORINTHIANS 10:12

Ye shall keep my statutes. Thou shalt not let thy cattle gender with a diverse kind: thou shalt not sow thy field with mingled seed: neither shall a garment mingled of linen and woollen come upon thee.

LEVITICUS 19:19

Thou shalt have a place also without the camp, whither thou shalt go forth abroad: And thou shalt have a paddle upon thy weapon; and it shall be when thou wilt ease thyself abroad, thou shalt dig therewith, and shalt turn back and cover that which cometh from thee: For the LORD thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.

DEUTERONOMY 23:12-14

Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life. But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:6-7

The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

LUKE 18:11-12

The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:56

Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

ROMANS 3:19-20

Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.

ROMANS 4:15

For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

ROMANS 6:14

What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had no known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet. But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead. For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.

ROMANS 7:7-9

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

ROMANS 3:23

But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

GALATIANS 3:23

By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.

PROVERBS 16:6

To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:19-20

Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

ROMANS 2:4

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

MATTHEW 22:37-39

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

1 JOHN 4:8

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.

GALATIANS 3:13

Spiritual Dyslexia

LESSON 19 – OUTLINE

- I. When we comprehend how much the Lord loves us, our faith shoots through the roof, because faith works by love (Gal. 5:6).

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

1 JOHN 1:1-4

- A. This close, intimate relationship with God is actually the true goal and aim of Christianity.
- B. If you really understood how much God loves you, it would just increase your relationship with Him.
- C. Everything in the Christian life flows out of this.
- II. There is a condition in the body of Christ called *spiritual dyslexia*.

- A. Dyslexia causes people to see things backwards.
- B. Spiritual dyslexia is contagious—you get it through close contact with religion.
- C. It's amazing how people turn these verses in 1 John around and see them as performance-based scriptures.

And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

1 JOHN 2:3

- D. This verse isn't saying that keeping God's commandments will cause you to know Him.
- E. It's saying that you can tell if you really know Him, because knowing God will cause you to keep His commandments.
- F. If you're truly in fellowship with God—loving Him and having His love flow through you—you'll know because you'll start loving other people.

III. You can't give away what you don't have.

- A. You can't love other people unconditionally if you haven't first of all received the unconditional love of God.
- B. If you ever experience God's unconditional—not based on your performance—love, you'll be able to love your mate unconditionally.
- C. And when you do love your mate unconditionally, you'll wind up communicating it.

IV. God's love in you will cause you to live right and to treat other people right.

- A. But for people who suffer from spiritual dyslexia, religion has come in and caused them to think, *Well, I want to know God, so I'm going to try to keep His commandments.*
- B. They try to do everything right, thinking that doing so will cause them to love God.
- C. If you aren't keeping the commandment of loving other people, it's because you don't know God.

He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

1 JOHN 2:4

- D. This is saying that if you profess to know God but that knowledge isn't being manifest through your actions toward other people, you're just deceiving yourself.
- E. Knowing God—having an intimate relationship with Him—will cause you to love other people.

V. If God's love is perfected in you, that will cause you to keep His Word.

But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

1 JOHN 2:5

- A. If we understood the love of God and had a relationship with Him, that would cause us to keep the commandments.
- B. Living holy is a fruit, not a root, of relationship with God.
- C. It's a byproduct of knowing Him.
- D. Therefore, we must receive a revelation of how God loves us unconditionally before we can keep His commandments.
- E. Have you received a revelation of the unconditional love of God?

Spiritual Dyslexia

LESSON 19 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. According to Galatians 5:6, does circumcision or uncircumcision avail anything in Jesus Christ?
2. What avails in Jesus Christ?
3. How does faith work?
4. According to 1 John 1:1-4, what has he seen with his eyes, and what have his hands handled?
5. What did he declare unto you?
6. Why did he declare it?
7. Truly, his fellowship is with whom?
8. Why did he write these things unto you?
9. According to 1 John 2:3-5, how do we know—what evidence or fruit do we have—that we know Him?
10. Is it possible to truly know Him and not keep His commandments?
11. What does the Bible call someone who says they know God but doesn't keep His commandments?
12. Is the truth in them?
13. What evidence, or fruit, is produced in those in whom the love of God is perfected?
14. If this same fruit is evident in our lives, what can we know?

Spiritual Dyslexia

LESSON 19 – SCRIPTURES

For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

GALATIANS 5:6

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

1 JOHN 1:1-4

And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

1 JOHN 2:3-5

Motivated by Love

LESSON 20 – OUTLINE

I. The Christian life isn't difficult—it's impossible!

But I [Jesus] say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain [two].

