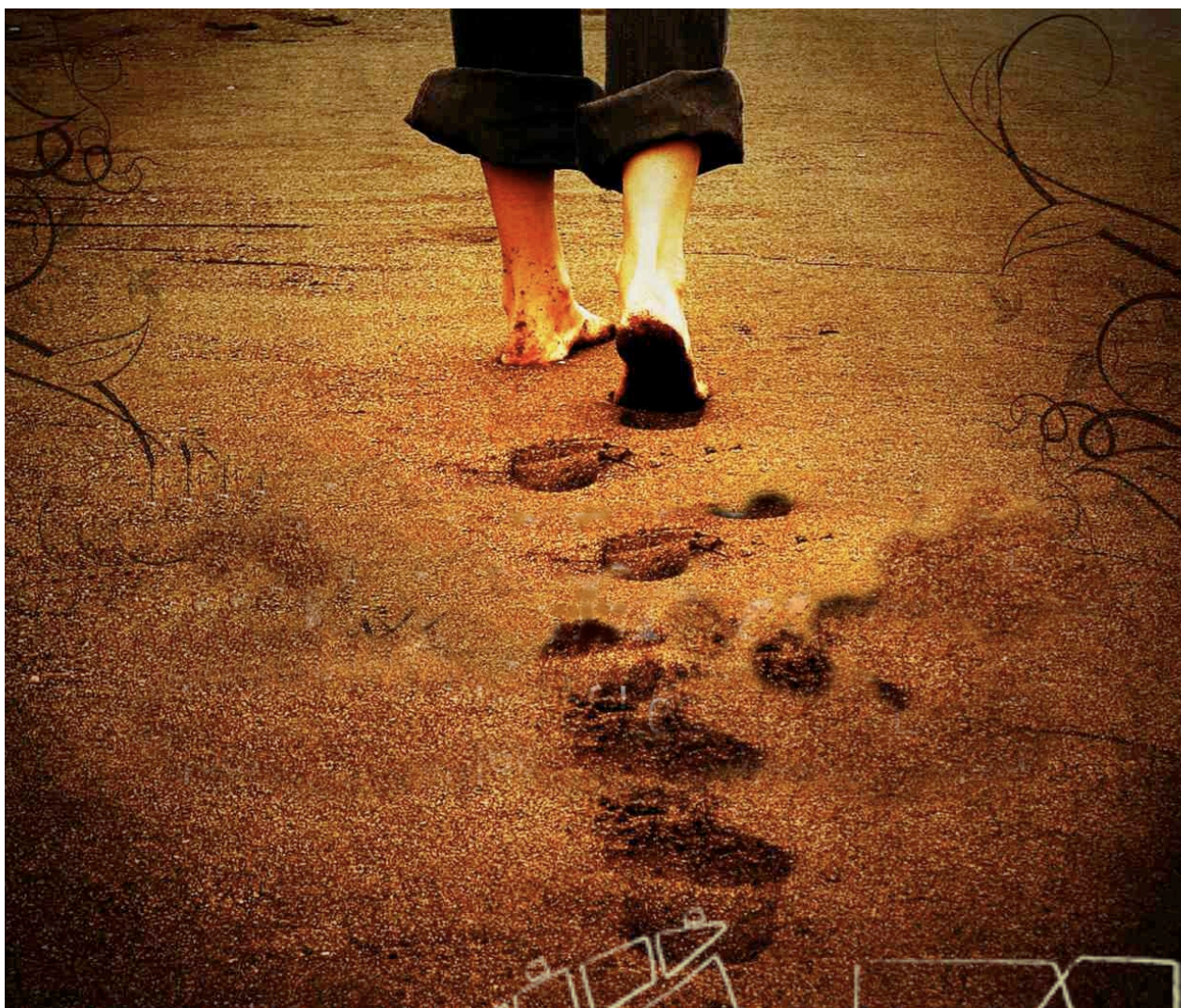


J MISSION

English



J mission
Book 1

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Chapter 1

“(Faith) Jesus”



CONNECT

An Investment with a Quick Return

[Suppose that a woman you don't know walks up to you on the street, smiling, and says to you: “Hi! As a representative of one of today's most well-known investment companies, I want to invite you to take part in a savings plan. Just invest \$5,000 with me, and in one year you will have a double in return.”]

You stare at her in disbelief. She says: “Oh, don't worry. Just have faith in me, and you will definitely see your money grow!”]

1. If this happened to you, would you give your money to the woman to invest? Why?
2. We know that if the object of our faith is not trustworthy, it would be foolish to put our trust in it!

[Having faith] can be defined as: _____

A. The Object of the Christian's Faith

He never penned his own words, yet the books written about him are so numerous that all the libraries in the world could not contain them.

He never crafted a single poem, and yet, at all times and in all places, peoples extol him with song day and night.

He never established a university, yet those who follow him and receive his teachings are able to comprehend more than that of all the university students on the globe.

He never commanded an officer or a soldier, nor wielded a knife or a gun, yet the hearts of millions are governed by him, and are changed from the inside out.

HEAR

B. Jesus? Who is he?

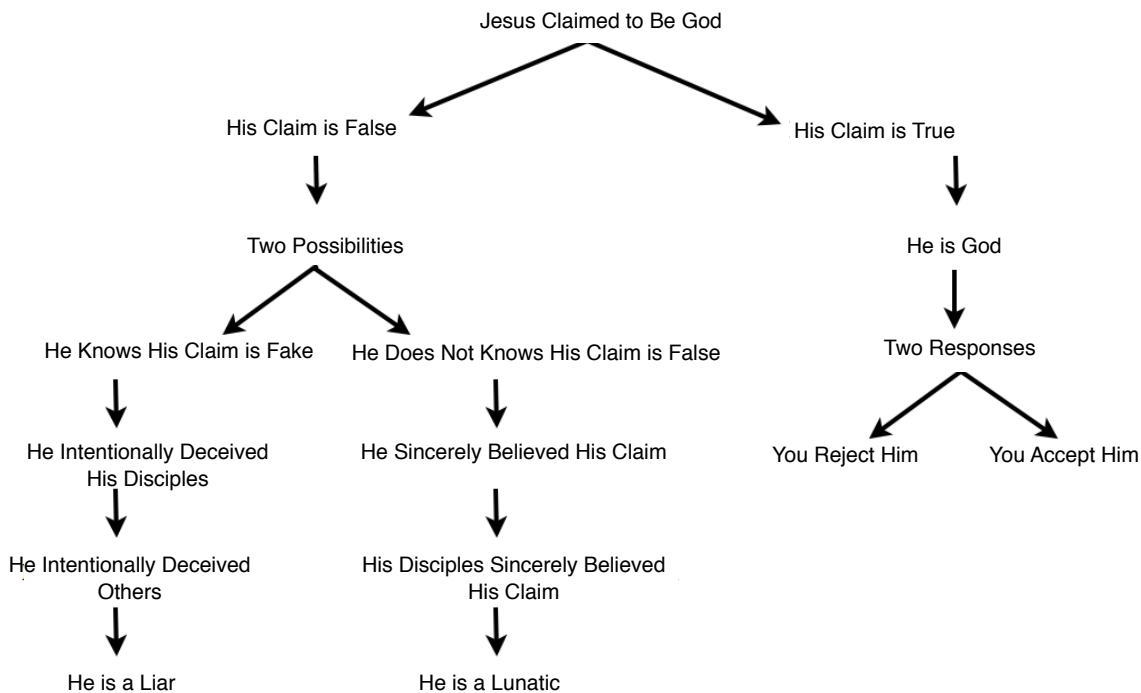
Scripture	Interrogator	Jesus' Response
John 14:5-9		
Mark 2:5-12		
John 10:30-33		

A Simple Analysis

Jesus himself claimed to be God; others also acknowledged this claim; He performed miracles and proved that He was God and had the authority to forgive sins. Jesus also claimed to be the only way to the Father God.

