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INTRODUCTON - EastPointe Bible Church ESSENTIALS Class

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This class is an in-depth practical study of Biblical verses and their application to your life.

The 22-week Essentials Class is designed to give an in-depth look at the foundational biblical truths that every follower of Christ should know. And we will see what marks a church that is pleasing to God

Important topics covered are *Salvation, Justification, Redemption,* and *What Christ expects from His followers.*

USAGE - EastPointe ESSENTIALS Class GUIDE BOOKLET

Each class lesson is a separate unit, Lesson 1 - 20. The “Answers” keys are provided at the end of each separate lesson. ([ToC= Return Back to “Table of Contents.](#))

Endnote References

1. Bible - NASB1995.
<https://my.bible.com/bible/100/GEN.1.NASB1995>
2. B. (To Be Defined)
<https://www.>
3. C. (To Be Defined)
<https://www.>
4. D. (To Be Defined)
<https://www.>

Revision History

Doc. Rev. Date	Doc. Rev. Number	Doc. Rev. Description	Page No. Revised	Name
8/15/2023	2.0	L. Oden markup updates from spring class 2023.	5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 20	JFB
8/01/2022	1.1	Updated format marks Pages to MS-Word.	All	JFB
3/30/2022	1.0	“APPROVED” for use / distribution.	All	JFB

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Essentials - Lesson 1, Part 1 ([Back ToC](#))

1. CHRIST and HIS Church, Part 1

“The Importance of the Church”

I. Matthew 16:13-19 - '13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He was asking His disciples, saying, “Who do people say that the SON OF MAN is?” 14 And they said, “Some *say* John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.” 15 He *said* to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16 And Simon Peter answered and said, “Thou art the Christ, the SON OF THE LIVING GOD.” 17 And Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My **church**; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it. 19 “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” *NASB*

A. This is a very significant passage for two (2) reasons:

1. This is the first time “**church**” is mentioned.
2. The Lord gives His disciples a final exam.

B. The most essential question ever asked.

1. First question: “*Who do people say that the Son of Man is?*”
2. The disciple’s response:

Matthew 16:14 - ‘14 And they said, “Some *say* John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.”’ *NASB*

C. True salvation is rarer than we think.

Matthew 7:13-14 - '13 “Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. 14 “For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.’ *NASB*

1. **Wide gate** = All _____.
 - a. Jesus describes discipleship.

Matthew 16:24-25 - '24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must **deny himself**, (sacrifice / self-denial) and take up his cross and follow Me. 25 For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.’ *NASB*

b. Who finds the wide gate? _____.

- 1.) The wide gate leads to _____ (Hell).
- 2.) Narrow gate - True _____.

c. Who finds the narrow gate? _____.

1.) It goes against man's _____.

~ *Mankind is wired to understand that blessings and rewards come from hard work.*

2.) False religion is _____ promoted.

Isaiah 14:13-14 - '13 "But you said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, And I will sit on the mount of assembly in the recesses of the north. 14 'I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; **I will make myself like the Most High.**' *NASB*

3.) The narrow gate leads to _____ . (Heaven)

D. So, what can we learn from this?

~ *The vast majority of religious people who claim to be Christians are _____.*

II. Essential truths about the gospel.

A. When Jesus asks the question in Matthew 16:13 He refers to Himself as who?

Matthew 16:13 '13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He began asking His disciples, saying, "Who do people say that the son of man is?" *NASB*

B. _____ . (most common title)

C. What does that title emphasize? _____.

D. The title Son of Man emphasizes His earthly mission _____.

Philippians 2:5-8 - '5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.' *NASB*

III. Jesus asks His disciples the same question.

Matthew 16:15 - '15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"' 16 And Simon Peter answered and said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." *NASB*

" _____ "

A. What does this title emphasize? _____.

~ *So, in this short dialogue Jesus is revealed be both human and God.*

B. Why is this so important?

1 John 5:13 - '13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.' *NASB*

1. Test # 1:

1 John 4:1-2 '1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God;' *NASB*

2. Test # 2:

1 John 4:15 - '15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.' *NASB*

C. Salvation cannot be attained without a proper

_____ of the gospel.

Romans 10:1-3 - '1 Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for *their* salvation. 2 For I testify about them that they have a **zeal for God**, but **not in accordance with knowledge**. 3 For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.' *NASB*

Implication:

#1. - The first step in choosing a church is to examine it's _____.

ANSWERS 1: religions, Many, destruction, Christianity, Few, intuition, satanically, life, deceived, Son of Man, Humanness, Incarnation, Son of God, Deity, understanding, Christology

(END, Lesson 1, Part 1) ([Back ToC](#))

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 2, Part 2 ([Back ToC](#))

2. CHRIST and HIS Church, Part 2

“How the Local Church is Formed”

i. Matthew 16:13-19 - '13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He was asking His disciples, saying, “Who do people say that the SON OF MAN is?” 14 And they said, “Some *say* John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.” 15 He *said* to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16 And Simon Peter answered and said, “Thou art the Christ, the SON OF THE LIVING GOD.” 17 And Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My **church**; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it. 19 “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” *NASB*

A. The most essential question ever asked.

B. Salvation is first and ultimately a _____ work of God.

Matthew 16:17 - '17 And Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven.’ *NASB*

1. We are humanly _____ of understanding spiritual truth apart from a supernatural influence from God.

1 Corinthians 2:14 - '14 But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.’ *NASB*

Acts 16:14 - '14 A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.’ *NASB*

2. We are spiritually _____ from birth.

Romans 3:10-12 - '10 as it is written, “There is none righteous, not even one; 11 There is none who understands, There is none who seeks for God; 12 All have turned aside, together they have become useless; There is none who does good, There is not even one.”’ *NASB*

Isaiah 64:6-7 - '6 For all of us have become like one who is unclean, And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment; And all of us wither like a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. 7 There is no one who calls on Your name, Who **arouses himself** to take hold of You; For You have hidden Your face from us And have delivered us into the power of our iniquities.’ *NASB*

3. God the Father must take the initiative to _____ us to Christ.

John 6:35–43 - '35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. 36 "But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe. 37 "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. 38 "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 39 "This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. 40 "For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day." 41 Therefore the Jews were grumbling about Him, because He said, "I am the bread that came down out of heaven." 42 They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does He now say, 'I have come down out of heaven?'" 43 Jesus answered and said to them, "Do not grumble among yourselves.' *NASB*

II. What do these verses teach us?

A. They emphasize God's _____ over salvation.

1. Note the doctrine of "eternal security":

John 6:39 - '39 "This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of **ALL** that He has given Me **I lose nothing**,' *NASB*

2. **Acts 8:26-37** - An Ethiopian Receives Christ

B. Four (4) principal truths regarding the New Testament Church

1. Christ is the _____ of the Church.

Matthew 16:18 - '18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church;' *NASB*

2. Catholics have built their entire religion on this verse.

3. They believe in "*Apostolic Succession*."

4. They see their long line of Popes as recipients of an uninterrupted transmission of spiritual authority that goes back to Peter.

That is not true for three (3) reasons:

a. **Matthew 18:1-4** - Disciples asked Jesus "who was the greatest in the kingdom"

b. Peter himself never claimed any superiority over other apostles.

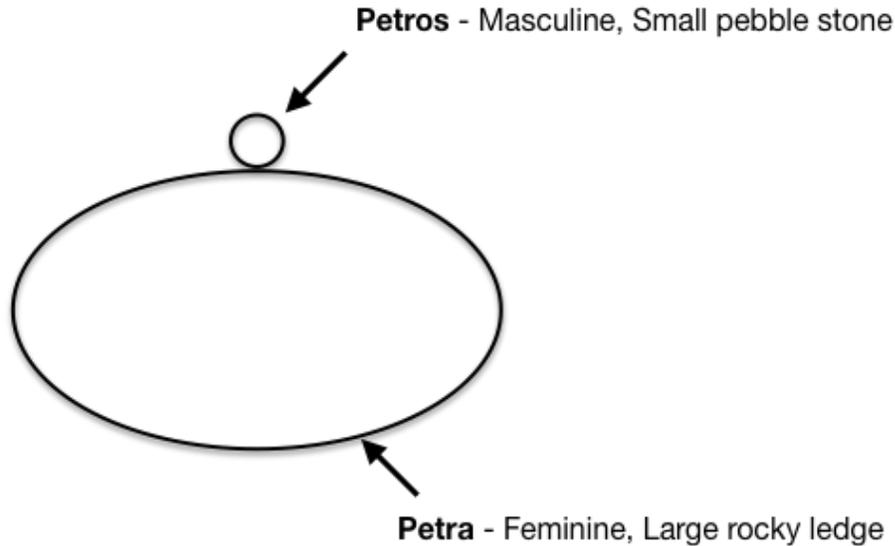
c. Their position is a misinterpretation of this verse.

C. Who or what is "*this rock*"?

1. Jesus chose two (2) different Greek words for **rock**:

a. Peter {*petros*}, masculine; a small stone or loose rock.

b. Rock {*petra*}, feminine; a large rocky ledge, mountain, or peak.



2. Enhanced or expanded translation

Matthew 16:18 - '18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter (*the small stone* - Masculine), and upon this rock (*large rocky and sturdy ledge* - Feminine) I will build My church;' *NASB*

~ Peter would be the apostle that will preach at Pentecost, but it's not Peter's personal supremacy on which Jesus promised to build His church.

D. The rock that the church is built on must be the _____ of Jesus Christ.

~ Peter's answer (v.16) "...you are the Christ, the Son of the living God..."

E. Scripture always interprets Scripture!

1 Corinthians 10:4 - '4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the **rock was Christ.**' *NASB*

1. The context demands that the "rock" which the church is built on is the gospel.

Romans 1:16-17 - '16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for **IT** is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.17 For in **IT** *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "But the righteous *man* shall live by faith." *NASB*

2. "**power**" [*dunamis*] dynamite - **Power** is in the gospel.

~ The foundation of the church is the gospel, Christ, Who is fully man, fully God, and Lord of all.

a. Christ is the _____ over the Church

b. Jesus Christ is the _____, and _____ of His Church.

III. “Pragmatism” – Focuses on results only.

~ *Defines what is right or wrong by what APPEARS to be good or helpful.*

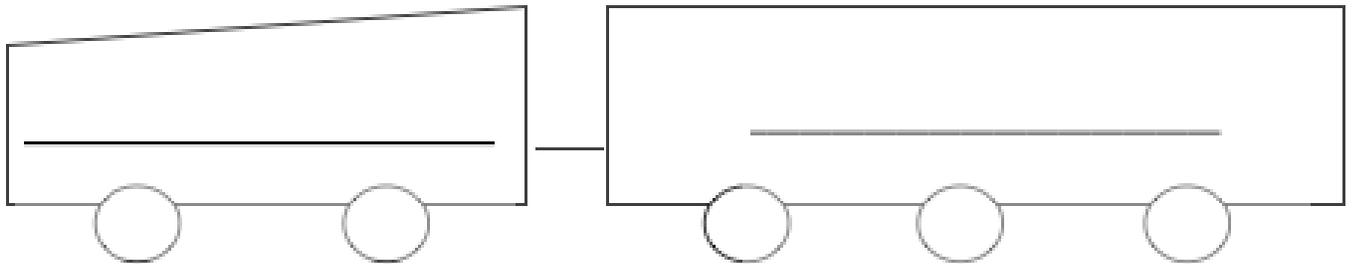
A. Biblical truth is not determined by testing “what works” and “what doesn’t.”

1. - The gospel does *not* often produce positive results.
2. - Satanic lies and deception often appear effective.
3. - A majority reaction is no test for validity and prosperity is no measure of truthfulness.