MATTHEW 5:39-41, BRACKETS MINE

- A. The flesh wants to fight, hurt somebody, or do whatever else it has to do to defend itself—but God has asked us to do things that are absolutely impossible to do.
- B. So, first of all, we must have a relationship with God.
- C. Then it's not us living, but Christ living in and through us (Gal. 2:20).
- D. When you have a relationship with God and you understand His perfect love, then you're able to forgive someone else, because you understand that you've been forgiven.
- E. The Lord wants us to come into a relationship with Him and receive His love.
- F. Then the love of Christ constrains us (2 Cor. 5:14). God's love will just flow through us.

II. I was genuinely converted as an eight-year-old.

- A. Even though I loved the Lord with all my heart, I fell into the trap of thinking I had to do something to get God to love me.
- B. Therefore, I was always doing things.
- C. I was doing all of this stuff—Tuesday and Thursday night visitations, reading my Bible every day, never missing a church meeting, and so forth, thinking I was doing this “great service,” trying to get God to love me.

III. Then on March 23, 1968 I had an experience where God revealed His love to me.

- A. First of all, He showed me that my self-righteousness and all the things I was taking pride in were an offense to Him.
- B. I honestly thought God was going to kill me.
- C. To my great surprise, after confessing all of that, the love of God just poured out in my life for about four and a half months.

- D. Tangibly, I knew that God loved me.
- E. When I saw that, it didn't make me want to serve God less.
- F. I just gave my life trying to share this love with other people.

IV. We need to tell people about the love of God.

- A. We need to let them know how good He is.
- B. If they ever received a revelation of that, they'd go tell everyone about God's love.
- C. The issue is motivation.

V. We're trying to get people to do the same action, but from totally different motivations.

Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning. Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

1 JOHN 2:7-8

- A. Is it an old commandment, or a new one? It's both.
- B. It's the same thing the Old Testament said, but now it's to be done with a different motivation.
- C. Therefore, it's a brand-new commandment now because, instead of commanding you to do all these things, God is saying to love Him and love people—as you do, you'll automatically do these other things.
- D. If we really loved people, we wouldn't gossip, steal, lie, or treat them the way we do.
- E. If we truly loved God, church leaders wouldn't have to force us to study the Word, meet with other believers, or anything else.

VI. First of all, you need to receive the love of God for yourself.

- A. You need to understand that the Lord isn't going to love you more if you do everything right, and He's not going to love you less if you do everything wrong.
- B. If you could ever get a revelation of that and receive the love of God, His love would cause you to live holy.

Motivated by Love

LESSON 20 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. Who was speaking in Matthew 5:39-41?
2. What are we not to resist?
3. What are we to do when we're smitten on the right cheek?
4. What are we to do if someone sues us and takes away our coats?
5. What are we to do if someone compels us to go a mile?
6. According to Galatians 2:20, who is crucified with Christ?
7. If you're a believer, who lives in you?
8. How do I now live in the flesh?
9. Fill in the blank. The faith of the _____ of God.
 - A. Disciple.
 - B. Son.
 - C. Follower.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
10. Whose faith is it?
11. In addition to giving every believer His faith, what has He done for them?
12. According to 1 Corinthians 5:14, what constrains a believer?
13. If one died for all, then what?
14. According to 1 Corinthians 13:1, what kinds of tongues can we speak in?
 - A. The tongues of angels.
 - B. The tongues of animals.
 - C. The tongues of men.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
15. What heart motivation must be present when I speak?

16. If that's not motivating me, what do I come across as?
 - A. Soothing music.
 - B. Tinkling cymbal.
 - C. Sounding brass.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.

17. To whom is 1 John 2:7-8 written?

18. Did the author write a new commandment, or an old commandment to the brethren?

19. How long have they had the old commandment?

20. What is the old commandment?

21. The new commandment is true where?
 - A. In you.
 - B. On earth.
 - C. In Him.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.

22. What has happened to the darkness?

23. What now shines?

Motivated by Love

LESSON 20 – SCRIPTURES

But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloaks also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.

MATTHEW 5:39-41

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

GALATIANS 2:20

For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:14

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1

Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning. Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

1 JOHN 2:7-8

God Looks at the Heart

LESSON 21 – OUTLINE

- I. Keeping the commandments and doing these things is the byproduct of—not the way to—a relationship with God.