Is Jesus Worthy of Our Trust?

A Trilemma by C.S. Lewis



3. According to what you know of Jesus, is He a liar? Why?

4. According to what you know of Jesus, is He a lunatic? Why?

[Thus, the only possibility is that His claim was true. What is left is for us to choose to accept Him or to reject Him.]

The issue that keeps us from trusting God

5. Many believers say: "I know in my head that Jesus is the true God, but I cannot feel God's love, I feel like He is far from me! It's difficult for me to trust Him!" What do you think? How would you respond to these believers?

C. Living By Faith

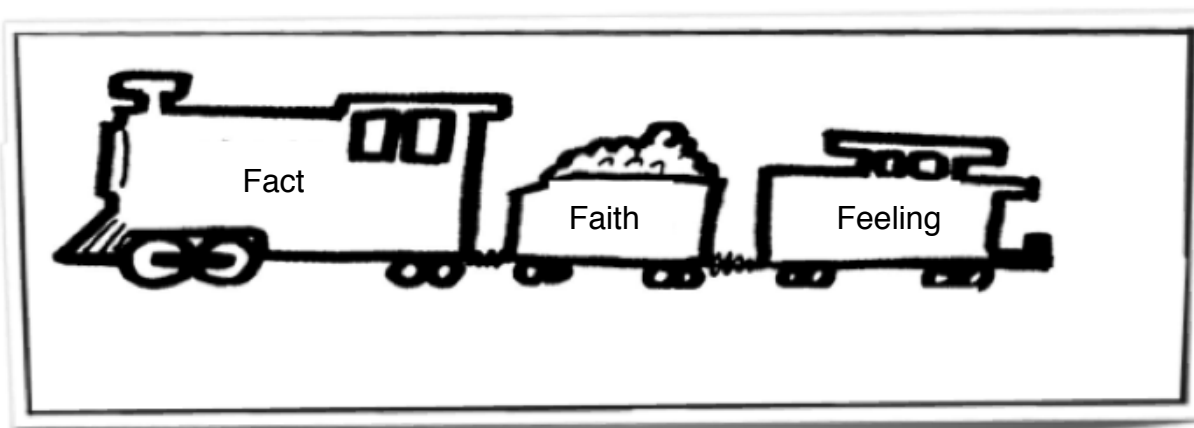
Hebrews 11:6

The background of the book of Hebrews: This was a letter written to believers who were facing hardships, to strengthen their hearts. The letter declared that the new covenant accomplished by Christ had replaced the Judaic system; that God's people could enter the presence of God by simply trusting in Him.

6. From the passage, what is the key to pleasing God?
7. Why can't we please God without faith?
8. When people do not exercise their faith, what do they usually rely on?
9. What are some obstacles that keep you from trusting God?

D. About facts, faith and feelings.

The Christian lives by faith (trust) in the trustworthiness of God Himself and His Word, and not by feelings, which can easily change. This following diagram illustrates the relationship between **fact** (God and His Word), **faith** (our trust in God and His Word), and **feeling** (the result of our faith and obedience) (Jn 14:21). Take Heb. 11:6 for example, the fact represents there is God, and He rewards those who seek Him, faith represents our full trust in God, feelings represent pleasing God.

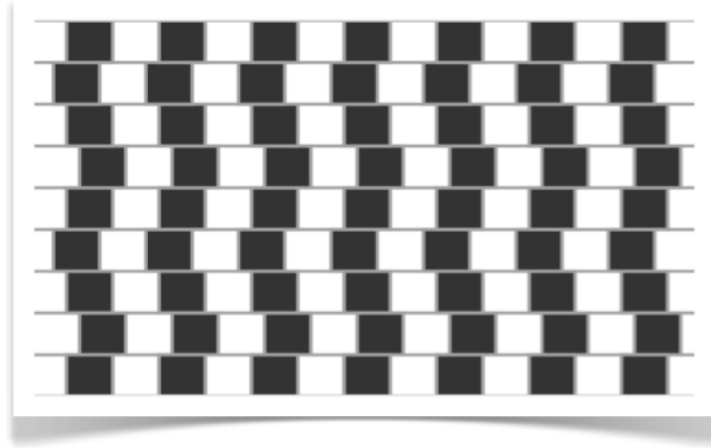


10. How do you explain the train diagram above?

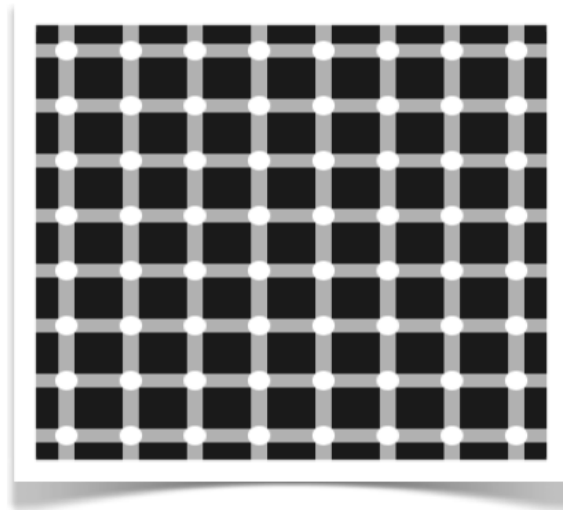
11. If facts do not match feelings, how should we handle feelings in the right way?

Subjective feeling may not be able to represent objective facts, share from your observations of picture one and picture two.

Picture one: Do you see curved lines from the picture?



Pictures two: Do you see black dots moving in the picture?



ACT

1. Memorize scripture: Heb. 11:6
2. Read “the Transferable Concepts 1” (How To Be Sure You Are a Christian) before next study.

TRANSFER

Share with someone what you have learned from this study.

Chapter 2

“Developing My Relationship With the Heavenly Father”



CONNECT

This is based on a true story:

My name is Zheng Xian, I am 20 years old. Two years ago, I was found guilty of theft and sentenced to a labor camp for one year.

The truth is I was a pretty good student when I was young. After I entered middle school, I had to read so much entirely in English; it was a struggle for me. I lost interest in school, and became addicted to online games. Twice, I was told by the school to repeat the grade. Discouraged, I had no more desire to stay, so I transferred to another school.

I ended up at a much worse middle school. I started to hang out with some gang members. They included me and made me feel valued and cool. Afterwards, they took me to steal things. In the beginning, I was terrified, but when I got away with it, life became exciting. Thus, I developed a habit of stealing. My parents found out and were heart-broken. They often advised me to stay away from the group of bad guys, but I refused to listen to them. I even asked them for money so I could move out and live with friends. My parents were very upset, and didn't go along with my request. I swore that I would find all money from the house and run away with it. Finally, in tears, my parents handed me money, and asked me not to continue in this destructive path. I left without listening to anything they had to say.