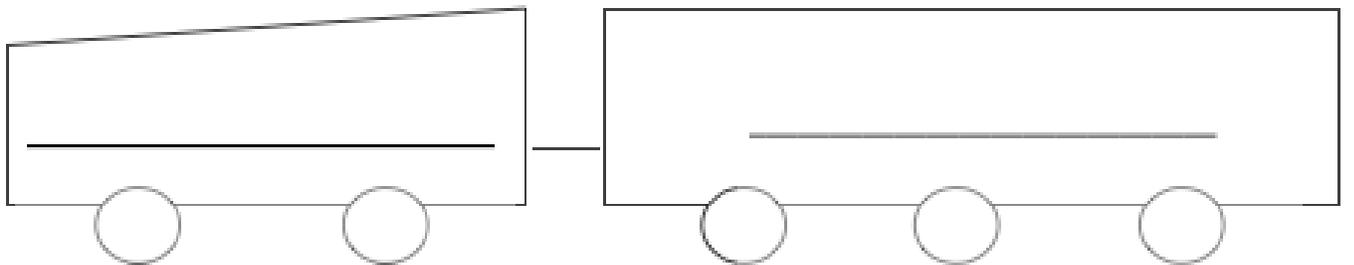
B. Pragmatism as a guiding philosophy of ministry is inherently flawed and a satanic strategy.

Revelation 3:1 - ‘1 “To the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars, says this: ‘I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.’ *NASB*

1. Pragmatism puts methodology ahead of theology



2. The Biblical order



IV. What do we do when culture doesn't want God's Word?

2 Timothy 4:3-4 - '3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, 4and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.' *NASB*

2 Timothy 4:1-2 - '1 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: 2preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.' *NASB*

Implication:

Pragmatism will produce _____ success, but only by following God's ways in His Word will we see genuine _____ success.

ANSWERS 2: supernatural, incapable, dead, draw, sovereignty, foundation, correct gospel, authority, Builder, Lord, Methodology, Theology, Theology, Methodology, human, godly

(*END, Lesson 2, Part 2*) ([Back ToC](#))

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 3, Part 3 [\(Back ToC\)](#)

3. CHRIST and HIS Church, Part 3

“Preservation and Authority of the Church”

I. Matthew 16:13-19 - '13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He was asking His disciples, saying, “Who do people say that the SON OF MAN is?” 14 And they said, “Some *say* John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.” 15 He *said* to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16 And Simon Peter answered and said, “Thou art the Christ, the SON OF THE LIVING GOD.” 17 And Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My **church**; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it. 19 “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” *NASB*

A. Christ promises the Church will be _____.

Matthew 16:18 - '18b. and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it.' *NASB*

1. Because it's His church and He is the Builder, the church is _____.

~ “*the gates of Hades*”

2. Jesus is primarily speaking of His _____ death.

Matthew 16:21 - '21 From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, **and be killed**, and be raised up on the third day' *NASB*

3. The death of Jesus didn't destroy His work of building the church, it actually _____ its success.

B. Christ grants authority to the _____.

Matthew 16:19 - '19 “I will give you the **keys** of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you shall loose on earth shall be

~ “*...keys...*” *What do “keys” imply?*

1. The church (every believer) has the authority to open the door to the kingdom of heaven by means of the

_____.

a. “**bind**” ... is a synonym meaning to “_____”

b. “**loose**” ... is a synonym meaning to “_____”

Matthew 16:19 - '19 “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you **FORBID** on earth shall be **FORBIDDEN** in heaven, and whatever you shall **PERMIT** on earth shall be **PERMITTED** in heaven.” *NASB*

The Amplified New Testament

Matthew 16:19 - '19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind (declare to be improper and unlawful) on earth must be what is already bound in heaven; and whatever you loose (declare lawful) on earth must be what is already loosed in heaven.' *AMPC*

2. The forbidding or permitting occurs first in _____.
 - a. Our authority rests solely on what God's Word says which was determined in eternity past.
 - b. What we say does not cause the forbidding and permitting, we only _____ what God's Word already forbids or permits.
3. Jesus is declaring that the church acts with the _____ of God when it accurately declares what His Word says.
4. We should be bold, courageous, and _____ to speak up and proclaim what God has already determined to permit or forbid what it takes to become part of His church.

Implication:

We are to declare the gospel, and whoever believes it will be loosed from chains of hell, and whoever refuses to believe it will remain eternally bound.

ANSWERS 3: preserved, indestructible, own, guaranteed, church, gospel, forbid, permit, heaven, declare, authority, confident

(END, Lesson 3, Part 3) [\(Back ToC\)](#)

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 4 Part 4 [\(Back ToC\)](#)

4. CHRIST and HIS Church, Part 4

“How the Local Church Was Formed”

I. Acts 2:36-41 - '36 “Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.” 37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brethren, what shall we do?” 38 And Peter said to them, “Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 “For the promise is for you and your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God shall call to Himself.” 40 And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation!” 41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and there were added that day about three thousand souls.’ *NASB*

A. The New Testament Church is formed through the _____ of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

B. The first effect of the gospel is to bring _____ of sin.

Acts 2:36 - '36 “Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.” *NASB*

v. 37 Now when they heard *this*, they were **pierced to the heart**, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brethren, what shall we do?” *NASB*

~ **“pierced to the heart”**

John 16:7-8 - '7 But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. 8 And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment;’ *NASB*

II, What is the main work of the Holy Spirit?

A. To _____

1. Our personal _____

2. Our need for _____

3. Coming _____

B. If we want our evangelism to be effective, we must _____ our presentation of the gospel with the way the Holy Spirit operates.

Acts 2:38 - '38 And Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.' *NASB*

C. The proper response to the gospel is _____.

1. "Repent" [metanoeo]. It means to change two (2) things:

- a. To change one's mind.
- b. To change one's will.

2. Life Application: To repent in relation to salvation means to change one's mind in relation to Jesus Christ and to act on it in belief.

III. A few questions:

A. Is repentance different than faith? _____.

B. Is repentance adding works to the gospel? _____.

Ephesians 2:8–9 - '8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.' *NASB*

~ Jesus would have been adding works too.

Matthew 4:17 - '17 From that time Jesus began to preach and say, "*REPENT*, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'" *NASB*

C. Repentance is not a human work, it is God's _____ to bring about salvation.

2 Corinthians 7:9–10 - '9 I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us. 10 For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.' *NASB*

D. Repentance is God's _____ of grace.

Acts 11:18 - '18 When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, "Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance that leads to life.'" *NASB*

Acts 5:31 - '31 He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.' *NASB*

E. It's a feature of God's _____ power.

John 6:36-39 - '36 "But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe. 37 "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. 38 "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 39 "This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day.' *NASB*

John 6:44 - '44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.' *NASB*

F. While repentance is not a work that earns salvation,

salvation _____ in works of repentance.

Matthew 3:8 - '8 Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance;' *NASB*

Ephesians 2:8-10 - '8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **for good works**, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.' *NASB*

ANSWERS 4: preaching, conviction, convict, sin, righteousness, judgment, align, repentance, No, No, will, gift, drawing, results

(*END, Lesson 4, Part 4*) ([Back ToC](#))

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 5 [\(Back ToC\)](#)

5. Does Baptism Save?

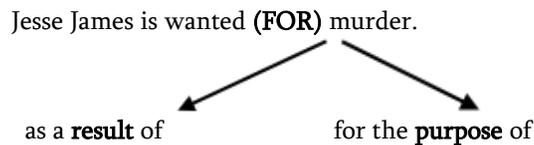
I. Acts 2:36-38 - '36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified." 37 Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" 38 And Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.' *NASB*

A. What about baptism?

Acts 2:38 - '38 And Peter said to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ **FOR** the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.' *NASB*

1. Does _____ save?

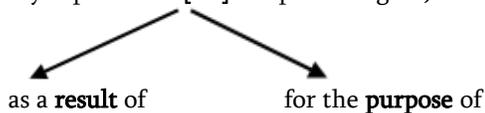
The controversy swirls around the word "*FOR*," [*eis*].



2. The details of the _____ say, "No."

~ *Matthew's use of "FOR," (eis).*

Matthew 12:41 - '41 The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment, and will condemn it because they repented **at [eis]** the preaching of Jonah;' *NASB*



Matthew 12:41 The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment, and will condemn it because they repented **AT [eis] (as a result of)** the preaching of Jonah;' *NASB*

3. We are to be baptized **as a RESULT** of being forgiven just like the Ninevites repented **as a RESULT of** Jonah's preaching.

a. There is a difference in the plural and singular nouns:

2nd Person Plural
3rd Person Singular

↙
↙

Acts 2:38 - '38 And Peter *said* to them, "**REPENT**" and let each of you "**BE BAPTIZED**" (in the name of Jesus Christ) for (eis) the forgiveness of **YOUR** sins;) and you as shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.' *NASB*

↘

2nd Person Plural

b. It could be translated this way:

~ "**You all** repent for the forgiveness of all of **your** sins, and as a result let each one of **you** be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ."

B. The order of the _____ say no.

1. _____

↙

Acts 2:41 ⁴¹So then, those who had **RECEIVED** his word were **BAPTIZED**; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.' *NASB*

↘

2. _____

C. Only _____ is mentioned after Peter's sermon.

Acts 2:44 And all those who had **BELIEVED** were together and had all things in common;' *NASB*

Acts 4:4 - '4 But many of those who had heard the message **BELIEVED**; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand.' *NASB*

Acts 4:32 - '32 And the congregation of those who **BELIEVED** were of one heart and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them.' *NASB*

Acts 8:12 - '12 But when they **BELIEVED** Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike.' *NASB*

Acts 8:13 - '13 Even Simon himself **BELIEVED**; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip, and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was constantly amazed.' *NASB*

Acts 8:37 - '37 And Philip said, "If you **BELIEVE** with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.'" *NASB*

Acts 9:42 - '9 It became known all over Joppa, and many **BELIEVED** in the Lord.' *NASB*

~ *This is Peter speaking again about salvation.*

Acts 10:43 - "43 Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who **BELIEVED** in Him receives forgiveness of sins." *NASB*

Acts 11:21 - '21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a large number who **BELIEVED** turned to the Lord.' *NASB*

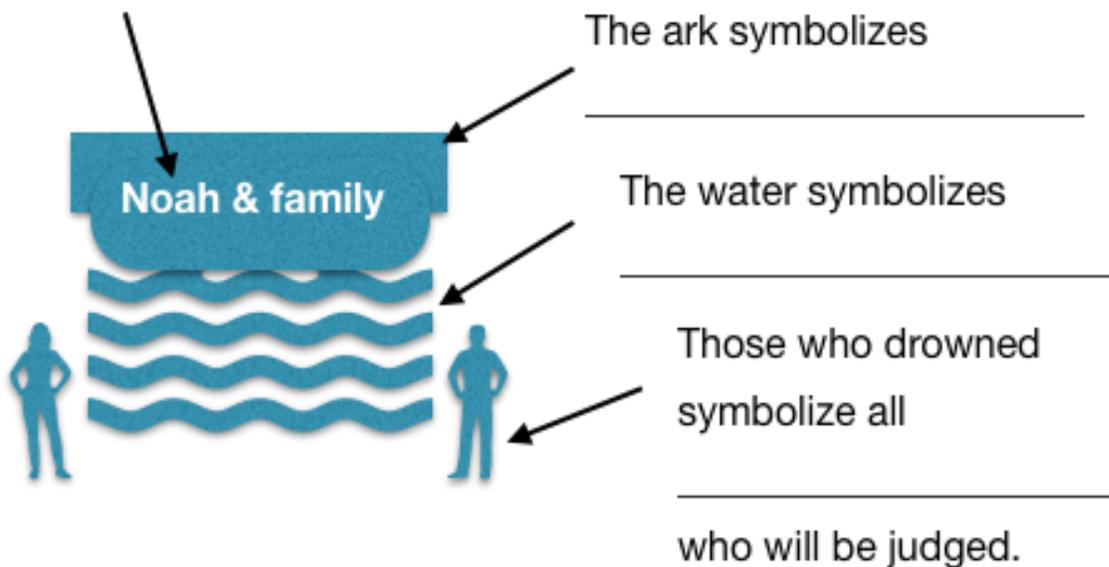
D. _____ never preached that baptism saves.

1 Peter 3:20 - '20 who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water.' *NASB*

II. What is Peter's main focus? The _____.

A. The example of Noah's

All _____



1 Peter 3:21 - '21 Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you' *NASB*

1. "Corresponding" [antitypos]; Antitype
2. The story of Noah / the ark is a picture that points forward to "baptism" that now saves.
3. Ark (physical picture) Spiritual reality

B. How does this story illustrate that water baptism saves?

1. It doesn't. The ones who were immersed in water were judged, *not* saved.
2. So, being immersed in water for salvation does *not* fit the story.

