

March 2003 Volume I



*Our Lives in Christ  
Discipleship Training Courses*

*Instructor's Workbook*

A Ministry of Chaplain Art Lyons

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Dear Teacher and Students,

Thank you for your interest in this series. With the series we have included three different study aids.

First, you can simply listen to the Audio Series by its self and discuss the content.

Secondly, you can follow up or precede the Audio Series with the outlines for each class and assign the homework at the end of each outline.

Thirdly, you can provoke more thought by introducing the extensive questions for each class for further discussion and enhanced homework assignments.

Whatever method you should decide, we appreciate hearing back from you with any praise reports or constructive criticism. Your input is important to us to help us know how to continue to provide teaching materials that will be beneficial to those who will use these courses in the future.

Blessings!

Chaplain Art Lyons

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## **Our Lives in Christ - Class 1**

### ***Our Emotions and Body Appetites – Part One***

This lesson focuses on bringing our body appetites and our emotions under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. If we are not in control of these, they will control us.

Ask yourself this question, “Who is in control?” Are you ruling your body appetites & emotions or are they ruling you?

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There will always be inward struggles (Romans 7:15-25); we first need to conquer the outward manifestations. Do not get discouraged or depressed about this struggle. This is a good thing. It shows that we now can identify the conflict of sin.

*I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.*

*So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!*

*So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.*

***Romans 7:15 -25 (NIV)***

Another word for salvation is sanctification. Sanctification means to be set apart and to be made holy. God sets us apart for Himself when we are justified by Christ's atonement and we are made holy. We are to sanctify ourselves daily and set ourselves apart in holy living for the Lord because of our appreciation for what God has done for us. Romans 12:1-2

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.*

*Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

**Romans 12:1 through Romans 12:2 (NIV)**

We are to keep our bodies, spirits, and our speech under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. When we join ourselves to sin we actually involve Christ. The Holy Spirit is not sinning, but is being grieved. 1 Corinthians 6:15-20, (sins in the body) Ephesians 4:29-32, (sins of speech).

2 Peter 1:3-9 teaches us that God has given us all that we need to live godly lives, and we are to be faithful stewards (1 Corinthians, 4:1-2). We have a responsibility to maintain our daily sanctification by adding to our faith the following: Virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, kindness, and love.

*His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.*

*For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins.***2 Peter 1:3 -9 (NIV)**

**Our Lives in Christ - Class 2**  
***Our Emotions and Body Appetites – Part Two***

Romans 6:11-23 - God's word tells us we are now free to yield ourselves to Holiness. We cannot crucify ourselves but we can yield to righteousness.

1Thessalonians 4:1-8 - We are exhorted to possess our vessels in sanctification by letting the Holy Spirit possess us.

*Finally, brothers, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.*

*It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit. **1 Thessalonians 4:1 - 8 (NIV)***

Ephesians 4:17-5:21 - Paul expected to see changed lives in the Church of Ephesus by the power of God.

1 Corinthians 6:12, 1 Corinthians 10:23-24 teaches us that we have liberty in the gray areas in scripture if:

- a. We don't stumble our brothers and sisters in worship of God, and
- b. This "liberty" does not control us.

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Romans 14:11-23 says, Happy is the man that does not condemn himself in the things that he alloweth.

## The Key to Victorious Living In Christ

Galatians 5:16-25 tells us if we walk in the Spirit, we won't fulfill the lusts of the flesh.

*So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.*

*The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. **Galatians 5:16 -25 (NIV)***

### **Homework**

Give five different disciplines you can practice to keep yourself walking in the Spirit daily. Please list Bible references for these examples. Return this list to the instructor of this class before the next lesson.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## **Our Lives In Christ - Class 3**

### ***Restoring Our Family Relationships***

God created man to be part of a family. Bloodline in the Old Testament was very important. Many of us don't know the history of our bloodline past two generations.

Exodus 34:6-7 tells us we may have inherited trouble from our families, but we can also stop the curse by our repentance. Jeremiah 18:1-10 shows us God's heart to deliver us from inherited curses and declares that repentance will bring instantaneous results. (Steps 8 & 9) 2 Corinthians 5:17, Romans 8:28

In the New Testament, we see that John the Baptist's ministry was a ministry of repentance with the promise of reconciliation between fathers and their sons (Luke 1:16-17). Once we repent, God will begin to bring reconciliation. John's ministry of repentance preceded Christ's ministry of salvation. Repentance always precedes reconciliation.