Very soon, all the money was gone, and I started to steal again. This time, I was arrested by the police. The police asked to search my house. They accompanied me to my parents' home. When I opened the door, I saw the sadness in my father's eyes...

1. In Zheng Xian's situation, what would normally be his father's reaction? If you were Zheng Xian, how would you really want your father to react?

I was speechless at that time, I didn't want to look at him, and I felt unworthy to speak with him. He came up and hugged me right away, "Son, you are finally home. Son, you are home...". Tears streamed from my face. After the search, the police took me to police station. That night, I felt very lonely and helpless. The next day, I would be sent to the labor camp. The following days, my parents came and visited me often. They told how much they had missed me in the months that I had been gone, and that they were praying for me, asking that the Lord would bring me home safely. They asked me not give up on myself, and to stand up from where I had fallen. I could feel their love and acceptance toward me, and I didn't want to let them down. One night, I prayed to the Lord, asking God to lead me to Himself, and give me an opportunity to change. God really answered my prayers. The prosecutor reduced my sentence, so I spent one year in the labor camp.

2. After this incident, how was his relationship with his parents different? How do you think Zheng Xian will treat his parents in the future?

3. In your relationship with the Lord, has there been any time where you experience God's love and acceptance deeply?

Whether or not you felt God's love before, we base our faith in God and His word-the Bible. The more we know about His word, the better we understand God's love and His desire for us.

A. Discover the love of the heavenly Father

Ephesians 1:3-8

4. According this passage, what has God done for us?

5. God chose us to know Him (verse 4), and made us His sons (verse 5), what can we know about His love from here?

6. As the children of heavenly Father, what has He given us?

7. Even though we do not deserve God's great love, He chose us according to His will and accepted us as His children, and forgave all of our sins. As a result, how should our relationship with the heavenly Father be?

B. Spend time with the heavenly Father

Psalm 143 (try to read this psalm with an attitude of prayer)

8. When David wrote this prayer, what kind of circumstance do you think he was facing? How did he feel?

9. What do you think enabled David to communicate with God so openly?

10. In David's relationship with God, what are the characteristics that you wish to have in your own daily communication with God?

"You have made us for yourself, O God, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you."- Theologian Augustine

11. Developing our relationship with the heavenly Father should be our first priority. What are some specific ways to ensure that you do that? (James 4:8a)

12. Based on the discussion above, list at least three things you can apply in your devotion time.

ACT

- * Group members set up times to have devotions together.
- * Set up personal consistent devotion time.
- * Choose a quiet and undisturbed location
- * Choose the time when you are most awake and energized to draw close to God.
- * Set a practical goal:

(from _____ to _____)

_____ minutes for praise and worship: Express your faith in God and praise God for what He has done.

_____ minutes for reading and meditating: to know more about God and His promises

_____ minutes for prayer and supplication: For God to lead you in being an obedient child.

TRANSFER

1. Share with someone what impressed you the most from this study.
2. Share with someone one of your devotions, about how it encourages you in developing your relationship with God.

Supplementary materials:

To help the group understand a father's unfailing love for his son:
www.youtube.com (search: "Dick&Rick")

Dick&Rick's website: www.teamhoyt.com

2.

Chapter 3

“Walk In the Light”



CONNECT

Share our stories

When we became Christians, we naturally want to live a life that pleases our Lord. However later we discover that it is not easy. We will deal with frustrations and failures in our Christian life.

Your story...

My story...

What kind of frustration or failure have you ever experienced since you became a Christian?

Face our struggles

Romans 7:14-24

1. According to Apostle Paul, what difficulties did he face when he wanted to do good and why?
2. Have you ever been in a similar situation like Paul that you “want to do good but you fail to succeed”? what do you think of it and how do you feel?

HEAR

When our Christian life faces frustration and failure, normally there are three possibilities as below:

1. Lack of knowledge: don't know that God has given us abundant Christian life and all spiritual resources.
2. Don't know how to use: though we are aware of the spiritual possessions, we don't know how to apply them in daily life.
3. Choose not to live a life that pleasing to God: we understand how to apply in daily life, yet choose to live a self-managing life.

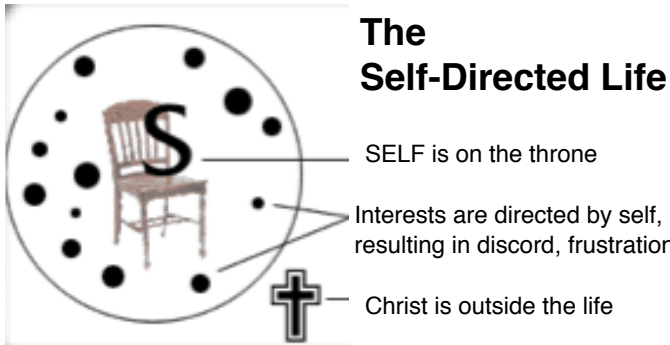
In this chapter, we will start to understand how to use the spiritual possession God give us and have a victorious Christian life.

I. Discover the core of problem: 1Cor. 2:14-3:3

Unspiritual man (1 Cor. 2:14)

3a. What is the relationship of a unspiritual man and God? What about his spiritual life?

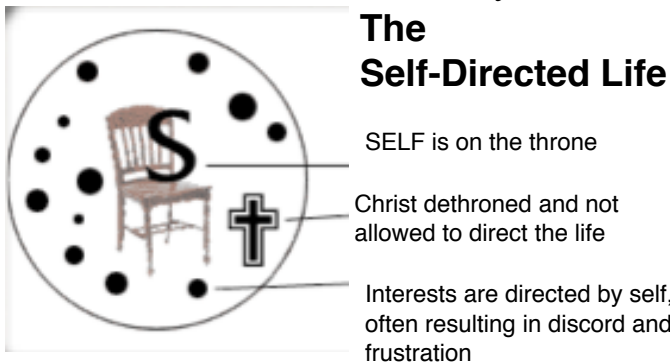
3b. how does it reflect in his daily life?



Worldly infant in Christ (1 Cor. 3:1-3)

4a. What is the relationship of a carnal man and God? What about his spiritual life?

4b. how does it reflect in his daily life?

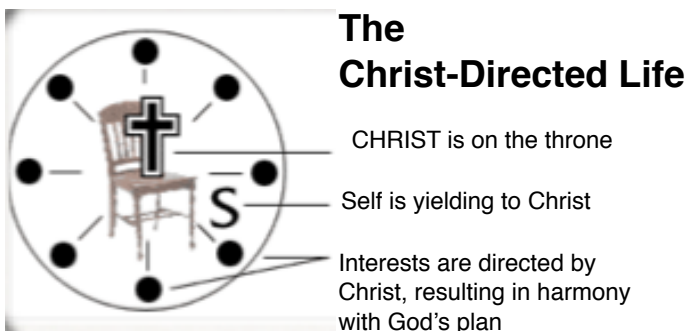


Spiritual man (1 Cor. 2:15-16)

5a. What is the relationship of a spiritual man and God? What about his spiritual life?