III. What does “baptism that now saves” picture?

A. *Not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but (against that idea is) an appeal to God for a good conscience — through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

1. Peter is not relating being saved by water touching the flesh. He’s relating it to an internal cleansing of the _____.

2. The baptism that now saves us is not water baptism, it refers to a _____ baptism.

B. Scripture uses baptism in two (2) ways:

1. Physical immersion into water (wet baptism).

2. Spiritual immersion (dry baptism) into Christ.

1 Corinthians 10:1–2 - ‘1 For I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea; 2 and all were **baptized into Moses** in the cloud and in the sea;’ *NASB*

1 Corinthians 12:13 - ‘13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.’ *NASB*

Titus 3:5 - ‘5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, (**water baptism**) but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,’ *NASB*

Hebrews 9:13–14 - ‘13 For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, 14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your **conscience** from dead works to serve the living God?’ *NASB*

IV. What did others in the N.T. teach about water baptism?

A. _____ did not believe water baptism saves.

1 Corinthians 1:17 - ‘17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not in cleverness of speech, so that the cross of Christ would not be made void.’ *NASB*

B. _____ didn’t believe that water baptism saved.

1 John 5:13 - ‘13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.’ *NASB*

1 John 5:5 - ‘5 Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who **believes** that Jesus is the Son of God?’ *NASB*

C. _____ didn’t believe baptism saves.

John 3:16-18 - ‘16’ For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. 17 “For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. 18 “He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does **NOT BELIEVE** has been judged already, because he has **NOT BELIEVED** in the name of the only begotten Son of God.’ *NASB*

D. Jesus never baptized anyone.

John 4:1-2 - '1 Therefore when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John 2 (although Jesus Himself was not baptizing, but His disciples were),' *NASB*

Matthew 3:11 - '11 "As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.' *NASB*

ANSWERS 5: baptism, grammar, verbs, belief, water baptism, belief, Peter, ark, believers, salvation, judgment, unbelievers, conscience, spiritual, Paul, John, Jesus

(END, Lesson 5) [\(Back ToC\)](#)

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 6 ([Back ToC](#))

6. What About Free Will?

“Does the Bible actually teach that man has a free will?”

I. 1 Thessalonians 5:21 - ‘21 But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good;’ *NASB*

1 Corinthians 4:6 - ‘6Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively applied to myself and Apollos for your sakes, so that in us you may learn not to exceed what is written, so that no one of you will become arrogant in behalf of one against the other.’ *NASB*

2 Corinthians 10:5 - ‘5We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,’ *NASB*

A. There are two levels or meaning or understanding:

1. We are free to make _____.

2. Norman Geisler, “[When Skeptics Ask](#),”

“...the ability to decide between alternatives made by the individual rather than by any _____.”

a. We are _____ for our decisions.

b. We must accept the _____ for our decisions.

B. Freedom of choice from Genesis 2

1. God created man with the _____ and _____ to choose.

Genesis 2:15–17 - ‘17 Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it. 16 The Lord God commanded the man, saying, “From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; 17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.”’ *NASB*

a. In the state of perfection, Adam and Eve were given the freedom to choose between obedience and disobedience.

b. Their will was as free as free will gets.

C. Were they affected by an outside force? ... _____.

~ Adam and Eve were influenced by God in three (3) ways:

1. As Creator, God is sovereign over _____, including our choices.

Proverbs 16:9 - '9 The mind of man plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.' *NASB*

Proverbs 21:1 - '1 The king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He wishes.' *NASB*

Jeremiah 1:5 - "5 Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, And before you were born, I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations." *NASB*

Acts 17:28 - '28 for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.'" *NASB*

2. God _____ their choices.

3. He determined the _____ of their choices.

~ *God gives us freedom to make choices, but the _____ of God and complete human _____ do not coexist.*

D. What took place as a result of their choice?

Genesis 3:6 - '6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.' *NASB*

Genesis 2:17 - '17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, **for in the day that you eat** from the tree you will surely die.'" *NASB*

1. Adam and Eve died in two (2) ways:

a. Physical death was set in motion.

b. They died SPIRITUALLY.

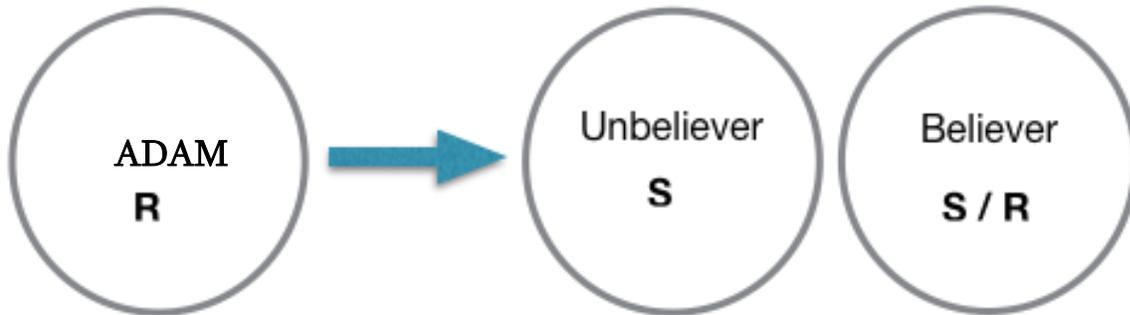
2. They lost the full freedom of their will.

a. Due to the fall, Adam & Eve were now in bondage to sin and no longer had the freedom to choose

_____.

Before the Fall

After the Fall



II. So, what does this teach us about the human will?

A. Human desire and its choices are limited by our _____.

~ *The limitations set by our nature are illustrated by Jesus Himself.*

Matthew 7:15–20 - “15 Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16 “You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they?” *NASB*

v. 17 - “So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit.” *NASB*

B. An unbeliever’s will is bound or limited by their _____.

Ephesians 2:1–3 - ‘1 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, 2 in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. 3 Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.’ *NASB*

1. Unbelievers have no choice but to walk in spiritual deadness.
2. Unbelievers have no choice to be out from under the influence of culture.
3. Unbelievers are not free to function out from under Satan’s power.
4. Unbelievers live in a spirit of disobedience to the things of God.

C. An unbeliever’s will cannot _____ God.

Romans 3:10–11 - ‘10 as it is written, “There is none righteous, not even one; 11 There is none who understands, **There is none who seeks for God;**’ *NASB*

John 6:44 - “44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.’ *NASB*

D. An unbeliever's will cannot _____ itself to God.

Romans 8:7-8 - '7 because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.' *NASB*

E. What about the believer?

John 8:31-32 - '31 So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.'" *NASB*

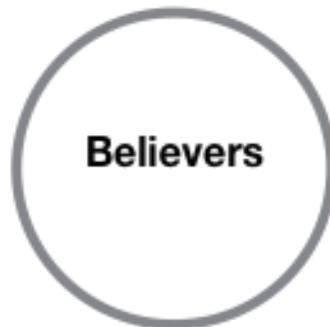
~ In salvation, our will is released from being totally dominated by sin and we are freed to make choices that are consistent with _____.

F. Even a believer's will *isn't* completely free.

Romans 7:14-21 - '14 For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin. 15 For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate. 16 But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law is good. 17 So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. 18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not. 19 For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want. 20 But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. 21 I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good.' *NASB*

Romans 6:16-18 - '16 Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? 17 But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.' *NASB*

Under SATAN'S power Under the LORDSHIP of Christ



Implication:

We were created with the freedom of choice, but our will is not independently free from the one who _____ us.

ANSWERS 6: Choices, outside force, responsible, consequences, ability, responsibility, Yes, everything, limited, consequences, sovereignty, autonomy, righteousness, nature, sin nature, desire, submit, God's will, owns

(END, Lesson 6) [\(Back ToC\)](#)

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 7 [\(Back ToC\)](#)

7. Transformation Of The Local Church

“Acts 2: A fulfillment of Matthew 16:18-19”

I. Matthew 16:18–19 - '18 also say to you that you are Peter, and **upon this rock** I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.” *NASB*

A. Peter’s Sermon

Acts 2:22-23 ”22 Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know— 23 this *Man*, delivered up by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, **you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put *Him* to death.**’ *NASB*

v.41 - '41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. 42 And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

1. _____ Christ >>> _____ believers.

2. True saving faith brings about _____.

B. True _____.



1. Hated Christ ->->-> Devoted believers

1 Corinthians 6:9–11 - '9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, 10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.’ *NASB*

Adversative Conjunction

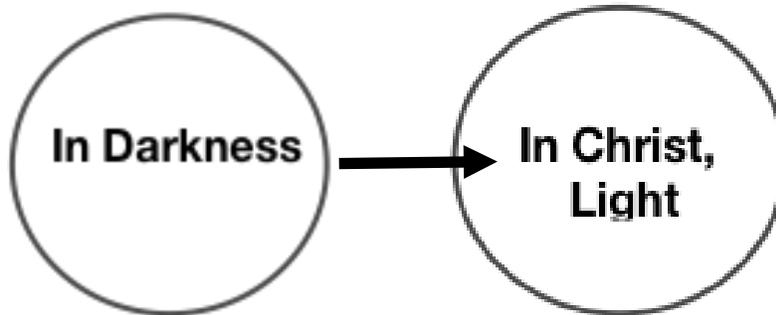


2. Continuous sin _____ “washed” “sanctified” “justified”

II. What Paul told the Corinthians?

Colossians 1:13 - '13 For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,’ *NASB*

A. Sphere of _____.



Romans 6:17–18 - '17 But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.' *NASB*

2 Corinthians 5:17 - '17 Therefore if (**since**) any man is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.' *NASB*

~ “new” [kainos]

B. The Apostle Paul underwent a dramatic change.

Acts 9:1-6 - '1 Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.' *NASB*

V.3 - '3 As he journeyed, he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. 4 Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” 5 And he said, “Who are You, Lord?” Then the Lord said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It *is* hard for you to kick against the goads.” 6 So he, trembling and astonished, said, “Lord, what do You want me to do?” Then the Lord *said* to him, “Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”” *NASB*

Acts 9:19 - '19 So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus. 20 Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.' *NASB*

C. Paul’s new life brought a change in desires.

Philippians 3:7-10 - '7 But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ, 9 and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, 10 that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;' *NASB*

III. Salvation will bring _____.

A. Our relationship to the _____ will change.

~ *The world won't see us the same way.*

John 15:18-19 - ¹⁸“18 If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. 19” **If you were of the world, the world would love its own;** but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.’ *NASB*

B. Salvation may sever existing _____.

Matthew 10:34-38 - ³⁴“Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.’ *NASB*

v. **35** - ³⁵“35 For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; 36 and a man’s enemies will be the members of his household. 37 “He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. 38 “And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.’ *NASB*

IV. Why does this happen?

Genesis 3:15 - ¹⁵“15And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel.”’ *NASB*

~ *Salvation will also bring _____.*

A. True believes will experience a new _____ and attraction to the things of God.

Acts 2:41-42 - ⁴¹“41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. 42 **They were continually devoting themselves to** the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.’ *NASB*

~ *“devoting” [prosk-ar-tereo]; to have a steadfast and unwavering commitment*

B. Believers will experience a new capacity and inclination to _____.

Romans 6:17 - ¹⁷“17 But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed’ *NASB*

C. Salvation produces a new love for _____.

2 Thessalonians 2:10 - ¹⁰“10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.’ *NASB*

D. Salvation will bring a life of perseverance and _____.

Matthew 13:20-23 - ²⁰”20 The one on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹21 yet he has no *firm* root in himself, but is *only* temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away.’ *NASB*

v. 22 - ²²”22 And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.’ *NASB*

v. 23 - ²³”23 And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.” *NASB*

V. Why do some stop following the Lord?

1 John 2:19 - ¹⁹”19 They went out from us, but they were not *really* of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but *they went out*, in order that it might be shown that they all are not of us.’ *NASB*

A. Believers hear and follow Christ till the end.

John 10:27-28 ²⁷”27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; ²⁸28 and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. *NASB*

Philippians 1:6 - ⁶”6 For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.’ *NASB*

B. Salvation breaks the consistent pattern of _____.

1 John 3:7-10 - ⁷”7 Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; ⁸8t he one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹9 No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. ¹⁰10 By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.’ *NASB*

ANSWERS 7: Hated, Devoted, Change, Saving faith, But, control, subtraction, world, relationships, Addition, devotion, obey, God’s Word, fruitfulness, sin