#### **Restoring Burned Bridges**

One of God's first works in our lives after we receive Christ is to get us to reconcile our relationships with our blood relatives. Because so many bridges have been burned, you may have no close relationships and may be distanced from your immediate family.

Even after true repentance, reconciliation is not always an easy task to accomplish because:

1. Family members have been deeply hurt.
2. You have been deeply hurt.

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The Bible teaches us there are different types of forgiveness.

The offender repents, we forgive, and we restore to them our fellowship and relationship. Luke 17:1-4, Matthew 18:21.

They don't repent, we forgive them, but give them over to God for accountability, Romans 12:18-21.

If you've been hurt because of unjust acts towards you from a family member, you may feel someone else needs to repent and ask for forgiveness first. Nevertheless, the Lord wants us to follow in His footsteps and forgive.

*1 Peter 2:19-25,*

*For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.*

Jesus said if we want to be forgiven and win favor with God, we must forgive. He even wants us to be the initiators.

*Matthew 5:23-24*

*"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.*

And still another problem is this. There are spiritual forces that are working against the reconciliation of you and your family. Some family members may even try to convince you that they liked you better before you were saved. But remember what Matthew 10:34-39 tells us.

*"Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn "a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law-- a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.'" "Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.*

Even though God wants to promote peace in our lives, we must always put Him first (and keep Him there). Remember, Jesus promises us a blessing if we are persecuted for righteousness sake. (Matt 5:10-12)

## **Don't Get Too Religious**

We need to be careful that we don't let our newfound piety get in the way of restoring relationships with our family. In other words, don't be so heavenly-minded that you're no earthly good. Remember where you came from (1 Cor. 4:7) and how you got to where you are now. You are a sinner, too; you're just walking in repentance. Guard yourself against becoming like the Pharisees of Jesus' day. Jesus rebuked them because they became self-righteous.

*Mark 7:9-13*

*And he said to them: "You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions! For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.' But you say that if a man says to his father or mother: 'Whatever help you might otherwise have received from me is Corban' (that is, a gift devoted to God), then you no longer let him do anything for his father or mother. Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that."*

## **Our family is our second most important ministry.**

*1 Timothy 5:8:*

*But if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.*

Ephesians talks about our relationships with family as cherishing one another. (Ephesians 5:22-6:4)

As God leads family members to reconcile, He will begin to re-establish order and respect.

## **Wives & Husbands**

*Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. (Eph 5:22-23)*

God has created men and women equally (Galatians 3:28), but the man has more accountability to God.

*Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy*

*and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband. (Eph.5:24-33)*

### **Children**

*Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.(Eph 6:1-4)*

As Christians, the Holy Spirit will lead you to do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Or, in other words, treat your family how you want to be treated.

### ***Homework***

1. Write down the names of family members you have offended.
2. Pray over this list and ask God to show you what you could do to reconcile any offenses. Write down what you could do in each case.
3. Set a deadline.
4. Share these goals with someone you can trust that will encourage you to meet your deadlines. Have the person you shared these goals with contact the instructor and acknowledge that you have indeed met with him/her to share your goals.

## **Our Lives in Christ - Class 4**

### *Establishing Our Church Family*

We need to commit ourselves to the Body of Christ in a local expression. We need to make ourselves accountable to elders and youngers. We need to be submitted and committed to one another. Give your heart, body, soul and spirit to this ministry /church. If you can't learn to do this now, you'll never be able to do it later.

The focus of this study is to talk about the support system that God has set up to bring us into maturity, and specifically, Christian maturity.

We are not to look to any man except Jesus Christ to be the ultimate authority in our lives.

*1 John 2:18-28*

*These things have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you. Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us. But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth. Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father. And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life. These things have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him. And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.*

Yet, God uses godly men and women to teach and instruct other men and women (2 Tim2: 2). We will now look at some of the ways God does this.

God has set in place those who are called to the Offices of Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor and Teacher.