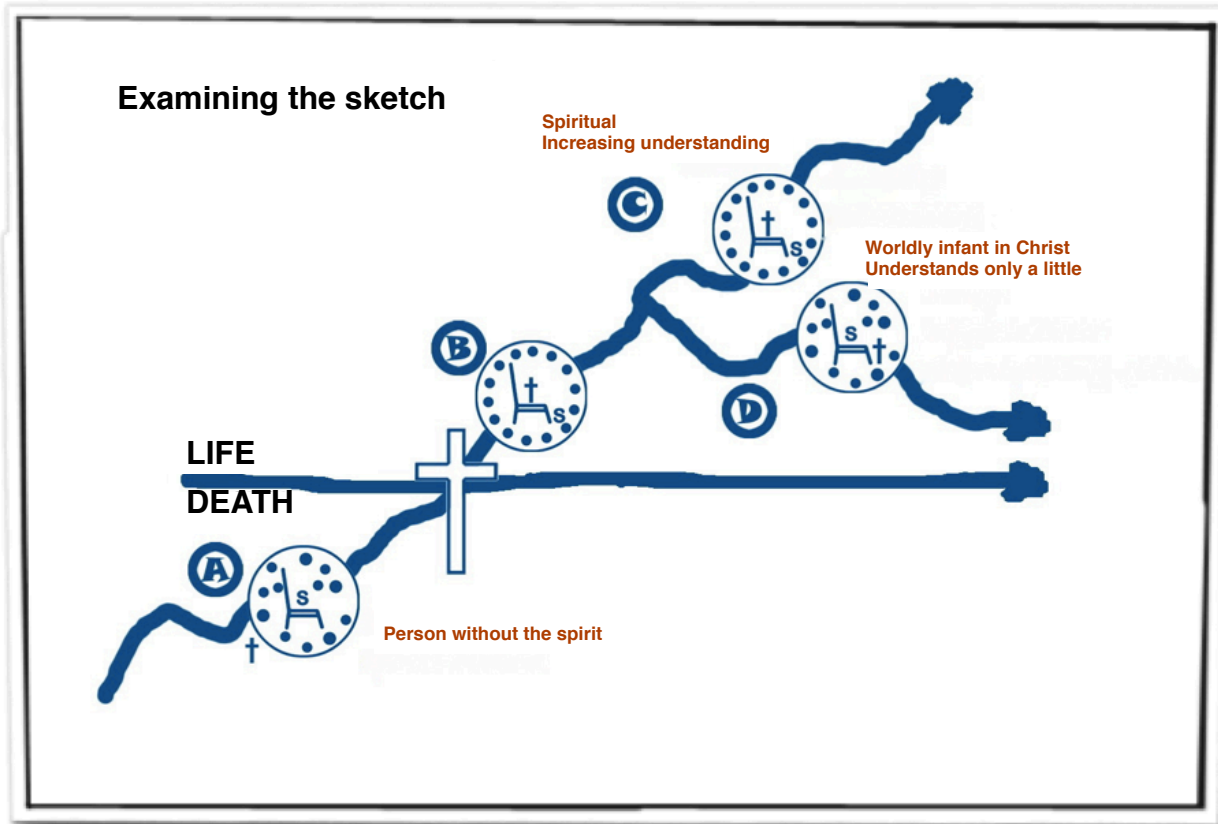
5b. how does it reflect in his life?

The chart below can be used to describe the relationship among the three kinds of men.



“Examining the Sketch”

Spot A represents unspiritual man. After he receives Jesus as Savior (Spot B), every time he sins and drifts away from God, he becomes worldly infants in Christ (Spot D). But when he repents and focuses on God, he now is a spiritual man (Spot C).



II. God has prepared solution for Flesh Christians

Romans 7:25-8:1

According to this passage, there is no condemnation in Christ. Because Lord Jesus has been the sin offering and the Holy Spirit has set us free from the power of sin and death. In the meantime, the worldly infant in Christ can give up the carnal life by faith and experience God's love and forgiveness.

1 John 1:9

If the carnal Christian want to live a God-pleasing life again, he must confess. Our responsibility is to repent and God would forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness according to His faithful nature.

6. What do you think confession is?

Confession includes:

Admit:

Agree with God's opinion toward sin and admit the wrong doing makes God sad.

Believe:

Believe Christ has been crucified and died for our sins and thank God for forgiving our past, current and future sins.

Change:

Repentance means that the Mighty power of the Holy Spirit changes our attitudes along with the behaviors.

7. since God has already forgiven all our sins, why do we still have to confess?

ACT

ABC of confession

1. Use 5-10 minutes to pray and examine the aspects in your life which do not please God, you can write them on a piece of paper.
2. Confess your sins to God (Please remember the 3 aspects of confession)
3. Tear up the piece of paper

Action

1. Forgive others positively or ask for forgiveness from others
2. Memorize 1John 1:9
3. Before the next bible study, read the transferable message 2 <how to experience God's love and forgiveness>

TRANSFER

Share with others about the Confession ABC you have learned from this chapter.

Chapter 4

“Be Filled With the Holy Spirit”



CONNECT

The Common Situation In Life...

Self-Centered Christians: Live to Please Themselves

“Cecilia is not very strong in her faith. A few years ago, she received Christ into her life with very clear conviction, and experienced God change her life. Now, however, temptation from her friends and her old life style constantly cause her to stumble. In order to get the pleasure and satisfaction she likes, she goes back to live for herself, and chooses to do whatever she enjoys. She skips classes with friends to keep their friendship. She also spends a majority of her time in club activities and dormitory activities. She then works 3 part-time jobs to keep up with her spending. She can’t handle this anymore! She feels like she is going to blow up from the depth of her heart. When she honestly faces herself, she wants to reconcile with God and re-experience the close relationship with God, but she is lacking of power to do so. She wants to have a change, but she doesn’t know how.”

Struggled Christian:

Trusting their own efforts to live the Christian life.

“WangAn has made a decision to follow God and to live for God. Deep in his heart, he really wants to do so. Therefore, he has done many “right” things. He attends every church service and fellowship he can. He prays and reads his Bible constantly. In fact, everyone knows he is a Christian and a good one. He seizes every opportunity in the class to share gospel. He never skips class, and he always gets high grades in school. However, somehow his heart is filled with struggles. He knows he repeatedly falls into the same sins, and it bothers him constantly. He feels he is like living a double life- on the outside he is a good Christian, but inside he knows otherwise. He knows he could be better, but no matter how hard he tries he can’t lift up his inner power.”

Have you ever experience the similar situation like the two stories above? Please share...

Your Story

My Story

In last lesson, we learned the “Exhale” in Spiritual Breathing. How was your practice during the week? In order for us to “continuously” live a life of pleasing God, it is very important for us to learn how to “Inhale”.

HEAR

I. The Work of The Holy Spirit

1. Based on John 16:7-14, what is the Holy Spirit’s work to the world and to believers?

II. The Holy Spirit-Filled Christians

Galatians 5:16-23

2. What would a Carnal Christian be like?

3. What would a Spiritual Christian be like?

4. What would be the result if we not walked by the Holy Spirit, but by the flesh?

Ephesians 5:18-21

5. Based on Ephesians 5:18, what does God command us to do?
What do you think it means by “be filled with the Spirit”?

6. Paul here compared “get drunk on wine” and “be filled with the Spirit”.
How do these two comparisons help us to understand what “be filled with the Spirit” means?