(END, Lesson 7) [\(Back ToC\)](#)

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 8 Part 1 ([Back ToC](#))

8. Message to the Local Church, Part 1

“What makes a Good Sermon?” Part 1

I. 2 Timothy 4:1-5 ¹I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: ²preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. ³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; ⁴and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths. ⁵But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.’ *NASB*

A. Paul gives Timothy four (4) foundational principles about preaching.

1. Pastors should be most concerned what _____ thinks.

2 Timothy 4:1-5 - ¹I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom.’ *NASB*

~ *What Paul said about his own ministry:*

Galatians 1:10 - ¹⁰For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.’ *NASB*

2. We are to preach the word even when it’s _____.

2 Timothy 4:2 - ²preach the word; be ready **in season and out of season;**’ *NASB*

a. **“in season and out of season”**

b. **“be ready”** [ephistemi]

Jeremiah 20:9 - ⁹But if I say, “I will not remember Him Or speak anymore in His name,” Then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; And I am weary of holding it in, And I cannot endure it.’ *NASB*

B. How should preaching be done?

Nehemiah 8:6-8 - ⁶Then Ezra blessed the Lord the great God. And all the people answered, “Amen, Amen!” while lifting up their hands; then they bowed low and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁷... explained the law to the people while the people remained in their place. ⁸And they **read from the book**, from the law of God, **translating** to give the sense **so that they understood** the reading.’ *NASB*

1. **“read it”**

2. **“translating it”**

3. **“so that they understood the reading.”**

Nehemiah 8:12 - '12 All the people went away to eat, to drink, to send portions and to celebrate a great festival, **because they understood the words which had been made known to them.**' *NASB*

C. The tone must be balanced with _____ and _____ exhortations.

2 Timothy 4:2b - '2b **reprove, rebuke, exhort**, with great patience and instruction.' *NASB*

1. -**Negative** = "reprove / rebuke"

2. +**Positive** = "exhort"

D. Paul relates **shepherding and preaching to parenting.**

1 Thessalonians 2:11 - '11 just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children,' *NASB*

~ *An effective message has very little to do with style, _____ or personality.*

E. The Apostle Paul's critics.

2 Corinthians 10:10 - '10 For they say, "His letters are weighty and strong, but his personal presence is unimpressive, and his speech is contemptible.'" *NASB*

1. Preaching can become ineffective if the goal is to be _____.

1 Corinthians 1:17 - '17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel not in cleverness of speech, that the cross of Christ should not be made void.' *NASB*

2. Paul's goal was to avoid being entertaining.

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 - '4 And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.' *NASB*

3. Never _____ in difficult times.

2 Timothy 4:3-5 - '3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; ⁴and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths. ⁵But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.' *NASB*

II. How do pastors fail to honor God's Word?

A. Peaching that does not show the people what the text means and what those implications are for their lives is failing to _____ the nature of the text of God's glorious revelation.

Ephesians 3:4 - '4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,' *NASB*

B. Preaching that is not rooted in the text diminishes the _____ of the passage and the authority of the message.

C. Pastors that make points that are not from the text are preparing their people to _____ in the days to come.

Ephesians 4:14 - '14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;' *NASB*

D. Pastors who preach without drawing attention to the details and specificity of scripture train the people to _____ and inattentive to the supremacy of God's Word in their lives.

E. Pastors who are lazy rob their people of the _____ that Jesus intends them to have.

John 15:11 – “11 These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.” *NASB*

ANSWERS 8: God, unpopular, positive, negative, charisma, entertaining, compromise, honor, authority, waver, be careless, joy

(END, Lesson 8, Part 1) [\(Back ToC\)](#)

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 9 Part 2 ([Back ToC](#))

9. Message to the Local Church, Part 2

“What makes a Good Sermon?” Part 2

I. 2 Timothy 4:1-5 - ‘1 I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: 2 preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; 4 and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths. 5 But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.’ *NASB*

A. Pastors should be most concerned what God thinks.

2 Timothy 4:1-5 - ‘1 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom.’ *NASB*

B. We are to preach the word even when it’s unpopular.

2 Timothy 4:2a - ‘2a **preach** the word; **be ready in season and out of season**’ *NASB*

Nehemiah 8:8 - ‘8 They **read** from the book, from the law of God, **translating** to give the sense **so that they understood** the reading.’ *NASB*

~ Read it, Translated it = Understanding

C. The tone must be balanced with positive and negative exhortations.

2 Timothy 4:2b - ‘2b reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

II. Principles regarding the form of preaching.

A. An effective message has very little to do with style, charisma, or personality.

2 Corinthians 10:10 - ‘10 For they say, “His letters are weighty and strong, but his personal presence is unimpressive, and his speech is contemptible.”’ *NASB*

B. Preaching can become ineffective if the goal is to be entertaining.

1 Corinthians 1:17 - ‘17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel not in cleverness of speech, that the cross of Christ should not be made void.’ *NASB*

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 - ‘4 And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.’ *NASB*

C. Never compromise in difficult times.

2 Timothy 4: 3-5 - ‘3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; 4 and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths. 5 But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.’ *NASB*

D. There are severe consequences for rejecting sound preaching.

1. There will be a progression _____ from the truth.

a. They will not _____ sound doctrine.

2 Timothy 4:3 - ‘3 For the time will come when they will not endure **sound doctrine**.’ *NASB*

b. “**sound doctrine**” [didaskalia]; ... Scripture

c. “**ears tickled**”; A desire to be complemented rather than corrected

III. What happens under those kinds of demands?

A. They will _____ what is taught by attaching themselves to those who promote the errors they hold.

2 Timothy 4:3b - ‘3b they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires.’ *NASB*

B. They will _____ false teaching.

2 Timothy 4:4 - ‘4 and will **turn away** their ears from the truth’ *NASB*

1. “**turn away**” - _____

2. The subject produces the action.

3. They make a deliberate choice to reject good teaching.

C. They will be _____ to fictitious teaching.

2 Timothy 4:4b - ‘4b and **will turn aside to myths**.’ *NASB*

1. “and they **WILL BE TURNED to myths**”.

2. “**will turn**” - _____.

3. The subject is acted upon by some source.

4. Once they reject wholesome teaching, they will be carried away by the error itself.

IV. Additional Observations:

A. Biblical preaching is sometimes difficult to accept, and it will drive some _____.

John 6:60-68 - '60 Many therefore of His disciples, when they heard this said, "This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it?" 61 But Jesus, conscious that His disciples grumbled at this, said to them, "Does this cause you to stumble? 62 "What then if you should behold the Son of Man ascending where He was before? 63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. 64 But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him. 65 And He was saying, "For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me, unless it has been granted him from the Father." 66 As a result of this many of His disciples withdrew, and were not walking with Him anymore. 67 Jesus said therefore to the twelve, "You do not want to go away also, do you?" 68 Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life.' *NASB*

B. _____ and _____ are not necessarily barometers of success.

Jeremiah 5:30-31 - '30 "A horrible and shocking thing has happened in the land: 31 The prophets prophesy lies, the priests rule by their own authority, and my people love it this way. But what will you do in the end?' *NASB*

*~ The church in **Sardis** was popular.*

Revelation 3:1 - '1 And to the angel of the church in **Sardis** write: **He** who has the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars, says this: 'I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.' *NASB*

C. True success as defined by God is *not* happiness, ^[1]but _____.

1. That can only be achieved by God's Word.

Romans 12:1-2 - '1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.' *NASB*

2. God's Word is the instrument of change.

Hebrews 4:12 - '12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.' *NASB*

D. Pastors are to keep prayer and the ministry of the Word a _____.

Acts 6:1-4 - '1 Now at this time while the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic Jews against the native Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving of food. 2 And the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables. 3 "But select from among you, brethren, seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. 4 "But we will devote ourselves to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.'" *NASB*

E. The preaching of the Word should be geared toward _____ not unbelievers.

Ephesians 4:11-13 - '11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fulness of Christ.' *NASB*

V. What are the benefits to the body?

A. Solid preaching _____ the congregation from becoming victims to the deception of false teaching.

Ephesians 4:14 - 14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;' *NASB*

~ Immature congregations are most vulnerable to false teachers.

B. Solid preaching _____ the church up in love.

Ephesians 4:15-16 - '15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.' *NASB*

ANSWERS 9: away, tolerate, dictate, follow, Active voice, turned away, Passive Voice, Size, popularity, holiness, priority, Believers, protects, builds

(END, Lesson 9, Part 1) [\(Back ToC\)](#)

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 10 Part 1 [\(Back ToC\)](#)

10. Priorities of the Local Church, Part 1

“What are Core Values?”

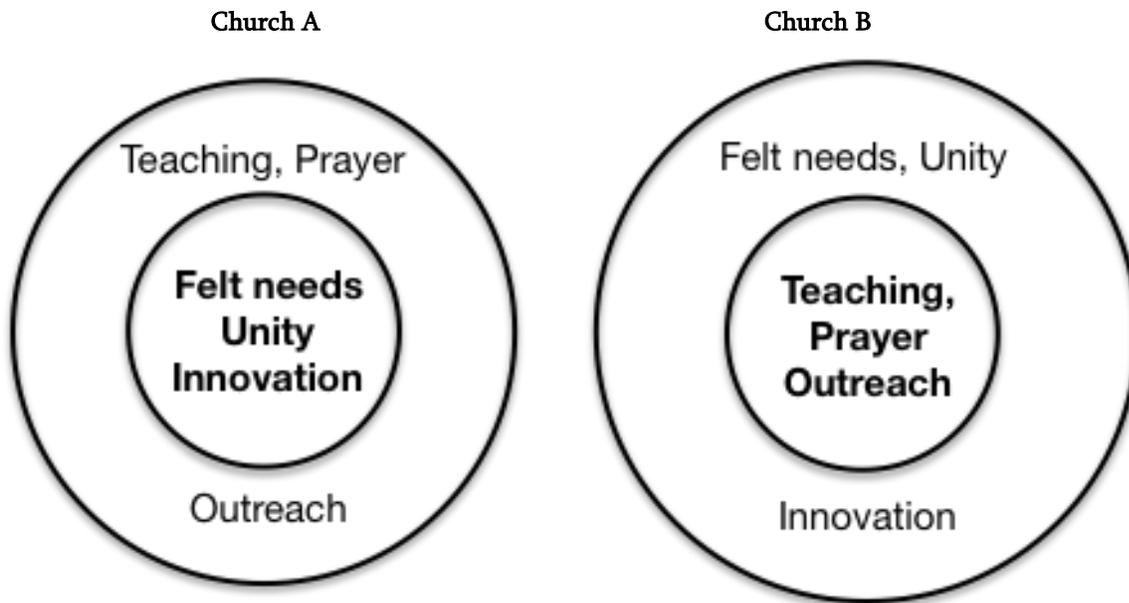
I. Values

A. What are core values?

Core values are sacred, _____ and _____ beliefs that drive a ministry.

B. What are secondary values?

Secondary values are less important and are _____ and _____.



C. Observations

1. Both believe the same things. They both love God and man.

2. But they are two different churches.

a. Church A - _____.

~ This church makes people their priority while God^{SEP} comes second.

b. Church B - _____.

~ This church makes God their priority while man comes second.

D. Two questions:

1. Which church is most pleasing to God? Church _____.
2. Which church do you believe is most attractive to the largest percentage of people? Church _____.

E. Why are values important?

1. Values _____ what is important.
2. Values _____ us in a changing culture.
3. Values help develop _____ and direction.
4. Values keep us from creating _____.
5. Values allow _____ without compromise.
6. Values help _____ ministry success.

F. Where do we get our values?

Acts 2:42-47 - '42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. 44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; 45 and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. 46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.' *NASB*

II. Seven (7) priorities that should drive all ministries.

A. A commitment to God's _____.

Acts 2:42 - '42 They were **continually devoting** themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.' *NASB*

1. "**continually devoting**" [proskartereo]
2. The miracle of these passages is not what they did but **WHY** they did what they did.

Acts 2:41 - '41 So then, those who had **received his word** were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.' *NASB*

3. The first church gave themselves fully, completely, and without compromise to the things of God because they experienced the power of the gospel.