*Ephesians 4:11-16*

*And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*

It is our responsibility to find godly men and women with whom to be associated. We will tend to be as holy as the people that we spend time with.

God expects us to develop trusting relationships with the spiritual mentors He has brought into our lives, realizing that they, too, will be accountable to God.

*Hebrews 13:7*

*Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you. (James 3:1) My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.*

There are to be no Lone Rangers in the Body of Christ. Part of being a Christian is being part of the body of Christ. We are commanded to fellowship.

*Hebrews 10:22-26*

*Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.*

We're to be committed and submitted. Remember again, if you can't learn to do this now in your transitional home, you won't do it later.

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*1 Corinthians 12:13*

*For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling?*

*But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him (not us). And if they were all one member, where were the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.*

It's not always easy because some family members are easier to love than others. Remember, you can choose your friends but you're "stuck" with your relatives, that is, your family in Christ. God has designed it this way so that we will stay sharpened tools for the Lord to use. *Proverbs 27:17 Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.*

God desires we develop deep relationships: *Proverbs 27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.*

God builds character in us mainly through relationships. Sometimes relationships bring pain. We can suffer in the world and receive the world's reward or we can suffer in the Church and receive the Lord's reward.

*Hebrews 11:24-24*

*By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;*

Nobody can see the whole picture, and we especially when we are in it. We need each other to keep a clear perspective.

Sometimes it takes a while to find the right church and the best spiritual mentors but keep asking, seeking, and knocking and it will happen. Remember, you have an adversary who wants to discourage you from finding a church family. He is called the deceiver. He deceives by fear and manipulation.

*1 Peter 5:1-11*

*The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed. Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind. Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.*

*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.*

*But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Lord's True Church does not manipulate or control the children of God. Rather, it is the Church's job to nourish, protect and grow you into the image of Christ.

If you have had a bad experience with an organization claiming to be the church, be thick skinned and press on. The right Church for you may be on the next corner.

**Home Work**

1. Has the Lord spoken anything to you from this lesson? If so, what?

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2. Is there a practical application for you? If so, what?

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(Turn homework assignment in to your instructor before next lesson.)

## **Our Lives In Christ - Class 5**

### ***Our Occupations - Bread Winning.***

Man was originally created to till the soil in peace and harmony with God. When we were created, God had in mind for man to maintain the Garden of Eden. It was the first "stewardship" He had imparted unto man. (Proverbs 28:19)

*And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." Genesis 2:15-17*

But his disobedience changed all that:

*And unto Adam he said, "Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it, cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return". Genesis 3:17-19*

We are not to judge our work standards according to the world - and especially the Western (America) civilizations. 9-to-5 is not godly or ungodly. Being financially responsible is more important than punching a time clock.

Be a contributor not a taker. No one has been given the spiritual gift of receiving.

*Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us. For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you: Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us. For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread. But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing. And if any man obey not our word by this*

*epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother. 2 Th 3:6-15*

God often gives those in the process of restoration special grace; use this time wisely.

God's  
Commandments  
are God's  
Empowerments

Matthew 6:33 tells us that if we are seeking God first in our lives, He will provide for us.

Jesus said he came to give us abundant life (John 10:10). You were created to enjoy the fruit of your labor. Choose something you like doing and ask God to help you get there. Jesus said *"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light"* Matthew, 11:29-30

Be practical. We're not all supposed to be singing on Broadway, especially if you can't carry a tune! Hard work (diligence) is still the key to prosperity (few will win the lottery).

Your idea of the perfect job and God's idea might be different. The Lord wants to help you get into the arena of work and ministry for which you are best suited.

The Apostle Paul's heart's desire was for fulltime work and ministry to the Jews, but God called him to be the Apostle to the gentiles (Romans 11:13). Paul wanted to be in the ministry, but spent 10 to 14 years as a tent maker waiting for the Lord's calling. Paul was a traveler, but God had him spend a lot of time in jail. Yet the Lord used him to write most of the New Testament.

### **Homework**

1. Write down three occupations you would like to have.
2. If you are not in one of these now, write down why not and three steps you could take to get closer to obtaining the position you want to have.
3. Ask God daily to help you complete your three steps.
4. Pass in what you have written down to your instructor before your next class.