7. “be filled with the Spirit” in its original text’s grammar tense is a Continuing Imperative. How does this information help you understand better of this truth?

“We shall not be satisfied only with the fact that the Holy Spirit is within us. We shall constantly seek to be filled by the Holy Spirit and become a Spirit-filled person.”

~ *Rev. XiaoShouHua*, Senior Pastor, North Conner Alliance Church

“This world needs Spirit-filled, Spirit-guided, and Spirit-empowered Christians. Are you this kind of Christian? Or do you still need to be renewed by the Spirit in your life? Do you want real Spiritual revival? If you do, you need to know the Holy Spirit wants to renew you now.”

~ *Dr. Billy Graham*, Evangelist
Page 17

“Christian workers today also need to be filled with the Holy Spirit, to live a holy life, and to be empowered by God to live and serve. Doing ministry well is important; however, if it is not supported by a holy life, the ministry is in vain.”
~Dr. Ajith Fernando, Evangelical Church leader in Asia

III. How Do You Be Filled With The Holy Spirit?

You need to live by faith

Galatians 3:11

(1) Some Important Elements:

- A. You must desire sincerely to live a life of pleasing God
- B. Confess all known sins
- C. Yield every area of your life to Christ

(2) By Faith claim the fullness of the Holy Spirit, according to:

A. God's Command

“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.” (Ephesians 5:18 NIV)

B. God's Promise

“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask- we know that we have what we asked of him. (1 John 5:14-15 NIV)

8. Base on the two verses above, why would God answer our prayer when we pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

Please note: We are filled with the Holy Spirit is solely by faith. Prayer is one expression of faith.

We use prayer as an expression of your faith

“Dear heavenly Father, I need you. I acknowledge that I have directed my life with my own effort and I have sinned against you. I thank you that you have forgiven my sins through Christ's death on the cross. I now invite Christ to take His place on the throne of my life and direct my life. Fill me with your Holy Spirit as you commanded me to be filled, and as you promised that you would do if I asked in faith. I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.”

The following 4 points will help us to continuously experience a Spirit-filled life:

(1) Whenever you notice you have sinned, confess right away.

Sin without confession means you have taken the throne of your life back to your own hands. Therefore, only when you confess your sin, then you can re-summit your life back to the Holy Spirit.

(2) Summit your life to Christ.

Let Christ control and guide every area of your life, including: school study, relationship, money, love, and entertainment.. etc. Only when we do so, we can then experience the Holy Spirit's power and work in all areas of life.

(3) Trusting God in every moment

When facing difficulties, struggles, and challenges in everyday life, a Spirit-filled person will seek for God's help, wisdom and power instead of relying on his/her own strength. By doing so, one can truly experience the Holy Spirit's power in every moment.

(4) Trusting God's promise. Believing God will help and guide us through the Holy Spirit.

We must trust God that He will forgive our sins, help us, and give us strength according to his promise.

9. When should we confess our sin and ask the Holy Spirit to be filled in our life?

ACT

1. Memorize: Ephesians 5:18 & 1John 5:14-15

2. Before next lesson,

read: "Transferable Material #3 《How to be filled by the Holy Spirit》 ”

TRANSFER

1. Share with others: what impact you the most by this lesson

2. Share with others: one experience in which you were filled by the Holy Spirit

Chapter 5

“Take Action”



CONNECT

Short film: Full Flame: Lost at Sea

(www.youtube.com search: “搜寻:孤海浮沉”)

(Sōuxún: Gū hǎi fúchén)

1. Why those sailors on the boat did not go to save the people in trouble?
2. As one body of church, What do you think church should be? A rescue boat for lost or just a boat for tourists? Why?

page 35

HEAR

I Great commission

Matthew 28:18-20

3. What Jesus tells us to do in this message?

4. If Jesus' order is pretty clear to us, why a number of christian still live like the sailors on the boat, not doing the mission of rescuing people.

II Motivation

2 corinthians 5:14-16,18

5. What mission God has given to us? What is the motivation Paul talks about?

Matthew 9:35-38

6. What is the situation of human in Jesus' eyes? What's Jesus' reaction for this situation?

7. What did Jesus order his disciples to do according this situation?

8. In Chapter 10, Jesus had sent 12 disciples to share the gospel, heal the sickness and cast out the unclean spirits. Why Jesus asked disciples to do all these missions first before sending them out alone?

There's not less people in Church who are intelligent and knowledgeable, but less people who has great compassion.---The founder of World vision: Doctor Bill

III The power of the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8

9. What promise does Jesus give us in this message?

Acts 4:8-13

10. The officers were surprised when they saw what Peter had done as “an unlearned and ignorant” man. Where do you think Peter get ability to do the testimony boldly?

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

12. According the message in 1 Corinthians, the local people love pursuing speech of wisdom. So, What ways did Paul use to share Gospel to the local people? Why He chose this way?

13. The means of “excellency of speech or of wisdom” and “persuasive words of wisdom” is excellent speech skills and persuading with wisdom. Do you like to use the way of “excellency of speech or of wisdom” and “persuasive words of wisdom” when you are sharing the Gospel? What does the scripture above remind you?

Successful testimony is,

Ally on the power of Holy spirit, take initiate, preach the Christ alone and give the results to the Lord.

14. Now the harvest is ready, How do we respond to Jesus' order and needs of the lost?

ACT

1. Please share what impressed you during the study.

2. Please pray for one of your family member or friends, who can know Jesus. And plan to share the Gospel with them using 4 spiritual laws. You can use the form on Page 88 to make a plan.

TRANSFER

Ministry training

A. Why using the booklet of 4 spiritual laws?

1. It helps you to start a conversation about Gospel.
2. It explains clearly the key points of the Gospel.
3. It includes the opportunity to receive Christ.
4. It provides the suggestion of spiritual growth, and importance of joining local church.
5. It helps you grasp the key point, not get away from the topic.
6. It makes you confident, you can prepare well to share Gospel anytime.
7. It is a transitive material.
8. It can be passed on to the people you share.
9. We can do discipleship right away.

B. Example: How to use the booklet <Four spiritual laws>(Page 1 to Page 10)

C. Sharing Exercise, How to use the booklet <Four spiritual laws>

1. Have you ever heard of the booklet <Four spiritual laws>

- I have a booklet here, which has helped a lot of people. I'd like share it with you. Have you heard of <four spiritual laws>?
- I have a booklet, which explains the basic content of christian faith. Have you heard of <four spiritual laws>?
- Have you heard of <four spiritual laws>?
- I was attending a group and found a booklet was very helpful. I'd like to share it with you. Have you heard of <four spiritual laws>?