B. A church that is truly saved will be _____ to magnify God's name.

C. The clearest and most blunt passage on God's glory.

Isaiah 48:9-11 - "9 For the sake of My name I delay My wrath, And for My praise I restrain it for you, In order not to cut you off. 10 "Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction. 11 "For My own sake, for My own sake, I will act; For how can My name be profaned? And My glory I will not give to another.' *NASB*

1. God instructs us to do everything for His glory:

1 Corinthians 10:31 - '31 Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.' *NASB*

2. God chose His people for His own glory.

Ephesians 1:4-6 - '4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love 5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.' *NASB*

Ephesians 1:11-14 - '11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, 12 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory. 13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.' *NASB*

3. God created us for His glory.

Isaiah 43:6-7 - '6 "I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' And to the south, 'Do not hold them back.' Bring My sons from afar And My daughters from the ends of the earth, 7 Everyone who is called by My name, And whom I have created for My glory, Whom I have formed, even whom I have made.'" *NASB*

4. God called Israel for His glory.

Jeremiah 13:11 - '11 'For as the waistband clings to the waist of a man, so I made the whole household of Israel and the whole household of Judah cling to Me,' declares the Lord, 'that they might be for Me a people, for renown, for praise and for glory; but they did not listen.' *NASB*

5. God raised Pharaoh up to show His power and glorify His name:

Romans 9:17 - '17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I raised you up, to demonstrate My power in you, and that My name might be proclaimed throughout the whole earth." *NASB*

6. Jesus sought the glory of his Father in all he did:

John 7:18 - '18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who is seeking the glory of the One who sent Him, He is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.' *NASB*

7. Jesus told us to do good works so that God gets glory:

Matthew 5:16 - '16 Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.' *NASB*

8. Jesus warned that not seeking God's glory makes faith impossible:

John 5:44 - '44 How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that is from the one and only God?' *NASB*

9. Jesus said that He answers prayer that God would be glorified:

John 14:13 - '13 Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.' *NASB*

10. God forgives our sins for His own sake:

Isaiah 43:25 - '25 "I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, And I will not remember your sins.' *NASB*

11. God tells us to serve in a way that will glorify Him:

1 Peter 4:11 - '11 Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.' *NASB*

12. Mankind is under judgment for dishonoring God's glory:

Romans 1:22-23 - '22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.' *NASB*

13. Jesus' ultimate aim for us is that we see and enjoy His glory:

John 17:24 - '24 Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.' *NASB*

14. Even in wrath God's aim is to make known the wealth of his glory:

Romans 9:22-23 - '22 What if God, although willing to demonstrate His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction? 23 And He did so to make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory,' *NASB*

ANSWERS 10: unchanging, non-negotiable, flexible, negotiable, Man-centered, God-centered, B, A, clarify, anchor, unity, sacred mountains, creativity, measure, glory, motivated priority, Believers, protects, builds

(END, Lesson 10, Part 1) [\(Back ToC\)](#)

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 11 Part 2 [\(Back ToC\)](#)

11. Priorities of the Local Church, Part 2

“Where Do We Get Our Values?”

I. Values

Core values = Sacred, unchanging, and non-negotiable beliefs that drive ministry.

Secondary values = They are less important and are flexible and negotiable.

A. Where do we get our values?

Acts 2:42-47 - '42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. 44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; 45 and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. 46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.' *NASB*

1. A commitment to the **GLORY of God**.

Colossians 1:16 - '16For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.' *NASB*

1 Corinthians 10:31 - '31 Whether then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.' *NASB*

2. A commitment to _____.

Acts 2:42 - '42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching ...' *NASB*



B. The first and primary desire of the true church is it _____ for God's Word.

1 Peter 2:2 - '2 like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the word, *that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,*' *NASB*

John 17:13 - '13 "But now I come to You; and these things I **SPEAK** in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves.' *NASB*

John 17:8 - '8 for the **WORDS** which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received them and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me.' *NASB*

John 17:14 - '14 "I have given them Your **WORD**; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world' *NASB*

John 17:17-20 - '17 "Sanctify them in the **TRUTH**; Your Word is **TRUTH** 18 "As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. 19 "For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in **TRUTH**. 20 "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their **WORD**;' *NASB*

C. A commitment to loving _____.

Acts 2:42 - '42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the **fellowship**,' *NASB*

1. The natural outgrowth of the Word of God is an ^[SEP]_____ to other Christians.

~ "**Fellowship**" [Koinoniai]

2. True fellowship motivates us to lay down our _____ for one another.

3. Expressed best through the "one-another" (_____ times)

Romans 12:10-13 - '10 Be **devoted** to **one another** in brotherly love. Honor **one another** above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. 13 Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.' *NASB*

~ "**devoted**" [philostorgos] – family affection.

D. Practical ways how biblical fellowship 'koinonia' can be expressed

1. Giving _____.

Acts 2:44-45 - '44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.' *NASB*

2. Spending time together in and _____ of church.

Acts 2:46 - '46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,' *NASB*

3. Showing _____.

Romans 12:11-13 - '11 not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, 13 contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.' *NASB*

4. Bear one another's _____.

Galatians 6:2 - '2 Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.

5. Give _____ to others.

Romans 12:10 - '10 *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor;*' *NASB*

6. Serving with _____.

Galatians 5:13 - '13 For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.' *NASB*

7. Being _____, _____, and _____ with one another.

1 Thessalonians 5:14 - '14 We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.' *NASB*

8. _____ to one another.

Hebrews 3:13 - '13 But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is *still* called "Today," **so that** none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.' *NASB*

~ Keep a watch out for those falling into habit of staying home.

Hebrews 10:24-25 - '24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.' *NASB*

9. _____ one another in love.

1 Peter 5:14 - '14 Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace be to you all who are in Christ.' *NASB*

10. Respecting _____.

Romans 14:1 - '1 Now accept the one who is weak in faith, but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his opinions.' *NASB*

ANSWERS 11: God's Word, hungers, fellowship, attraction, lives, 248, financially, outside, hospitality, burdens, preference, spiritual gifts, gentle, patient, tolerant, Encouraging, Greeting, diversity

(END, Lesson 11, Part 2) [\(Back ToC\)](#)

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 12 Part 3 [\(Back ToC\)](#)

12. Priorities of the Local Church, Part 3

“A Commitment” Part 1

I. Acts 2:42-47 - '42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. 44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; 45 and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. 46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.' *NASB*

A. A commitment to the Glory of God.

Colossians 1:16 - '16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.' *NASB*

B. A commitment to God's word.

Acts 2:42 - '42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching ...' *NASB*

~ The first and primary desire of the true church is that it hungers for God's Word.

C. A commitment to loving fellowship.

Acts 2:42 - '42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship,' *NASB*

1. The natural outgrowth of the Word of God is a love for other Christians.
2. Sanctified fellowship motivates us to lay down our lives for one another.
3. Practical ways how biblical fellowship '*koinonia*' can be expressed.
 - a. Giving financially.
 - b. Spending time together in and outside of church.
 - c. Showing hospitality.
 - d. Bear one another's burdens.
 - e. Giving preference to others.
 - f. Serving with spiritual gifts.
 - g. Being gentle, patient, and tolerant with one another.
 - h. Encouraging to one another.
 - i. Greeting one another in love.
 - j. Respecting diversity.

D. We are committed to the _____.

Acts 2:42 - '42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread' *NASB*

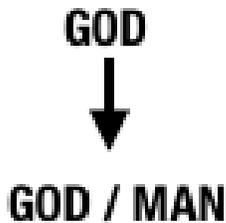
1. Communion keeps us _____.

1 Corinthians 11:24-29 - '24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; DO THIS in remembrance of Me." 25 In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; DO THIS, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." *NASB*

2. Communion helps us to remember three essential truths about Christ.

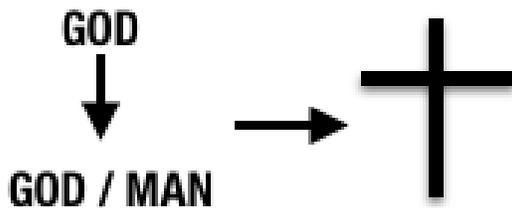
a. Christ's mission / _____.

1 Corinthians 11:24 - '24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." *NASB*



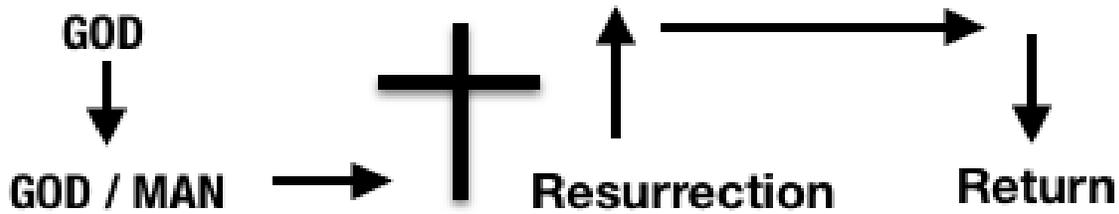
b. Christ's sacrificial _____.

1 Corinthians 11:25 - '25 the same way *He took* the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me." *NASB*



c. Christ's _____ and _____.

1 Corinthians 11:26 - '26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.' *NASB*



3. Communion keeps us pure by _____.

1 Corinthians 11:26-31 - '31 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. 27 Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. 28 But a man must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly. 30 For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep. 31 But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not be judged.' *NASB*

II. The cross cleanses us in two (2) ways:

- A. Cleansed at salvation (judicial-forgiveness) where we are pardoned from all guilt and God's wrath is removed.
- B. Cleansed for the purpose of temporal fellowship.

John 13:5-8 - '5 Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. 6 So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?" 7 Jesus answered and said to him, "What I do you do not realize now, but you will understand hereafter." 8 Peter said to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!"' *NASB*

- 1. Jesus answered him, "If I do not **wash you**, you have **no part** with Me."
~ "**wash you**"
~ "**part**" [meros]

2. John taught the same thing in 1 John 1:7-9:

1 John 1:7-11 - '7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 9 Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, then wash not only my feet, but also my hands and my head." 10 Jesus said to him, "He who has **bathed** needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you." 11 For He knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, "Not all of you are clean.'" *NASB*

~ "**bathed**" [louo]; to wash the whole body. (Perfect tense)

1 Corinthians 11:27-30 - '27 Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. 28 But a man must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly. 30 For this reason (sinful participation) many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep.'
NASB

ANSWERS 12: Lord's Supper, Christ-centered, incarnation, death, resurrection, return, self-examination

(END, Lesson 12, Part 3) [\(Back ToC\)](#)

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 13 Part 4 ([Back ToC](#))

13. Priorities of the Local Church, Part 4

“A Commitment” Part 2

I. **Acts 2:42-47** - '42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. 44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; 45 and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. 46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.' *NASB*

A. What Commitment?

1. A commitment to excellence in order to glorify God.
2. A commitment to God's Word.
3. A commitment to loving fellowship.
4. We are committed to the Lord's Supper.
 - a. Communion keeps us Christ-centered.
 - 1) Christ's mission / incarnation.
 - 2) Christ's sacrificial death.
 - 3) Christ's resurrection and return.
 - b. Communion keeps us stay pure by self-examination.

B. A commitment to _____.

Acts 2:42 - '42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and TO PRAYER.' *NASB*

1 John 5:14-15 - '14 This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, **if we ask** anything according to His will, He hears us.' *NASB*

~ **“If”**, Mood of possibility.

1 John 5:15 - '15 And if we know that He hears us *in* whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.' *NASB*

C. We are committed to _____.

Acts 2:42 - '43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe;' *NASB*

~ "awe" [phobos]

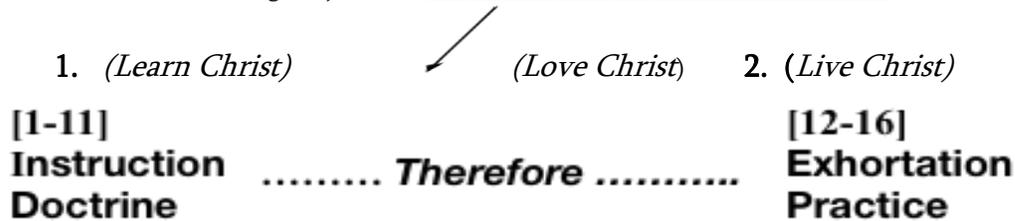
~ **Definition** = A wholesome and reverential awe of God.