## **Our Lives In Christ - Class 6**

### ***Our Financial Lives - What We Do With Money***

We need to be paying our bills on time, and not spending more money than we make.

#### **Romans 13:5-8**

*Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience. This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. (Romans 13:5-8 NIV)*

**Tithing:** Does God require it of Christians?

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The revelation of tithing was given in pre-mosaic law.

#### **Abraham tithed - Genesis 14:17-20**

*After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything". (Genesis 14:17-20 NIV)*

#### **Jacob tithed - Genesis 28:18-22**

*Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz. Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear so that I return safely to my father's house, then the LORD will be my God and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth." (Genesis 28:18-22 NIV)*

As we will see next, clearer revelation came with the Mosaic Law.

### **The tithe belongs to God – Leviticus 27: 30-33**

*"A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD. If a man redeems any of his tithe, he must add a fifth of the value to it. The entire tithe of the herd and flock--every tenth animal that passes under the shepherd's rod--will be holy to the LORD. He must not pick out the good from the bad or make any substitution. If he does make a substitution, both the animal and its substitute become holy and cannot be redeemed."(Leviticus 27:30-33 NIV)*

### **God wants the tithe to go to the Priests and Levites - Numbers 18:21-28 (Note: Levites and Priests are to tithe, too).**

*"I give to the Levites all the tithes in Israel as their inheritance in return for the work they do while serving at the Tent of Meeting. From now on the Israelites must not go near the Tent of Meeting, or they will bear the consequences of their sin and will die. It is the Levites who are to do the work at the Tent of Meeting and bear the responsibility for offenses against it. This is a lasting ordinance for the generations to come. They will receive no inheritance among the Israelites. Instead, I give to the Levites as their inheritance the tithes that the Israelites present as an offering to the LORD. That is why I said concerning them: 'They will have no inheritance among the Israelites.'" The LORD said to Moses, "Speak to the Levites and say to them: 'When you receive from the Israelites the tithe I give you as your inheritance, you must present a tenth of that tithe as the Lord's offering. Your offering will be reckoned to you as grain from the threshing floor or juice from the winepress. In this way you also will present an offering to the LORD from all the tithes you receive from the Israelites. From these tithes you must give the Lord's portion to Aaron the priest. (Numbers 18:21-28 NIV)*

### **Tithing will not save your soul, but it might save you some money – Malachi 3:8-12**

*"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse--the whole nation of you--because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the LORD Almighty. "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the LORD Almighty. (Malachi 3:8-12 NIV)*

### **Jesus supported the tithe - Matthew 23:23**

*"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices--mint, dill and cummin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law--justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. (Matthew 23:23 NIV)*

### **Paul supported the tithe - 1 Corinthians 9:1-14**

*Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not the result of my work in the Lord? Even though I may not be an apostle to others, surely I am to you! For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who sit in judgment on me. Don't we have the right to food and drink? Don't we have the right to take a believing wife along with us, as do the other apostles and the Lord's brothers and Cephas? Or is it only I and Barnabas who must work for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its grapes? Who tends a flock and does not drink of the milk? Do I say this merely from a human point of view? Doesn't the Law say the same thing? For it is written in the Law of Moses: "Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain." Is it about oxen that God is concerned? Surely he says this for us, doesn't he? Yes, this was written for us, because when the plowman plows and the thresher threshes, they ought to do so in the hope of sharing in the harvest. If we have sown spiritual seed among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you? If others have this right of support from you, shouldn't we have it all the more? But we did not use this right. On the contrary, we put up with anything rather than hinder the gospel of Christ. Don't you know that those who work in the temple get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in what is offered on the altar? In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel. (1 Corinthians 9:1-14 NIV)*

### **1 Timothy 5:17-18**

*The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages." (1 Timothy 5:17-18 NIV)*

### **Giving: Gifts beyond the tithe - 2 Corinthians 8:12-15**

*For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have. Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality, as it is written: "He who gathered much did*

*not have too much, and he who gathered little did not have too little."  
(2Corinthians 8:12-15 NIV)*

## **2 Corinthians 9:5-9**

*So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to visit you in advance and finish the arrangements for the generous gift you had promised. Then it will be ready as a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given. Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." (2 Corinthians 9:5-9 NIV)*

## **If God has your money, He has your heart. Where is your treasure?**

### **(Matthew 6:21)**

*(Matthew 6:19-21 NIV) "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

## **If you can't discipline yourself to give now, you probably won't do it later.**

### Remember the Reaping Principles

Galatians 6:7-10, 2 Corinthians 2:6

1. We reap what we sow;
2. We reap more than what we sow;
3. We are always sowing.

### **Home Work**

1. Tithe for one month. Keep a diary of what happened with your finances that month.
2. Share your experiences with the group one-month from now.