2. You do not need to add any explanation, just read the booklet with people.

3. Holding the booklet so that people can see clearly about the content.

4. Processing slowly, sometimes let people read couple verses in the booklet.

5. When you finish the prayer part on page 10, encourage people to do the prayer to receive Christ.

Chapter 6

“Everyone Needs Jesus”



CONNECT

A Doctor and His Assistant

There was a doctor who devoted his life to finding the cure to a certain disease. This disease had caused millions of people to die. At the same time, many people were doing experiments on it. This doctor was the only one who was doing the research in the non-traditional way. Though he was mocked by many, at the end of his life, the doctor found the treatment. The challenge he faced now was how to convince the fellow doctors that this non-traditional and simple treatment was in fact very effective. Because he didn't have much longer to live, he could not do this alone. The doctor got his young assistant and explained the situation to him, and appointed him to carry out this mission. Cautiously, the young assistant accepted this sacred privilege and responsibility.

1. Why was this work a privilege and a big responsibility to the young assistant?
2. What are the similarities between this story and preaching the gospel?
3. "Those who do not know Jesus are without hope in their lives." Do you agree? Try to share your thoughts.

HEAR

3. According to Romans 3:23 and 6:23, how would you describe the plight of mankind?
4. What happened to Adam and Eve after their spiritual death? How did their relationship with God change? (Reference Genesis 3)
5. According the description for end times in Revelation 20:11-15, what does the Bible say will happen to the unbelievers at the end?

6. According to 1 Peter 2:24 and Romans 5:8, why did the Lord Jesus have to die?

7. According to 2 Corinthians 5:21, why was Jesus the only one who could bear our sins?

8. Through the death of Christ, God solved the plight mankind faced. The meaning of Christ's death is closely related to the following three things, Do you understand these three things? Try pairing them up.

Justification (Rom. 3:23-24)	Turning hostility into friendship with God
Redemption (Col. 1:13-14)	God declared us not guilty, and gave us the righteousness of Christ
Reconciliation (Rom.5:8-11)	Delivered from the punishment we deserve because of our sins, death and the wrath of God

9. What is the attitude of those who don't believe? How can we respond?

[I only believe in myself, as long as I am not guilty of my conscience, I don't need to believe in Jesus!]

[To believe in Jesus is contrary to the spirit of science.]

[I have a busy life now, I will believe in Jesus in the future.]

[There are so many religions in the world, how do I know which one to believe in?]

." There is no greater honor than to be the instrument in God's hands of leading one person out of the kingdom of Satan into the glorious light of Heaven."

--D. L. Moody

ACT

Conduct a survey, ask friends and family why they do not believe, write them down and share at the next group time. By the power of the Holy Spirit, make appointments to share the gospel.

TRANSFER

Ministry Training: How to write your personal testimony.

A. Before you accepted the Lord

How was your life before you accepted the Lord? How was your character, attitude and outlook on life? What was the focus of your life? How did you find sense of security and happiness?

B. How you accepted the Lord

How did you hear the gospel? What was your reaction? How did you receive Christ?

C. After you accepted the Lord

What changes were obvious after Christ came into your life? (comparing to your life before you accepted the Lord) Describe some specific changes.

*If you accepted the Lord as a child, you can emphasize on the life changes after you accepted the Lord, and the process of deeper understanding and experiencing Christ. Please prepare a three-minute personal testimony, and share it with one another at the next group time.

Chapter 7

“Life Goals”



CONNECT

Short Film: Missionaries to Ecuador Auca tribe

(www.youtube.com search: “奥加族传道人影片”)

(Ào jiā zú chuándào gǎnrén yǐngpiàn)

His spiritual impact did not decrease because he left the world...

1. Share what impressed you the most from this short film.
2. How can you make a spiritual impact for the Lord through your life?

HEAR

A. The Life Goal and Work of the Lord Jesus

John 17:1-4

3. From this passage, what do you find as the life goal of Jesus?

4. According to verse 4: How did Jesus glorify the heavenly Father with his life?

5. What was the work that he wanted to accomplish?

6. According to Matthew 28:18-20 and John 17:18, what was the strategy with which Jesus accomplished the work God had given him?

B. Paul's Life Goal

Acts 20:17-27

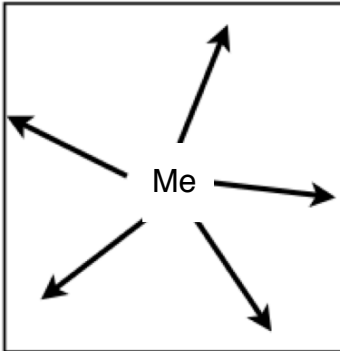
7. According to this passage, what was Paul's life goal?

8. In order to accomplish this goal, what sufferings did Paul have to go through?

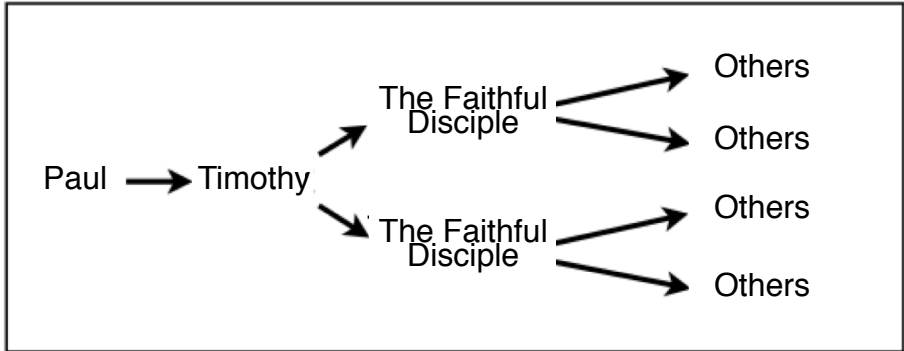
9. According to 2 Tim. 2:2, what was the strategy with which Paul accomplished the work God had given him?

10. In this passage, how many generations of disciples did Paul mention?

Evangelize



Making Disciples



The goal of discipleship is through an individual becoming a disciple, evangelizing, and making more disciples, to help accomplish the great commission. This is discipleship with a mission, the way of spiritual multiplication .

C. My Life Goal

Luke 19:10; John 17:18

11. What is your life goal?

12. In order to accomplish the life goal the Lord has given you, what sufferings did you have to go through?

13. How do you plan your life in order to make more spiritual impact?

D. One life impacts another, continue the spiritual impact

JESUS

In mere three and half years, the Lord Jesus disciplined a group of men who became the founders of the next 2000 years of Christian church development. We cannot give any other explanation except to be in awe of the teachings of Jesus Christ.

PAUL

Paul was one of the most successful and influential pastors in history, he was also the role model to those who were serving God. The core objective of Paul's ministry was to encourage the elders to serve the flock faithfully, for them to imitate Paul, who was the example to the believers in "everything" "all his life".

JIM ELLIOT (Missionary to Ecuador)

"He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose"

To evangelize is to save the lives that cannot be lost..

BILL BRIGHT

In 1951, God gave a Christian (Bill Bright) a vision, to help fulfill the great commission. Later, God gave him a strategy to accomplish this vision. Campus Crusade for Christ, a global missions organization was established based on that vision.

[This worldwide strategy was called new life 2000, God used this strategy to accomplish great things: The goal of the strategy was to present the gospel to over 6 billion people by the year 2000. In the end, when the year 2000 came to an end, God used this movement to reach over 6.1 billion people with the gospel.]

[In only one year period, the year of 2000, over 200 million people accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior. This ministry went from one campus to over one thousand campuses, from one country to campuses and communities of nearly 200 countries, the people involved went from one couple to over 550 000, among whom over 20,000 were full time workers.]