II. What is worship?

Romans 12:1-2 - '1 **Therefore** I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to **present** your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, **acceptable** to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.' *NASB*

A. Two (2) truths based on observation of where the Holy Spirit placed these verses.

~ "therefore" ... Coordinating conjunction _____.



First observation:

1. Worship is the basis for how we _____.

2nd Observation:

2. True worship is rooted in _____.

3rd Observation:

3. Worship means giving the totality of our life to God as a sacred _____ to Him.

~ "present" [paristemi]; to make something available.

~ "acceptable" means *pleasing*.

Romans 12:1-2 - '2 And do not be **conformed** to this world, but be **transformed** by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.' *NASB*

B. Worship requires more than salvation; it includes a dedication to _____ spiritually.

1. We can no longer be blind followers of _____.

~ "...Do not be **conformed** to this world..."

2.. We are to make our minds new by the spiritual input of _____.

~ "...but be **transformed** by the renewing of your mind..."

~ "transformed" [metamorphousthe]; "metamorphosis"

C. To become acquainted with _____ and that it is best.

Romans 12:2b- '2b so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. *NASB*

III. What is worship?

True worship is a life _____ to **pursuing God** with all one's heart, soul, and mind to please and glorify Him.

ANSWERS 13: prayer, leads to worship, live our life, knowledge, offering, grow, culture, God's Word, God's will, dedicated

(END, Lesson 13, Part 4) [\(Back ToC\)](#)

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 14 Part 5 ([Back ToC](#))

14. Priorities of the Local Church, Part 5

“A Commitment to Worship”

I. Acts 2:42-47 - ‘42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. 44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; 45 and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. 46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.’ *NASB*

Our core values (Acts 2):

1. A commitment to excellence for the glory of God.
2. A commitment to God’s Word.
3. A commitment to loving fellowship.
4. A commitment to the Lord’s Supper.
5. A commitment to prayer.
6. A commitment to worship.

A. The true meaning of worship from Romans 12:1-2: (*Reference Lesson 13 section II. A. illustration.*)

1. True worship is rooted in knowledge.
2. Worship is the basis for how we live our life.

Romans 12:1 - ‘1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.’ *NASB*

B. Worship means giving the totality of our life to God as a sacred offering to Him.

Romans 12:2 - ‘2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.’ *NASB*

C. Becoming worshipers requires a commitment to spiritual growth.

1. We are to stop letting culture shape our thinking.
2. We are to renew our minds by the constant input of God’s Word.

II. A warning from the apostle Paul:

Colossians 2:8 - ‘8 See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.’ *NASB*
~ “takes you captive” [sylagoeo]

Colossians 2:20-21 - ‘20 If you have died with Christ to the elementary principles of the world, why, as if you were living in the world, do you submit yourself to decrees, such as, 21 “Do not handle, do not taste, do not touch!” *NASB*

Colossians 2:22 - ‘22 (which all refer to things destined to perish with use)—in accordance with the commandments and teachings of men?’ *NASB*

Colossians 2:23 - ‘23 These are matters which have, to be sure, the appearance of wisdom in self-made religion and self-abasement and severe treatment of the body, but are of no value against fleshly indulgence.’ *NASB*

~ “How does this apply to worship?”

~ “Does God condemn any style of music?”

III. The transition in worship.

John 4:19–23 - ‘19 The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. 20 “Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you people say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.” 21 Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when **neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.** 22 “You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 “But **an hour is coming**, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father **in spirit and truth**; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.’ *NASB*

~ “...A hour is coming...”

~ “...spirit and truth...”

A. New Testament worship is _____ than Old Testament worship.

~ “...neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father...”

B. “In spirit” means an _____.

C. “In truth” means that worship is governed by _____.

D. Worship can’t be evaluated by external _____ or _____.

IV. What is important to God?

A. God is most concerned that our worship of Him be _____ and heartfelt, and that it is rooted in _____ and springs forth from _____.

B. Acceptable forms of worship:

1. _____ is acceptable.

Ecclesiastes 3:4 - ‘4 A time to weep, and a time to laugh; A time to mourn, and a time to dance.’ *NASB*

~ The prodigal son:

Luke 15:25 - '25 "Now his older son was in the field, and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing.' *NASB*

2. All _____ are acceptable.

Psalm 150:1-6 - '1 Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty expanse. 2 Praise Him for His mighty deeds; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness. 3 Praise Him with trumpet sound; Praise Him with harp and lyre. 4 Praise Him with timbrel and dancing; Praise Him with stringed instruments and pipe. 5 Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with resounding cymbals. 6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!' *NASB*

3. _____ and _____ are ^{[[SEP]]} acceptable.

Psalm 47:1 - '1 For the choir director. A Psalm of the sons of Korah. O Clap your hands, all peoples; Shout to God with the voice of joy.' *NASB*

Psalm 98:8 - '8 Let the rivers clap their hands; Let the mountains sing together for joy' *NASB*

Other references: Isaiah 55:12, Psalm 32:11; 33:3; 35:27; 47:1-5; 32:9; 132:16, Zephaniah 3:14

4. _____ and _____ down are acceptable.

Psalm 134:2 - '2 Lift up your hands to the sanctuary, And bless the Lord.' *NASB*

Nehemiah 8:6 - '6 Then Ezra blessed the Lord the great God. And all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands; then they bowed low and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.' *NASB*

~ *Other references:* Psalm 28:2; 63:4; 141:2; 143:6, Lamentations 2:19; 3:41

5. A commitment to _____.

V. The first church was marked by three (3) virtues:

A. A love for God.

B. A love for each other.

Acts 2:46-47 - '46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, ... 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.' *NASB*

C. A love for the _____.

ANSWERS 14: different, inner reality, God's Word, form, style, sincere, truth, Dancing, instruments, Clapping, shouting, Lifting hands, bowing, evangelism, unsaved

(END, Lesson 14, Part 5) [\(Back ToC\)](#)

Essentials - Lesson 15 Part 1 [\(Back ToC\)](#)

15. JUSTIFICATION, Part 1

“Salvation has Two Phases”

JUSTIFICATION

Our _____ (*Justification*)
Who we are in Christ.

Our _____ (*Sanctification*)
How we live in Christ.

I. Do we find justification in Scripture?

A. Justification relates to _____.

Luke 18:9-14 - ‘9 And He also told this parable to certain ones who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt: 10 Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee, and the other a tax-gatherer. 11 The Pharisee stood and was praying thus to himself, ‘God, I thank Thee that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax-gatherer. 12 I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.’ 13 But the tax-gatherer, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, the sinner!’ 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house **justified** rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, but he who humbles himself shall be exalted.” *NASB*

B. Justification relates to the _____.

Romans 4:25 - ‘25 He who was delivered up because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification.

C. Justification relates to our _____.

Romans 5:18 - ‘18 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted **justification** of life to all men.’ *NASB*

II. Theological definition of Justification

A. **Westminster Shorter Catechism** “Justification is an act of God’s free grace, where He pardons all sins, and accepts us as righteous in his sight, only because of the righteousness of Christ, imputed to us, and received by faith alone.”

B. Justification is:

1. Accomplished by _____.
2. By _____ and without merit.
3. The forgiveness or pardon from all _____.
4. The total _____ by God.
5. The imputation of Christ’s own _____.
6. Received by _____ alone apart from work.

III. Justification includes a _____ by God.

A. Justification is a decision or judgment of God that changes our status and how God sees us.

B. Justification doesn't make someone right, but _____ them to be right.

C. We are justified as ungodly persons.

Romans 4:5 - '5 But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness,' *NASB*

IV. Instantaneous legal act of God where He:

A. Declares us _____ in His sight.

1. Shorter definition = _____.

Romans 4:6-8 - '6 just as David also speaks of the blessing upon the man to whom God **reckons righteousness** apart from works: 7 Blessed are those whose lawless deeds have been forgiven, And whose sins have been covered. 8 Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will not **take into account.**' *NASB*

~ "reckons" (3049 - λογίζομαι) [*logizomai*]

2. It was an accounting term used for keeping commercial bank records.

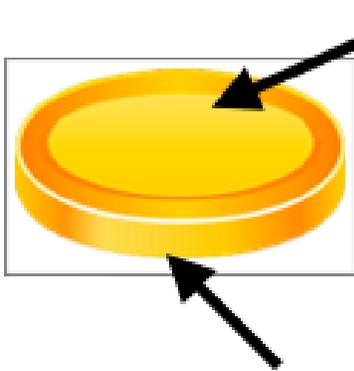
B. We are justified apart from anything we do.

Romans 3:21-31 - '21 But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; 25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; 26 for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. 27 Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. 28 For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law. 29 Or is God the God of Jews only? Is He not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, 30 since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one.' *NASB*

Romans 4:1-3 - '1 What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, **has found?** 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. 3 For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.'" *NASB*

~ "...according to the flesh, **has found?**"

There are two (2) sides of the coin we call ... *justification*::



V. Justification involves the subtraction of _____ for the penalty of our sin.

A. Removes any trace of our _____.

Psalm 103:11-12 - '11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, So great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him. 12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.' *NASB*

Zechariah 3:4 - '4 And he spoke and said to those who were standing before him saying, "Remove the filthy garments from him." Again he said to him, "See, I **have taken your iniquity away from you** and will clothe you with festal robes.'" *NASB*

Deuteronomy 23:13 - '13 and you shall have a spade among your tools, and it shall be when you sit down outside, you shall dig with it and shall turn to cover up your **excrement**.' *NASB*

Isaiah 64:6 - '6 For all of us have become like one who is unclean, And all our righteous deeds are like a **filthy garment**; And all of us wither like a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

~ "Filthy garment" - *metaphor depicting our iniquities (sins)*.

B. No longer holds us in _____. (Penalty for sin is removed)

Romans 8:1 - '1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.' *NASB*

Romans 7:14-25 - '14 For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin. ... 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.' *NASB*

Romans 8:33-34 - '33 Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; 34 who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.' *NASB*

VI. Justification involves the _____ of Christ's righteousness to our life.

A. Christ's righteousness is _____ to us.

1. Definition of imputation:

~ To take something that belongs to someone and credit it to another's account.

2. Both Greek and Hebrew means – To count, to reckon, to esteem, to **CREDIT**.

Romans 4:5 But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who **justifies** the ungodly, his faith is **reckoned** as righteousness,' *NASB*

~ "**reckoned**" [logidzomahee]; to credit.

Zechariah 3:4 - '4 And he spoke and said to those who were standing before him saying, "Remove the filthy garments from him." Again he said to him, "See, **I have taken your iniquity away from you** and will clothe you with **festal robes**.""
NASB

~ "**Festal robes**" - *Symbolically depicts beauty and cleanliness associated with forgiveness.*

ANSWERS 15: position, practice, salvation, resurrection, righteousness, God, grace, guilt, acceptance, righteousness, faith, legal declaration, declares, perfectly righteous, declared perfectly innocent, Subtraction, Addition, guilt, sins, condemnation, addition, imputed

(*END, Lesson 15, Part 1*) ([Back ToC](#))

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 16 Part 2 [\(Back ToC\)](#)

16. JUSTIFICATION, Part 2

“Theological Definition of Justification”

JUSTIFICATION

Our Position (*Justification*)
Who we are in Christ

Our Practice (*Sanctification*)
How we live in Christ

I. Theological definition of Justification

A. Westminster Shorter Catechism *“Justification is an act of God’s free grace, where He pardons all sins, and accepts us as righteous in His sight, only because of the righteousness of Christ, imputed to us, and received by faith alone.”*

B. In this definition we see six essential truths:

1. Accomplished by God.
2. By grace and without merit.
3. The forgiveness or pardon from all guilt.
4. The total acceptance by God.
5. The imputation of Christ’s own righteousness.
6. Received by faith alone apart from work.