## Our Lives In Christ - Class 7

### *Our Social Lives*

It is paramount in this teaching that we keep the focus of this study on ourselves and not others. Don't ask the Lord to bring revelation to fix somebody else; ask the Lord how to fix the problems you may have.

*"Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."(Matthew 7:1-5 NIV)*

***Ask yourself this question. Do you want the Lord to judge you the way you judge someone else? Remember that when you point the finger, there are three pointing back at you. If we were honest, we would admit we all want and need more grace!***

Before you were a Christian, you were self-centered and may have conducted yourself in anti-social or non-conformist ways to get attention. Or you may have acted in anti-social behavior to keep people away from you. Now that you are a new creature in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17), God wants you to become part of the social fabric of the family of God.

God hasn't called us to be weird or obnoxious! If we are to be persecuted, it's supposed to be because of righteousness' sake and not because of green or purple hair, or because we look frightful, or choose not to bathe.

*"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you." (Matthew 5:10-12 NIV)*

It is true that on occasion God calls men and women to minister in a way that is more shocking as in the case of John the Baptist. However, most the time we are supposed to blend with society so that we can win the hearts and confidence of those around us. Jesus did. What made Jesus stand out in a room was that he walked in truth, love, and spiritual power. Besides that, you couldn't pick him out in a crowd. Judas had to identify Christ with a kiss.

*"Why are you sleeping?" he asked them. "Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation." While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" (Luke 22:46-48 NIV)*

God's Commandments are God's Empowerments
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Paul the Apostle blended into different societies and cultures, but like Jesus, without compromise in sinful practices.

*"Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings". (1 Corinthians 9:19-23 NIV)*

Sometimes the Lord will call us to reach out to a different culture as he did with James Hudson Taylor. In that case we may offend someone else's culture. However, when the Lord does this He will lead and convince us of this calling clearly.

Blending into society means keeping society's rules. The Apostle Peter wrote:

*"Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men. Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a*

*cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king". (1 Peter 2:11-17 NIV)*

Paul also wrote:

*"Everything is permissible"--but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible"--but not everything is constructive". (1 Corinthians 10:23 NIV)*

We are to be in the world but not of the world.

*"I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it."  
(John 17:14-16 NIV)*

We are to complement the rest of the Body of Christ.

*"If anyone wants to be contentious about this, we have no other practice--nor do the churches of God." (1 Corinthians 11:16 NIV)*

John Calvin, not the Bible said, "Cleanliness is next to Godliness". However, Calvin was speaking the truth. God doesn't want us stinking up the place and neither does your brother. Someone said that pride's a lot like bad breath; everybody knows you've got it but you!

I knew an elder who was a wonderful brother in Christ and had much wisdom to share with those around him, but his breath was so bad, no one wanted to be around him. It was obvious he didn't care for his teeth. You may not be offended by your own body odors, but others are. God has given us many scriptures about cleanliness. Here is just one:

*"If one of your men is unclean because of a nocturnal emission, he is to go outside the camp and stay there. But as evening approaches he is to wash himself, and at sunset he may return to the camp. (Also), Designate a place outside the camp where you can go to relieve yourself. As part of your equipment have something to dig with, and when you relieve yourself, dig a hole and cover up your excrement. For the LORD your God moves about in your camp to protect you and to deliver your enemies to you. Your camp must be holy, so that he will not see among you anything indecent and turn away from you". (Deuteronomy 23:10-14 NIV)*

We not only need to speak the truth in love, but we need to hear the truth in love. If we are willing to receive correction, the Lord will speak to us through His word and the Church.