YOU...

ACT

- Aspire:
1. Set a priority life goal to glorify God and make disciples of all nations.
 2. Be equipped as a disciple of the Lord, and become a spiritual multiplier.

TRANSFER

1. Share with someone what impresses you the most from this group study.
2. Share your life goal with someone.

Chapter 8a

"Self Image"



CONNECT

Please take the following survey on self acceptance:

1. Do you feel embarrassed about your abilities or your achievements?
Yes No
2. Do you attribute to others the compliments that are due to you?
Yes No
3. Do you raise those who are in the same level as you or the ones who are at a lower level than you?
Yes No
4. Do you often fail to uphold what you always believe in?
Yes No
5. Do you feel discouraged when you make mistakes?
Yes No
6. When others cannot identify with you, do you get frustrated by others easily?
Yes No
7. Do you rely on others to strengthen the persuasiveness of your opinion?
Yes No
8. Do you think others won't see you as attractive?
Yes No
9. Do you refrain from saying no for fear of influencing what others may think of you?
Yes No
10. Do you withhold your resentment for fear of things being blown up?
Yes No

The more "Yes"es you have to the questions above, the lower your self acceptance level is.

1. What have you learned about yourself after taking the survey? What do you think affects your self acceptance?

[After attending the personal evangelism training for the third time, a doctor said, "After I learned how to walk by the Holy Spirit, the Christian life became new and exciting experience for me. "]

In order to have a healthy self image, you must walk by the Holy Spirit, one principle is to know your rights as a child of God, and to know how to draw from God's love, power, forgiveness and abundant grace.

HEAR

A. Our worth in Christ

Romans 8:14-17

[Because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.]

2. How does this passage describe our identity in Christ? Who testifies to that identity? What special significance does such identity have?

3. If we knew that the Lord saw us not as slaves, but as children, how different do you think your life would be?

Matthew 7:7-11

4. What privileges does this passage tell us we have as God's children?

5. Have you applied the rights of God's children in different aspects of your life to handle your needs? (relationships, school, ministry, emotions etc) (can refer to 1 John 5:14-15)

B. Live out the identity in Christ by faith

6. According to Romans 1:17, what causes the Christian life to grow, and the new life to be lived out?

Faith is established based on knowing God's word. The more we know Christ, the more we can trust Him according to the truth. Therefore, every Christian's first priority should be to seek and know more about Christ.

[Please remember: reading the Bible, praying, witnessing and obeying God are all results of living by faith, not the means to faithful living. Only when you are filled with the Holy Spirit, will you find the words in the Bible alive, prayer life and witnessing effective, and obeying God a joy. When you learn to obey God in all aspects, your faith will grow, your spiritual life will continue to grow and mature.

7. According to 2 Corinthians 5:12-21, what did Christ do for us? How did our identity change?

8. Please review the sharing from CONNECT question. After studying the word of God, how can you apply the truth you learned in this lesson to the areas that you find difficult to accept about yourself?

C. Conclusion

2 Corinthians 5:16-17

[So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

Perhaps your past and those around you make you realize you are not perfect in many areas, but the meaning and fulfillment of one's growth lie in whether or not he understands his identity in Christ---you are a precious child in God's eyes.

Three elements of healthy self-esteem

A) Knowing that I have value: because God loves me and sees me as precious.

B) Knowing that I belong: because I am seated with Christ in the heavenly place, I belong to the Lord.

C) Knowing that I am able: because the Holy Spirit has given me gifts and abilities, and empowered me to establish Christ's kingdom, and be a witness for Him.

ACT

1. Please finish reading "Who I am in Christ" next week, and share with the group leader next week about how these truths are helpful to your life.

2. Determine to pray for your identity in Christ every day next week. Use the prayer below as a reference.

[Dear heavenly Father, I honor you as my Savior. I know you are always with me. You are the only God who is omnipotent and omniscient. I love you, for your path is full of love and care. Thank you for making me one with Christ, that my spirit lives in Him. I choose not to love the world, and to crucify the flesh with its desires.

I am grateful to you for my life in Christ, please fill me with the Holy Spirit, that I may live my life free from sin. I declare that I trust in You, I will resist Satan and all his lies. I choose to believe in the truth, and not give up. You the God of all my hope, I believe that as long as I obey your word, you will meet all my needs. By faith I declare that I can live a responsible life through Christ who strengthens me.

Now, I will put on the full armor of God, and offer my body as sacrifice, and renew my mind with the word of God, that I may prove God's good, pleasing and perfect will. I pray in the precious and victorious name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.]

TRANSFER

Share with someone what impressed you the most from this study.

Chapter 8b

“Life Priorities”



CONNECT

1. Recently, what has caused your worry? (select two)

- Academic Performance
- Relationships
- Feeling
- Personal Health or Family Health
- Family
- Emotional Future

2. Why do these things cause you to worry?

- Difficult to handle or control
- feeling insecure
- lack of confidence on God
- Skeptical of your ability
- Negative thoughts
- Comparing yourself to others

Luke 12:22-31

3. Did Jesus advise his disciples that they should not worry about anything? How important was this to the disciples?

4. Jesus advised his disciples to not worry about what?

5. Page 16-21 about the rich man's attitude towards storing up treasure. In contrast, what did Jesus advise his disciples to place their values and identity in?

6. What does "the kingdom of God" mean in page 31?

7. In your past how what has been your experience when you "first asked God to supply your needs"? What about when you have prayed for your struggles?

8. In the space below... Use this time to reflect on how you use your time, and the direction your life is headed. Try to think about your usage of time in the past week.

(such as: hanging out, resting, eating, drinking, spirituality, hobbies, family, etc...)

Time Management

You must first learn how to be practical. We should live by faith and lay down our anxieties, time management can help us move towards this.

Write down any commitments you know of for the coming week. Begin praying over these activities you have. After your week, reflect on how it went.

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Morning							
Afternoon							
Evening							

1. Back on the Road 12:31
2. Before the next lesson read the section on "how to rely on the Holy Spirit"

TRANSFER

First ask God to supply you with your needs to be able to witness before you share with your friends or family.

Chapter 9a

“Dealing With Temptations”



CONNECT

Some Christians are like pressure cooker, so pressured that the lid would fly to the air anytime, pressures like greedy, worry, own evil desire, angry, hatred, fear stimulate their mind, they are all from the world controlled by Satan. They think adding another lid would solve the problem, but they are wrong, for once exploded it will cause more pain.

Ray Mark

1. Do you have any experience like this? Share your story.

Your story...

My story...

HEAR

A. How temptation becomes sin?

James 1:12-15

2. Read the scripture, what's the relationship between temptation and sin?

3. what's the meaning of [own evil desire]?

4. what may cause own evil desire besides relationship between a man and a woman?

5. Under what circumstances are we most likely to be tempted?

6. what's your reaction when you face temptations?

Galatians 5:1

7. what's the relationship between [Own evil desire] and the freedom God gave us?

8. do you have habits which are hard to get rid of?