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

1 JOHN 4:7

- A. This is saying that if you would just understand God's love for you and come to know Him, you would wind up loving other people, because God is love.

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

1 JOHN 4:8

- B. If you're filled with God, you'll be filled with love.

- II. God loved us first!

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1 JOHN 4:9-10

- A. You don't love God first, and then He loves you back.
- B. You must first of all receive the love of God. Then you can love God and love others.
- C. You can't give away what you don't have.
- D. You can't treat other people right if you think God is treating you wrong.
- E. God isn't mad at you because of the way you dress.

Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel.

1 PETER 3:3

- III. If you would receive the unconditional love of God, and let that love dwell in you, you'll wind up loving other people.

Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

1 JOHN 4:11-12

- A. If you don't understand what I'm talking about, the book of 1 John will seem to say you have to do these things for God to respond.

Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

1 JOHN 4:13-16

- B. This is saying that if you truly knew God, you would wind up living a holy life.
- C. Living holy doesn't earn us favor with God, but it does evidence His presence in our lives.

IV. God's love will cause you to love Him and love people.

- A. You can say that you love God, but the truth is you can tell by your actions whether His love is really dwelling in you or not.

But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

1 JOHN 3:17

- B. Instead of thinking you have to earn the blessing of God by doing these things, you need to recognize that living properly, treating other people right, loving your mate, and so forth are all byproducts of a relationship with God.
- C. If you would take the truths I've talked about in this study—that all of your sins have been paid for, that God's not angry with you, and so on—and meditate on them, the Lord would reveal His love to you.
- D. Once you fall in love with God and His love begins to flow in your life, it'll cause you to live holy. You will have your...

Fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

ROMANS 6:22

- E. Holiness is the fruit, not the root, of salvation.
- V. Religion always focuses on the external person.

Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

1 SAMUEL 16:7

- A. Religion is always trying to get you to clean up the outside—fix this and quit doing that—because that’s what mankind looks at and deals with.
- B. As long as you come to church, pay your tithes, and dress the way they want you to when you’re there, religious people don’t care what you do during the week.
- C. Religion just deals with the external, but God deals with the heart.
- D. The Lord wants to come in, touch your heart, and reveal His love to you.
- E. If that ever happens, the rest will be taken care of.
- F. God looks at your heart!

God Looks at the Heart

LESSON 21 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. To whom was 1 John 4:7-10 written?
2. How should we treat one another?
3. Why?
4. If someone is born of God and knows Him, what fruit will be evident in their life?
5. Someone who doesn't know God cannot what?
6. Why?
7. How was the love of God manifested toward us?
8. Why did He come?
9. How?
10. Since God loved us, whom did He send?
11. Why did He come?
12. According to 1 Peter 3:3, should our outward adorning be of the utmost importance to us?
13. To whom was 1 John 4:11-16 written?
14. What ought we to do since God so loved us?
15. Has anyone seen God at any time?
16. When God dwells in us and His love is perfected in us, what will we do?
17. Why did the Father send the Son?
18. If God dwells in someone and they dwell in God, what will they confess?
19. What have John and the believers he's writing known and believed?
20. Who is love?
21. Someone who dwells in love dwells in whom?

22. And who in them?
23. According to 1 John 3:17, what causes the author to ask, “How does the love of God dwell in them?”
 - A. Someone sees their brother in need.
 - B. They have this world’s goods.
 - C. They shut up their bowels of compassion from them.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
24. According to Romans 6:22, what have we been made free from?
25. What have we become?
26. What kind of fruit have we?
27. The end of which is what?
28. In 1 Samuel 16:7, who was speaking to Samuel?
29. Who looks on the outward appearance?
30. Who looks on the heart?

God Looks at the Heart

LESSON 21 – SCRIPTURES

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1 JOHN 4:7-10

Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel.

1 PETER 3:3

Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

1 JOHN 4:11-16

But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

1 JOHN 3:17

But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

ROMANS 6:22

But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

1 SAMUEL 16:7

Receive His Love

LESSON 22 – OUTLINE

- I. If you're sinning, it's because the love of God isn't flowing through you.
 - A. You aren't receiving and giving God's love.
 - B. What ought to keep you on the straight and narrow is your own personal relationship with God.
 - C. It ought to be the fact that He loves you.
 - D. Joseph had a personal relationship with God—that's what kept him straight.