*"Do not rebuke a mocker or he will hate you; rebuke a wise man and he will love you. Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning." (Proverbs 9:8-9 NIV)*

*"Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid." (Proverbs 12:1 NIV)*

*"Better is open rebuke than hidden love. {6} Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses." (Proverbs 27:5-6 NIV)*

Don't be like porcupines, which have many fine points but are impossible to get close to.

#### **Homework**

1. Ask one to three close friends if there is anything you can do to help them be more comfortable around you.
2. Write those suggestions down and bring them before the Lord in prayer to see what He shows you to do.
3. Make a copy of suggestions and what you are trying to do about improvements. Submit that list to your instructor before the next class.

## Our Lives in Christ - Class 8

### *Submission and Servanthood*

*(Eph 5:18-21 KJV) And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.*

What Submission Means: To Yield.

On the roadways we yield to keep traffic moving and to avoid collisions. When we are not yielding, we are forcing our own way.

We can't all be in charge; submission brings order.

All are equal but each has a different function.	The Trinity	Genesis 1:26-27
	Father	Isaiah 45:22-23; 1 Corinthians 15:28
	Son	Philippians 2:9-10; John 5:30
	Holy Spirit	John 16:13-15
	The Angels	Daniel 10:11-13; Gen. 3:24; Is. 6:2
	The Government	Romans 13:1-5
	The Work Place	Ephesians 6:5-8
The Family	Ephesians 5:22-29; 6:1-3	
The Church	Ephesians 5:19-21	

Satan wanted to occupy a position he was not created for. His pride and lust for power caused him to rebel against God (Isaiah 14:12-15).

Adam and Eve sinned against God and we inherited this same sinful character trait of rebellion. This has been illustrated in the scripture in the life of King Saul. Saul could not accept the authority over him, and ultimately he lost all his authority.

*(1 Samuel 15:23 KJV) For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.*

### Submission Brings Wisdom and Prevents Heartache

*(Hebrews 13:17 KJV) Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.*

Learning to submit in a godly manner corrects a critical spirit, and teaches us to be content.

*(Proverbs 9:7-9 NIV) "Whoever corrects a mocker invites insult; whoever rebukes a wicked man incurs abuse. Do not rebuke a mocker or he will hate you; rebuke a wise man and he will love you. Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning.*

We are wise to listen to those who have more experience than us. We are wiser if we take the advice. Remember, too, that God is also holding Elders accountable (James 3:1)

God's Commandments are God's Empowerments
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### Submitting To One Another Builds Character & Forces Us To Work With One Another.

*(1 Pet 5:5-6 KJV) Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:*

The Lord will constantly be bringing people into our lives for this reason to show us our opinion or way is not always the best or right way.

### Submitting To One Another Is Part of Being a Servant & Keeps Us Humble

*(Phil 2:3-8 KJV) Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*

We are not to be doormats but stepping-stones. We yield to each other to see God's work get done in God's way.

### The Testimony of Godly Submission Brings Conviction to the World

*(1 Pet 2:13-17 KJV) Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.*

We have rebellion bred into us. The Church is to be different. The Church is God's testimony to the world.

#### **Home Work**

1. Over the next week spend some time in prayer before the Lord and ask Him to reveal to you situations or authority figures in your life in which you have been struggling concerning submission. (These situations should be ones that you know that God had placed you in to teach you something.) Briefly write these experiences down.
2. Pray and ask the Lord to reveal unto you how you should have acted in each case. Briefly write down how you should have reacted, and the possible results if you would have reacted differently.
3. Write down some reminder tips on what you can do in the future to help you respond in the correct manner.
4. Make copies of this homework and submit it to your instructor before the next class.

## Questions For Class 1 - Our Emotions and Body Appetites - Part One

1. What two areas of our lives does this lesson focus on that need to be brought under the Lordship of Jesus Christ?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What is a question we need to ask ourselves concerning control?

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\_\_\_\_\_

3. What does the Lordship of Jesus Christ mean to you?

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\_\_\_\_\_

Give three scriptural references to support your answer.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Explain what Romans 7:15-25 teaches in your own words.

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What is the answer to this dilemma? (problem)

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Should we get discouraged when we struggle with sin? Explain your answer.

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5. What is salvation? Explain your answer and give three scriptural references to support it.

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1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is sanctification? Explain your answer and give three scriptural references to support it.