B. How to stay away from temptations with the help of our Lord?

Romans 6:6-16

9. in the scripture Paul told us how to stay away from temptations with the help of our Lord:

- (i) knowing facts
- (ii) believing in the truth
- (iii) say no to sin
- (iv) willing to sacrifice

ACT

Determination:

I determine to change _____ in _____, to stay away from temptations, not allow sin to control me, but obeying Holy Spirit as God's vessel of righteousness.

1. memorize Romans 6:12-13
2. read transferable message 4 <how to live by Holy Spirit> before the next Bible Study

TRANSFER

Share with others how to stay away from temptations with the help of Lord.

Chapter 9b

“Relationships Between Men & Women”



CONNECT

1. Be filled with Holy Spirit is living out a life that is pleasing to God, share with us how you practiced to be filled by the Spirit in the past week.
2. what's the ideal relationship between a man and a woman in your mind?

HEAR

- 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8
3. what are Paul's suggestions to believers in Thessalonica? What's his attitude?
4. [It is God's will that you should be sanctified, that you should avoid sexual immorality] verse 3, what are the meanings of Sanctified and sexual immorality?
5. what's the relationship between being sanctified and avoiding sexual immorality, controlling his own body?
6. Paul emphasized on how to control their own bodies to glorify God, find out how we should treat our bodies as from the verses below.

1 Thessalonians 4:4
Romans 12:1
1 Corinthians 6:15-20
7. [In this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him] verse 6, why is wronging his brother taking advantage of him? What influences does sexual immorality have upon ourselves?
8. Are there any sexual temptations in your circumstance?
9. why should we seek sanctification and avoid sexual immorality?
10. what's the relationship between [sanctifying ourselves] and [avoiding sexual immorality] and [him giving us his Holy Spirit] in verse 8?

Conclusion

In the world that we live in, problems caused by sex result in broken human relationships and family issues, it is a spiritual warfare. Christians not only need to stand strong, and keep our bodies for God, but also need to positively change the negative culture. And it starts with you!

ACT

Respond: practice confessing sins ABC, and confess sexual sins you have committed in the past.

Covenant of holiness

I would submit to God's commands, I will protect the holy life in me , and say no to sex until the day I get married , I will promote the culture of holiness.

Signature:

Witness:

Date:

Date:

1. memorize the scripture 1 Thessalonians 4:3-4
2. read transferable message 4 <how to live by Holy Spirit> before the next Bible Study

TRANSFER

Share with others what you learned from this study, encourage more people to live a life of holiness.

Testimony (more info please check www.gnci.org.hk)

He You Ji: unconditional acceptance and love

[I used to live with a girl, God did not abandon me but taught me that it would hurt the relationship between us----sex is the most intimate and beautiful relationship between male and female, but if it is not based on good emotional foundation, when sex goes, so goes the relationship. After I understood this, I decided to have no more sex before marriage, no more porn sites, and say no to any sexual temptation. A lot of people may think it is impossible, but with God's help it is possible. Though we can not find any teaching in the Bible about masturbation, when I know God, I quit all those bad habits for a nicer and abundant life.]

Gao Hao Zheng: how to love

Like all other youth, Gao Hao Zheng sought consolation by dating one girl after another, but then he became so depressed that the desire had eaten him up when love became so cheap and sex became so easy, how could he find true love in this situation? He decided to return back to God to seek for His eternal and unfailing love. Now he is no longer seeking for love without answer, but he knows how to cherish his girlfriend, and believe that sex is a precious gift after marriage.

Chapter 10

“Come and Follow Me!”



CONNECT

If someone takes “Following Jesus Christ” as his life goal, his life would become an extraordinary one!

I studied at Wheaton College at early 40s, and I was a runner while Kiel Tuo Desi, the World Indoor Sprint Champion coached us. I still remember once he came to me when I was warming up, he tapped my shoulder and told me:”Boy, come, let’s run.” This was the first time we met.

While we were running, I was even four five steps ahead of him, I could not help but think “If you are the World Indoor Sprint Champion, you should have run much faster.”

He tapped me again, “come on, three more.” He told me after we finished the first circle, I did not think he would like to run more, for I was already exhausted.

I have been following Jesus Christ for 56 years, being a disciple of Jesus Christ is not a 100-metre run, but a marathon, a life-long marathon. It is not stepping on the track that really matters, but keeping going; not winning in the beginning of the way but finishing the race.

Howard Hendricks

1. [Life is like a marathon.] Try to think about at the end of your journey on earth, looking back to your whole life, what would you like to be your Epitaph?
2. if you are going to leave the world, how would you feel when you meet the Lord? Guess what will he tell you?

HEAR

Luke 9:57-62

Luke 9:51 “As the time approached for him to be taken up the heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.” From this verse down to Chapter 19, Luke recorded the last journey of the Lord Jesus heading to Jerusalem, and how he called people to accept his last calling of knowing who is Messiah.

Read the scripture of [Come and follow me!]
Think about the three factors of following the Lord.

Factor 1

3. what's the key point Jesus Christ told the man? Read verse 57-58.

4. what does [Come and follow me] mean? The Lord's heart was to see people coming to follow him, but why did he react like this?

5. what are your personal obstacles on your way of following Jesus?

Factor 2

6. in verse 59-60, if the man doesn't go and bury his father, what problem or result would there be? Do you think Jesus was being less than understanding?

7. what was the attitude behind the man's response? What's the key point of the answer of Jesus?

8. Jesus said [Come and follow me], and also said [go and proclaim the kingdom of God], which told us evangelism is closely connected to discipleship, what do you think of this?

9. Jesus Christ asked us to first follow him, have you taken it into action in personal schedule?

Factor 3

10. Read verse 61-62, what is the result of [putting his hand to the plow and looking back]? What is the main challenge given by the Lord?

11. what makes you give up your commitments to Jesus Christ? What hinders you?

William Borden, an American missionary, decided to follow the Lord when he was 25, he gave up his wealth, status and comfortable life in America and marched on the way to China for evangelism. But sickness killed him when he passed Cairo, Egypt, which took his life.

Many people asked: “Was it worthwhile?”
But William Borden said: [No Reserve, No Retreat, No Regret].

Jesus said, come and follow me, that you may have an abundant life.

We can choose how to live our life, can we say [No Reserve, No Retreat, No Regret] like William Borden when we come to the end of our life.

Quoted from Huang Zhi Xue <Experiencing God>. 6th Version (HK: Jidao, 1999)

ACT

In the wedding, bride and groom will say the wedding vow [...In sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part.]

Do you find any similarity in the scripture and this covenant? What does Jesus really want?

Some of the couples will renew their covenant. Are you willing to accept God’s calling and determine to follow Him for a life-time, to be his worker? Read Luke 9:57-62.

Lord Jesus Christ, I know your calling today, and I am willing to commit myself to you (for all cost, let God be my first and follow him all my life time). I am willing to be your servant, lead by Holy Spirit, live out a life full of love for God and love for people.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Helping people to answer God’s calling and become disciples of God, be a life-time servant of God is the goal of J mission discipleship team. We encourage you to start your discipleship team after this study that more people would commit to be the Lord’s disciples.

Matthew 28: 18-20, Mark 12:30-31

TRANSFER

1. what impressed you most in this group study?
2. share with us about your commitment as a disciple of the Lord.

禱牛



Gospel Topics	Date	Pray	Care	Share