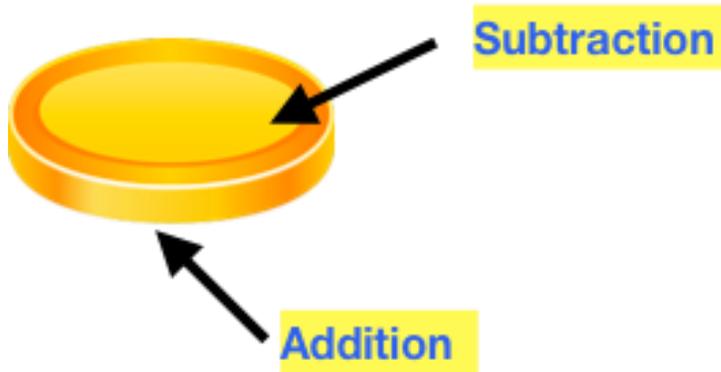
C. Justification includes a legal declaration by God.

1. Justification does not make someone right, but declares them to be right.

2. Shorter definition = *Declared Perfectly Innocent*

Romans 3:21-30 - ‘21 But now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being **justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption** which is in Christ Jesus; 25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; 26 for the demonstration, *I say*, of His righteousness at the present time, that He might be **just** and the **justifier** of the one who has **faith in Jesus**. 27 Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. 28 For we maintain that a man is **justified by faith apart from works of the Law**. 29 Or is God *the God* of Jews only? Is He not *the God* of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, 30 since indeed God who will **justify** the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one.’ *NASB*

3. There are two (2) features of justification:



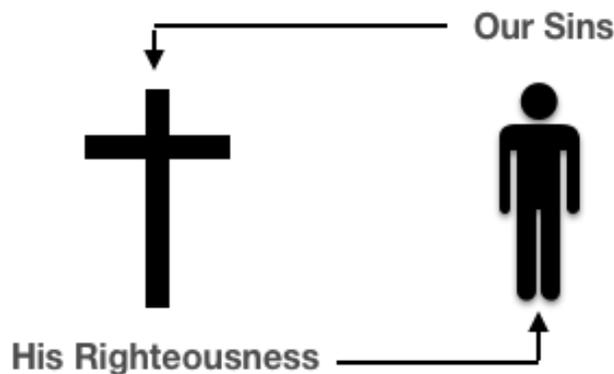
4. Zechariah pictures both:

Zechariah 3:4 - '4 And he spoke and said to those who were standing before him saying, "Remove the filthy garments from him." Again he said to him, "See, I **have taken your iniquity away from you** and will clothe you with festal robes.'" *NASB*

D. At the point of salvation, a great exchange takes place.

2 Corinthians 5:21 - '21 He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.' *NASB*

1. The exchange:



2. An important parallel:

~ Just as God treated Jesus as if He were a sinner, He treats us as if we are perfectly righteous.

II. What exactly does being "declared righteous" mean?

A. We are not justified by works but through faith _____.

Galatians 2:16 - '16 nevertheless knowing that a man is **not justified by the works** of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we may be **justified by faith in Christ**, and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified.' *NASB*

Romans 4:5 - '5 But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness,' *NASB*

Ephesians 2:8-9 - '8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.' *NASB*

B. For the first time, we are at perfect _____ with God.

Romans 5:1 - '1 Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,' *NASB*

C. Our status of being declared righteous never _____.

Romans 4:3 - '3 For what does the Scripture say? "And Abraham believed God, and it was **reckoned** (accounting term - credited) to him as righteousness.'" *NASB*

D. Even though our status changes before God, our _____ does not change.

Romans 7:14-25 - '14 For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin.'

v.15 - 'For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate.'

v.16-17 - 'But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law is good. 17 So now, no longer am I the one'

v.18 - 'For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not.'

v.19-23 - '19 For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want. 20 But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. 21 I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. 22 For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, 23 but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members'

v.24-25 '24 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.' *NASB*

E. Scripture states that we have, and will continue to be sinful as long as we _____.

Ecclesiastes 7:20 - '20 Indeed, there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good and who never sins.' *NASB*

1 John 1:8 - '8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us.' *NASB*

~ *We are sinners (while in the flesh) who have been perfectly forgiven in the eyes of God.*

III. If justification does not change us, then what does?

A. "Justification" is a judgment of God with respect to us. " _____ " is an act of God in us:

B. **Justification** is characterized by what a _____ does.

C. **Regeneration** is characterized by what a _____ does.

IV. Why is justification important?

A. It establishes _____.

B. It explains the apparent contradiction that we are _____ and yet continue to be _____ sinners.

C. It helps maintain a sense of _____ between the unattainable goal of perfectionism and a sense of total failure when we disobey.

D. It avoids the _____ for living the Christian life.

ANSWERS16: alone, peace, changes, sin nature, remain on earth, regeneration, judge, surgeon, eternal security, righteous, imperfect, balance, debtor's ethic

(END, Lesson 16, Part 2) [\(Back ToC\)](#)

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 17 Part 1 [\(Back ToC\)](#)

17. SANCTIFICATION, Part 1

“Positional Sanctification Never Changes”

SALVATION

Our Position (*Justification*)
Who we are in Christ

Our Practice (*Sanctification*)
How we live in Christ

I. Sanctification

~ “sanctify” [hagiazo]; _____.

A. Sanctification must be understood as a _____ reality with each phase dealing uniquely with sin.

1. _____ Sanctification

2. Makes us permanently holy because our _____ has been permanently removed.

B. Positional sanctification never changes

1 Corinthians 6:11 - ‘11 And such were some of you; but you were **washed**, but you were **sanctified**, but you were **justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God.’ *NASB*

~ “washed” = Refers to new life by being spiritually cleansed.

~ “sanctified” = To be made holy / dedicated to God.

~ “justified” = Declared perfectly innocent.

C. We are made alive from the dead.

Ephesians 2:5 - ‘5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ ^[LIFE]_[SEP.](by grace you have been saved),’ *NASB*

D. We are rescued from darkness.

Colossians 1:13 - ‘13 For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,’ *NASB*

E. _____ Sanctification

F. During the Christian life progressive sanctification removes the _____ of indwelling sin.

Romans 6:12-13 - '12Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body that you should obey its lusts, 13 and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.' *NASB*

Romans 6:19 - '19 I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in further lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification.' *NASB*

G. _____ Sanctification

1. When we die, ultimate sanctification removes the _____ of sin.

1 Thessalonians 5:22-23 - '22 abstain from every form of evil. 23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, **without blame** at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.' *NASB*

Revelation 21:4 - '4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.'" *NASB*

2. **"First things"** – includes every imperfect element of our earthly humanness.

AT THE MOMENT OF SALVATION	THROUGHOUT OUR LIFE	UPON DEATH
Our guilt is removed.	Dominating power of sin is <i>gradually</i> removed.	Presence of sin is removed.
Positional Sanctification	Progressive Sanctification	Ultimate Sanctification
1 Corinthians 6:11 '11 And such were some of you; but you were washed, but <i>you were sanctified</i> , but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God.'	Romans 6:19 '19 I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members <i>as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in further lawlessness</i> , so now present your members <i>as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification</i> .'	1 Thessalonians 5:23 '23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely ; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.'

Stages of sanctification as they relate to salvation.

Once and for All	We are being saved	We will be saved
Ephesians 2:8-9 '8 For by grace <i>you have been saved</i> through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, that no one should boast.'	1 Corinthians 1:18 '18 For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us <i>who are being saved</i> it is the power of God.'	Hebrews 9:28 '28 so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, <i>shall appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin</i> , to those who eagerly await Him.'

II. _____ sanctification.

A. Definition of "**Progressive Sanctification**" or "**Experiential Sanctification**":

1. A divinely created character change, freeing us from sinful habits, and progressively forming in us Christlike affections, dispositions, and virtues.
2. Short definition = _____.

B. Once we are saved, we have a _____ to overcome acts and patterns of sinful behavior in our life.

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 - '17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, *there* is liberty. 18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed** into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.' *NASB*

Romans 6:11-18 - '11 Even so consider yourselves to be **dead to sin**, but **alive to God in Christ Jesus**. 12 Therefore do not let sin **reign** in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, 13 and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin **as instruments of unrighteousness**; but present yourselves to God as those **alive from the dead**, and your members **as instruments of righteousness** to God.

v.14-16 - '14 For sin shall **not be master over you**, for you are **not under law** but under grace. 15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? May it never be! 16 Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, **either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness?**

v.17 - 'But thanks be to God that though you **were slaves of sin, you became obedient** from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed,

v.18 - 'and having been **freed from sin**, you became **slaves of righteousness.**' *NASB*

Before Salvation:	After Salvation:
<input type="checkbox"/> Dead in sin.	<input type="checkbox"/> Alive to God.
<input type="checkbox"/> Sin reigned (obeyed its lusts.	<input type="checkbox"/> We don't have to let sin reign.
<input type="checkbox"/> Presented our bodies to sin.	<input type="checkbox"/> Present our members to God.
<input type="checkbox"/> Instruments of unrighteousness.	<input type="checkbox"/> Instruments of righteousness.
<input type="checkbox"/> Sin was master over us.	<input type="checkbox"/> No longer under the law.
<input type="checkbox"/> Under the law.	<input type="checkbox"/> Under grace.
<input type="checkbox"/> Slaves to sin resulting in death.	<input type="checkbox"/> Obedience resulting in righteousness.
<input type="checkbox"/> We were slaves to sin.	<input type="checkbox"/> We became obedient from the heart.
<input type="checkbox"/> In bondage to sin.	<input type="checkbox"/> Freed from sin, became slaves to righteousness.

C. To be dead to sin does not mean the sin nature is _____ or _____.

D. Two fundamental realities exist in phase two (Progressive Sanctification)

1. We will never be free from the _____ of sin while in our earthly bodies.

Romans 7:21-23 - '21 I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. 22 For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, 23 but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members.' *NASB*

2. We can no longer _____ sinful behavior or claim to be completely defeated by sin.

Romans 6:14 - '6 For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.' *NASB*

III. Sin no longer has dominion over us.

Justification and Progressive Sanctification compared:

Justification	Progressive Sanctification
1. Legal standing "status." <i>Accomplished in heaven</i>	1. Internal change "condition." <i>Accomplished in the heart</i>
2. Completed once and for all.	2. Continues throughout life.
3. Entirely God's work by ^[1] grace.	3. We cooperate with God (pursued by us).
4. Perfect in this life and in heaven.	4. Not perfect in this life but perfect in heaven.
5. Same in every Christian.	5. Greater in some than in others.

IV. God's instrument of change.

A. _____ is the means God uses to change us into the image of Christ.

Psalm 19:7-8 - '7 The law of the Lord is perfect, **restoring** the soul; The testimony of the Lord is sure, **making wise** the simple. 8 The precepts of the Lord are right, **rejoicing** the heart; The commandment of the Lord is pure, **enlightening** the eyes.' *NASB*

Hebrews 4:12 - '12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.' *NASB*

2 Timothy 3:15-17 - '15 and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for **teaching**, for **reproof**, for **correction**, for **training in righteousness**;17 that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.' *NASB*

“Teaching” or “doctrine”	= <i>gives us the mind of God</i>
“Reproof”	= <i>points out wrong thinking and acting</i>
“Correction”	= <i>points us to the way that is right</i>
“Training in righteousness”	= <i>keeps us on the right path</i>

B. Sanctification helps us to grow in discernment against false teaching.

2 Peter 3:17-18 - '17 You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness,

v.18 18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.' *NASB*

ANSWERS 17: to make holy, three-stage, Positional, guilt, Progressive, dominating power, Ultimate, presence, Progressive, Becoming like Christ, new capacity, changed, improved, presence, excuse, God's Word

(*END, Lesson 17, Part 1*) ([Back ToC](#))

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 18 Part 2 [\(Back ToC\)](#)

18. SANCTIFICATION, Part 2

“To Be Set Apart”

SALVATION

Our Position (*Justification*)

Who we are in Christ

Our Practice (*Sanctification*)

How we live in Christ

Justification = *Is a declaration by God as to our status.*

Sanctification = *To be set apart.*

Sanctification affects sin in three (3) different ways and in three (3) phases:

1. Positional sanctification

The penalty for our guilt is removed.

2. Progressive sanctification

We overcome the power of sin as we grow.

3. Ultimate sanctification

The presence of sin is removed.

I. Progressive sanctification requires a “ _____ ” and

an “ _____ ” participation.

Philippians 2:12-13 - '12 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling

(_____); 13 for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for

His good pleasure (_____).' NASB

A. The order is very significant to God, first works in the believer to _____ to do His will, before He works in him to _____ His will.