How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

GENESIS 39:9

- E. If you truly fell in love with God, you'd find that these other things would just fall by the wayside.
- II. God loves you independent of your performance.
 - A. Love is a greater motivation than fear.
 - B. Let people know about the love of God, and the love of God will cause them to start living holy.
 - C. It will inspire and empower them to begin doing the right things.
 - D. Jesus loved people totally independent of their performance.
 - E. Then He made covenant with them not based on their actions but on whether or not they received His love.
- III. First of all, you need to receive God's unconditional love for yourself.
 - A. When you receive a spiritual revelation of God's unconditional love, and start walking in it, your actions will change.
 - B. You just have to open your heart and receive.

"Father, my focus has been on the outside. I've been trying to stop all of these actions and clean myself up in order for You to love me. But now I see that it's not this way at all. It's just a matter of receiving Your love. Father, I want to know You. I desire to receive a spiritual

revelation of Your love. Your Word says that the Holy Spirit will teach me all things, lead me into all truth, and bring all things to my remembrance that Jesus has spoken to me. Right now, I believe that You are revealing Yourself to me through the Holy Spirit. By faith, I receive Your unconditional love.

“Father, I ask You to break these feelings of guilt, shame, confusion, and condemnation that a works mentality has produced on the inside of me. Thank You for showing me Your supernatural love. Right now, I believe that a seed is being planted in me that will grow. As I meditate on these truths from Your Word, they are going to become a deeper conviction, a deeper revelation of Your unconditional love for me. I thank You that it’s Your love that will cause me to start living right. It’s Your love that will break these bondages in my life. I receive Your love. Thank You, Jesus!”

C. It’s irrational for you to be mad at God for the way other people have treated you.

“Father, You’ve been faithful to me. You’ve been good to me. Please forgive me for swallowing the devil’s lie that You love me only when I’m lovely, only when I’ve done things right. Forgive me for not searching this out in Your Word and allowing myself to be deceived. I believe that You are setting me free from all religious bondage. I am beginning to experience Your unconditional love right now. I break these religious strongholds that have exalted themselves against the knowledge of You in my life. I release my spiritual weapons and cast that junk down. I take every thought captive and bring them under obedience to Christ.”

“Father, I thank You that these truths will be brought back to my remembrance by the Holy Spirit. Your Word is going to burn on the inside of me until it cleans out all of this wrong thinking and I come to know You intimately as a good, merciful, kind heavenly Father. You placed all of the judgment I deserved upon Jesus. You aren’t angry with me. You aren’t disappointed with me. The war is over. Your anger against my sin is satisfied. You rejected Your own Son so that You would never reject me. Thank You for loving me! I receive Your love!”

D. Spend some time right now just praising and worshipping Him.

E. Let His unconditional love overwhelm you—enjoy His awesome presence.

F. Relationship with God is what you were created for.

IV. What you’re receiving is a progressive revelation.

A. If I hadn’t received the truth, begun to meditate on it, and learned these things, I would have long since lost that experience of God revealing His love to me.

B. It’s the truth you know and have established in your heart that sets you free (John 8:32).

C. The love of God isn’t a feeling—it’s a revelation.

D. That revelation can produce feelings, but feelings come and go—the revelation doesn’t.

- V. If you prayed these prayers in faith, something has definitely begun.
- A. Go to the Word of God.
 - B. Start praying and seeking Him (Jer. 29:13).
 - C. Meditate on these truths, and the Lord will continue revealing His love to you.
 - D. He longs to reveal Himself to you and draw you into a deeper relationship with Him (1 John 4:8).
 - E. Praise God, the war is over!

Receive His Love

LESSON 22 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. Who was speaking in Genesis 39:9?
2. To whom was he speaking?
3. Besides Potiphar himself, was there anyone greater in his house than Joseph?
4. Other than his wife, had Potiphar kept anything back from Joseph?
5. What did Joseph call this opportunity he was being offered?
6. Joseph recognized that if he were to yield to this temptation, he would sin against whom?
7. Joseph had received God's love and maintained a close relationship with Him, which kept him walking in what?
8. According to John 8:32, what shall we know?
9. What shall the truth make us?
10. According to Jeremiah 29:13, when will we find Him?
11. According to 1 John 4:8, what fruit does knowing God produce in us?
12. God is what?

Receive His Love

LESSON 22 – SCRIPTURES

There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

GENESIS 39:9

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

JOHN 8:32

And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

JEREMIAH 29:13

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

1 JOHN 4:8