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1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

7. How are salvation and sanctification the same?

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8. How are salvation and sanctification different?

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9. What does Romans 12: 1-2 mean to you?

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10. Read I Corinthians 6:15-20 and discuss the personal application of these verses in your life.

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11. Read Ephesians 4:29 -32 and discuss the personal application of these verses in your life.

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12. Read 2 Peter 1-11 and list the seven attributes we can add to our faith to make us strong in the faith. Give a definition of each with a scriptural reference.  
(Example: Faith; Faith in Christ is what saves us. Ephesians 2:8,9)

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2. 

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3. 

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4. 

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5. 

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6. 

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7. 

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13. According to 2 Peter 1:10-11, what are the benefits of adding these attributes to your faith.

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What will happen if you do not do this?

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## Questions For Class 2 - Our Emotions and Body Appetites - Part 2

1. Read Romans 6:11-23; explain the meaning of these verses in your own words.

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2. Read I Thessalonians 4:1-8; explain the meaning of these verses in your own words.

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3. Read Ephesians 4:17 - 5:21; explain the meaning of these verses in your own words.

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4. Read I Corinthians 6:12, I Corinthians 10:23-24.  
Do these scriptures teach that we can do whatever we want? Explain your answer.

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5. What do the words below mean in the context of I Corinthians 6:12 and 10:23, 24?

Edify - \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Stumble - \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. What does Romans 14:11-23 mean to you?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. In Galatians 5:16-26, list the fruit of the Spirit and the works of the flesh.

**The Fruit of the Spirit**

**Works of the flesh**

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\_\_\_\_\_  
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8. Describe the conflict between the fruit of the Spirit and the lust of the flesh.

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9. How can a Christian keep from fulfilling the lust of the flesh?

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## Questions for Class 3 - Restoring Our Family Relationships

1. How important is our bloodline or family to God? Explain your answer.

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2. Can we inherit curses and blessings from our ancestors? Explain your answer and share some scripture references that support your answer.

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3. What is the message found in Jeremiah 18:1- 10, Romans 8:28, II Corinthians 5:17?

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4. What is the definition of repentance? Give 3 scripture references to support your answer.

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1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is biblical forgiveness? Who's responsibility is it to forgive? Explain your answer.

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6. Why is forgiveness an important part of reconciliation?

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7. If we want God's forgiveness, what must we do? Give scriptural references to your answer.

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8. Can we get too religious? Explain your answer.

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9. Read Ephesians 5:22 - 6:4. What family members are mentioned here?

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10. What is Godly submission?

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11. Give a detailed answer to how a husband is to conduct himself as head of the household.

List three scripture references in three different books of the Bible to support your answer.

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1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

12. Give a detailed answer to how a wife should be in submission to her husband. List three scripture references in three different books of the Bible to support your answer.

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1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

13. Give a detailed answer to how children should conduct themselves to the authority of their parents. List three scripture references in three different books of the Bible to support your answer.

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1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

14. Give a detailed answer to how Godly parents should raise their children? List three scripture references in three different books of the Bible to support your answer.

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1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

15. What is the basic rule that Christ gave to mankind? Explain your answer.

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## Questions for Class 4 - Establishing Our Church Family

1. Who does the Bible teach we should be accountable to? Give scripture to support your answers.

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2. Who are we to follow as our supreme teacher? Explain your answer.

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3. How can a person keep a GOOD balance between the teachings of man and the teachings of the Holy Spirit?

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4. Ephesians 4:11-16 talks about the fivefold ministry of Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers. Define the ministry of each.

Apostle: \_\_\_\_\_

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Prophet: \_\_\_\_\_

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Evangelist: \_\_\_\_\_

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Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

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Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

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5. According to Ephesians 4:11-16, what is the ultimate purpose of the fivefold ministry?

List at least four purposes.

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6. Who's responsibility is it to find Godly men and women to mentor us?

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7. Are we to follow spiritual leaders blindly? Explain your answers.

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8. Why should a person go to church?

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9. Explain the comparison of the church (Body of Christ) to your own physical body.

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10. What part of the Body are you and why do you believe that?

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Explain your answer:

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11. Do we get to choose who is in our church family? Explain your answer.

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12. Read Proverbs 27: 6 and 17. Describe what these verses mean to you.

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13. How important are building relationships for your spiritual growth? Explain your answer. (Why are relationships important.)?

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14. Does God always provide spiritual mentors in our lives? Explain your answer?

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15. How can we tell if God has brought a spiritual mentor into our lives?

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## Questions for Class 5 - Our Occupations - Bread Winning

1. Explain the relationship between working and God’s original plan for man in the Garden of Eden?

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2. What does Proverbs 28:19 mean to you?

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3. How can we be sure we are meeting God’s commandments concerning work?

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4. Where in the scriptures does the Bible teach about the gift of receiving?

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5. Explain what 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15 means to you.

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6. God often gives those in the process of restoration special grace. Have you experienced this? If so, share what you believe God wants you to learn or do in this time of grace?

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7. What does Matthew 6:33 mean to you?

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8. What does the word “yoke” represent in Matthew 11:29-30?

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9. What does being in the arena of your vocational calling or ministry mean to you?

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10. List the five “R”s for success, and briefly describe how you can apply them in your vocational plan.

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## Questions for Class 6 - Our Financial Lives

1. What are the two main rules to being financially responsible?

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2. Do you think being financially responsible is important to God? Explain your answer.

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3. What is your definition of tithing?

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4. Where did God ask the tithe to go?

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5. Do you believe that tithing is a New Testament principle? Why or Why not?

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6. Explain why Abraham tithed to Melchizedek.

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7. Explain why Jacob tithed to God.

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8. Share your understanding of Malachi 3:8-12.

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9. Share your understanding of I Corinthians 9:1-14.

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10. Do you think there is a difference between tithing and free will offering? If so, what is the difference?

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11. Share your understanding of Matthew 6:21 and relate this passage of scripture to giving.

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12. List the three reaping principles and briefly describe each.

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## Questions for Class 7 - Our Social Lives

1. What is the main focus of this study?

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2. Where is the wrong place to focus this study?

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3. Share your definition of Matthew 7:1-5.

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What is your definition of anti-social behavior?

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4. Have you displayed any anti-social behavior previously to being a Christian? If so, briefly describe your anti-social behavior.

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5. What does it mean to be persecuted for righteousness sake and not for being obnoxious?

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6. What does it mean to you to blend in culturally?

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7. According to I Corinthians 9:19-23 should fitting into a culture or society mean you have to change your personality or behavior, or both? Explain your answer.

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8. What does I Peter 2:11-17 mean to you?

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9. When are we free to break the laws of man? Explain your answer.

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10. What does John 17:14-16 mean to you?

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11. Who said, “cleanliness is next to Godliness”? Do you agree or disagree? Explain your answer, using scripture to support your view.

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12. Explain what Ephesians 4:15 means to you.

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13. Explain what Proverbs 9:8-9 means to you?

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14. Explain what Proverbs 12:1 means to you.

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15. Explain what Proverbs 27:5-6 means to you.

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## Questions for Class 8 - God's Purposes in Submission & Authority

1. What does Ephesians 5:18-21 mean to you?

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2. Share your definition of submission.

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3. Below we have listed six orders of governmental structure that God has ordained to teach us about the importance of submission. In the column to the right, share some scriptural support for each structure.

The Trinity	_____
The Angels	_____
The Civil Government	_____
The Work Place	_____
The Family	_____
The Church	_____

4. What does Isaiah 14:12-15 teach about Satan's attitude to submission?

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5. How did that attitude influence Adam and Eve?

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6. What does I Samuel 15:23 mean to you?

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7. Explain Hebrews 13:17 and how this scripture affects you personally.

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8. Explain Proverbs 9:7-9 and how it relates to your own experience.

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9. What does I Peter 5:5-6 mean to you?

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10. Explain Philippians 2:3-8 and relate it to the quote, “God wants us to view ourselves not as doormats, but as “stepping stones.”

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11. How does I Peter 2:13-17 relate to our testimony and the world’s view of Christians?

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**We would like you now, to look back at your answers and let us know what you have learned from this lesson?**

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**Were any parts of this lesson difficult for you to understand? Please explain:**

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**Would you like to send you additional Bible Courses? \_\_\_\_\_**