B. Our active role.

1. We are to _____ ourselves to become more Godly.

1 Timothy 4:7 - '7 But have nothing to do with **worldly fables** fit only for old women. On the other hand, **discipline yourself** for the purpose of godliness;' *NASB*

~ ... "**worldly fables fit only for old women**" ...

~ "**discipline**" [gymnasia]

2. We are to _____ in holiness to improve our witness.

Hebrews 12:14 - '12 Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.' *NASB*

3. We are to _____ from immorality.

1 Thessalonians 4:3 - '3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality;' *NASB*

1 Thessalonians 4:4-8 - '4 that each of you know how to possess his own **vessel** in **sanctification** and honor, 5 not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 and that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is the avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned you. 7 For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification. 8 So, he who rejects this is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.' *NASB*

~ "*Vessel*"

4. We are to _____ binding relationships with unbelievers.

2 Corinthians 6:14 - '14 Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?' *NASB*

5. We are to _____ our senses to discern between good and evil.

Hebrews 5:13-14 - '13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.' *NASB*

6. We need to _____, _____, and _____ on God's word.

Psalms 1:2 - '2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.' *NASB*

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

Psalms 119:11 - '11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.' *NASB*

7. We are to be diligent in our _____.

Ephesians 6:18 - '18 With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,' *NASB*

Philippians 4:6 - '6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.' *NASB*

8. We are to remain committed to attending _____.

Hebrews 10:24-25 - '24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.' *NASB*

C. Our passive role

1. We must be energized and _____ by the Holy Spirit to experience Christ.

Ephesians 3:14-19 - '14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.' *NASB*

2. The ability to resist sin is _____ our own natural ability.

Galatians 5:16-17 - '16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. 17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.' *NASB*

3. Only through the power of the _____ can we control sin in our bodies.

Romans 8:12-13 - '12 So then, brethren, **we are under obligation**, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—13 for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.' *NASB*

4. God secures our future by _____ what he has begun.

Philippians 1:6 - '6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.' *NASB*

II. God's goal for progressive sanctification.

Romans 8:28-29 - '28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose. 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren;' *NASB*

A. God's goal in our earthly experience is to increasingly _____ the Sonship of Jesus Christ.

B. God's process for change is _____.

Romans 12:2 - ‘2 And do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.’ *NASB*

ANSWERS 18: passive, active, our responsibility, God’s responsibility, desire, produce, discipline, progress, abstain, avoid, train, study, meditate on, memorize, prayer life, church, empowered, beyond, Holy Spirit, completing, model, transformation

(*END, Lesson 18, Part 2*) ([Back ToC](#))

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 19 Part 1 [\(Back ToC\)](#)

19. CHURCH DISCIPLINE, Part1
“Foundational Principles”

I. FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

A. Discipline within the church is based on the _____ of Christ.

Hebrews 12:4–15 -⁴ You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin; ⁵ and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, Nor faint when you are reprov’d by Him; ⁶ For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, And He scourges every son whom He receives.”

⁷ It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸ But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹ Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? ¹⁰ For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness.

¹¹ All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness. ¹² Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that the limb which is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed. ¹⁴ Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled;’ *NASB*

Examples of biblical confrontation:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. David for adultery. | <i>(2 Samuel. 12:1-25)</i> |
| 2. Ananias and Sapphira – lying to the Holy Spirit. | <i>(Acts 5:1-11)</i> |
| 3. Diotrephes disciplined for gossip and unruly behavior. | <i>(3 John 9-10)</i> |
| 4. Corinthian was disciplined for adultery. | <i>(1 Corinthians 5:1-13)</i> |
| 5. Peter disciplined for joining circumcision group. | <i>(Galatians 2:11-14)</i> |

Galatians 2:11-14 -¹¹But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. ¹² For prior to the coming of certain men from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he began to withdraw and hold himself aloof, fearing the party of the circumcision. ¹³ The rest of the Jews joined him in hypocrisy, with the result that even Barnabas was carried away by their hypocrisy. ¹⁴ But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in the presence of all, “If you, being a Jew, live like the Gentiles and not like the Jews, how is it that you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?” *NASB*

~ The goal of church discipline is _____.

B. When church discipline is necessary, it should have three specific purposes.

1. To _____ and _____ the honor of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31 - ‘³¹ Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.’ *NASB*

2. To protect the _____ of the church and to guard other Christians from being tempted, misled, or otherwise harmed.

Romans 16:17 - '17 Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them.' *NASB*

3. To _____ fallen Christians from a tragic future.

James 5:19-20 - '19 My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back, 20 let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.' *NASB*

C. God views discipline as a blessing and a sign of genuine _____.

Revelation 3:19 - '19 Those whom I love, I reprove and ^[1]_[SEP]discipline; therefore be zealous and repent.' *NASB*

Psalms 94:12 - '12 Blessed is the man whom You chasten, O Lord, And whom You teach out of Your law;' *NASB*

D. Conversely, God views a failure to discipline as being _____ and _____.

Leviticus 19:17 - '17 You shall not hate your fellow countryman in your heart; you may surely reprove your neighbor, but shall not incur sin because of him.' *NASB*

E. God will hold church leaders accountable if they _____ to exercise godly discipline or if they _____ their authority in the exercise of church discipline.

Hebrews 13:17 - '17 Obey your leaders and submit *to them*, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.' *NASB*

F. Typical misuses leaders must guard against:

1. Using discipline as a substitute for biblical counseling.
2. Using discipline as a tool for personal retaliation (get rid of; embarrass).
3. Using discipline to enforce narrow behavioral conformity beyond what God requires.
4. Exercising discipline in a negative, impersonal, or non-redemptive manner.

III. What kinds of sin merit church discipline?

1 Timothy 5:17-20 - '17 The elders who rule well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching. 18 For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing," and "The laborer is worthy of his wages." 19 Do not receive an accusation against an elder except on the basis of two or three witnesses. 20 Those who continue in sin, rebuke in the presence of all, so that the rest also will be fearful of sinning.' ^[1]_[SEP]
NASB

A. An elder who has been found guilty and continues to harm the _____ of the church should be _____ rebuked.

Titus 3:9-11 - '9 But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. 10 Reject a factious man after a first and second warning, 11 knowing that such a man is perverted and is sinning, being self-condemned.' *NASB*

~ "factious" (KJV) "*heretic*" = One who is divisive, following false doctrine.

B. Those who continue to be _____ and _____ are to be expelled from the local assembly.

Believers Bible Commentary – *"The man who majors on the minors is a divisive heretic. He usually has one note on his violin and plays it to death. Soon he gathers around himself a group of people with a negative outlook, and the rest he drives away. He will divide an assembly rather than abandon his doctrinal hobbyhorse. No church should put up with such nonsense. If after one or two warnings, he refuses to desist, he should be expelled from the fellowship of the local church and the Christians should refrain from having social contact with him. Hopefully, this ostracism will bring him to repentance and to a more balanced handling of the word of God."*

The purpose of excommunicating a believer from a local church is not to drive them away, but rather a _____ in order to restore them to a right relationship with God.

ANSWERS 19: Lordship, Restoration, guard, preserve, purity, rescue, love, unloving, hateful, neglect, misuse, testimony, publicly, divisive, obstinate, shock treatment

(END, Lesson 19, Part 1) ([Back ToC](#))

STUDENT NOTES:

Essentials - Lesson 20 Part 2 ([Back ToC](#))

20. CHURCH DISCIPLINE, Part 2
“The Process”

Review:

1. Discipline within the church is based on God’s love.
2. Church disciplines accomplishes three things:
 - It guards and preserves God’s honor.
 - It protects the purity of the church and guards others from being harmed.
 - It rescues wayward Christians from a tragic future.
3. God views failure to discipline as prideful, hateful, and unloving.

Context of Matthew 18:

- v. 2 = Jesus called to Himself a young child and set him before the twelve.
- v. 3-4 = We enter the kingdom by becoming like little children.
- v. 5-9 = Once in the kingdom, believers are to be protected like little children.
- v. 10-14 = We are to be cared for like little children.
- v. 15-17 = We must be disciplined like little children.

I. THE PROCESS OF CHURCH DISCIPLINE

Matthew 18:15-17 - '15 “And if your brother sins, go and reprove him in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.16 “But if he does not listen *to you*, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed.17 “And if he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax-gatherer.’ *NASB*

- A. Step number _____ - Go to the one you believe has sinned and address them in _____.**

Matthew 18:15 - '15 “And if your brother sins, go and reprove him in private;’ *NASB*

B. How should you approach one who is in sin?

1. In a spirit of _____ and meekness.

Ephesians 4:32 - '32 And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.' *NASB*

Galatians 6:1 - '1Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a **spirit of gentleness**; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.' *NASB*

2. Your motive should be one of restoration and not _____.

C. When should the meeting take place?

_____ for three (3) reasons:

1. To turn the sinning brother from sin to _____.
2. Head off _____ and bitterness by the one offended.
3. To keep sin from _____.

1 Corinthians 5:6 - '6Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump *of dough*' *NASB*

D. What are we supposed to do for our sinning brother?

~ "Reprove" {elencho}; Root meaning is to _____.

E. What is required for us to follow through?

1. The _____ to confront those who are in sin.

John MacArthur - *"In the eyes of much of the world and even in the eyes of many immature believers, such action is considered unloving. But discipline given in the right way expresses the deepest kind of love. Love that winks at sin or that is more concerned for superficial calm in the church than for its spiritual purity is not God's kind of love. Love that tolerates sin is not love at all but worldly and selfish sentimentality."*

2. A _____ for the things of God.

John 2:13-16 - '13 And the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.14 And He found in the temple those who were selling oxen and sheep and doves, and the moneychangers seated.15 And He made a scourge of cords, and drove *them* all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen; and He poured out the coins of the moneychangers, and overturned their tables;16 and to those who were selling the doves He said, "Take these things away; stop making My Father's house a house of merchandise.'" *NASB*

3. A personal _____.

Matthew 7:3-5 - '3 "And why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? 4 "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye? 5 "You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.' *NASB*

F. What is the goal of the confrontation?

Matthew 18:5b- '15b. if he listens to you, you have won your brother.' *NASB*

~ "Won" [kerdaino]; Gaining back of something of value that is lost.

G. Step number _____ = Take others with you for _____ meeting.

Matthew 18:16 - '16 "But if he does not listen *to you*, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed.' *NASB*

1. The basic procedure for confirming facts in a dispute was established in the Law by Moses.

Deuteronomy 19:15 - '15 "A single witness shall not rise up against a man on account of any iniquity or any sin which he has committed; on the evidence of two or three witnesses a matter shall be confirmed.' *NASB*

2. Two (2) reasons for two or three witnesses:

a. It protects against _____.

b. Assures the sinning believer was _____ rebuked and that he has or has not repented.

H. Step number _____ = Solicit the effort of the entire _____.

Matthew 18:17 - '17 "And if he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church;' *NASB*

I. Step number _____ = *The final step* is _____.

Matthew 18:17 - '17 and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax-gatherer.' *NASB*

1. A believer who will not repent and pursues sin is to be put out of the church and treated as an _____.

2. Excommunication is never an _____ in itself, but always a means to a hopeful end of repentance.

3. Removing a believer from the fellowship will have two (2) effects:

a. Allows _____ pressure for repentance.

b. Gives _____ of righteousness to the watching world.

~ **Ananias and Sapphira**

Acts 5:11 - '11 And great **FEAR** came over the whole church, and over all who heard of these things.' *NASB*

J. When a person *repents*, he is to be _____ into the fellowship, "*forgiven*."

2 Corinthians 2:5-8 - '5 But if any has caused sorrow, he has caused sorrow not to me, but in some degree—in order not to say too much—to all of you. 6 Sufficient for such a one is this punishment, which was *inflicted by* the majority, 7 so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort *him*, lest somehow such a one be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. 8 Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm *your* love for him.' *NASB*

ANSWERS 20: one, private, humility, vindictiveness, Immediately, holiness, resentment, spreading, bring to light, willingness, holy zeal, purity, two = semi-private, false accusations, properly, three = congregation, four = excommunication, unbeliever, end, maximum, testimony, welcomed back.

(*END, Lesson 20, Part 2*) ([Back ToC](#))

STUDENT NOTES: