

Discovering CHRIS-TI-AN-I-TY

[The New Foundations – Manual Edition]

Study Programme

- Week One How Do I Read the Bible?
- Week Two How Do I Pray?
- Week Three Is Church Important?
- Week Four What is Baptism?
- Week Five What is the Lord's Table?
- Week Six What is Worship?
- Week Seven What is Giving?
- Week Eight What is Evangelism?
- Week Nine What is Discipleship?
- Week Ten What is Missions?

[Discovering Christianity](#) **New Foundations** contains 10 studies which will enable you to help the person you have taken through **John and Romans** to gain a deeper understanding of some important principles in Christianity. The goal of **New Foundations** is for the student to become an active, healthy member of the local church as they continue to grow in their relationship with Christ.

The study programme isn't as structured as the **John and Romans** study; there will be verses from across the scriptures to consider as you study these themes together. Encourage them to keep reading the Bible through the weeks of doing **New Foundations**.

- Try to achieve **one lesson a week**.
- Encourage them to continue taking **notes** of things they don't understand
- As you go through each lesson get them to **read the verses aloud, pause** after each section and **ask if they have understood** it and go over the parts that they have not.
- After you have gone through the lesson with them and they have understood it, deal with the **questions** and **difficulties** they took note of during the week.

It's important that you follow the principles of these studies that you are teaching. Part of discipling another person is to be an example to them as well as teaching them the principles of Christianity.

Study 1

How Do I Read the Bible?

If you want to see the person you are taking through these studies begin to mature in their faith and grow in their relationship with Christ then this lesson is essential. The word of God is absolutely necessary for personal spiritual growth and fellowship with God. The Bible lays the foundation and gives us the complete Christian Worldview.

If the student does not already own a Bible do your best to get one for them.

What is the Bible - the Bible is so much more than what is given in this study. However, this is a sufficient beginning for the student. It explains that the Bible is:

- Inspired - given to us by God
- Inerrant - without mistakes
- Immutable - cannot be changed

It is important to highlight how precious the Bible is. A Christian will learn to delight in God's word.

How to Use the Bible - the six methods of Bible intake in this study are important for every Christian. As you take the student through these six methods be sure that you are following them yourself as an example to them. Talk about how you have found these methods beneficial in your own life. Suggest being an accountability partner for them.

Study 1

How Do I Read the Bible?

What is the Bible?

The Bible is a collection of 66 books written by 40+ men in 3 languages between 1500BC and 90AD.

The Bible was given to us by inspiration [2Timothy 3:16] *literally 'God-breathed'*

The men God used to write the Bible were moved by the Holy Spirit [2Peter 1:21]

It is our sword for battle [Ephesians 6:17] and our milk for growth [1Peter 2:2]

It is sweeter than honey and more precious than wealth [Psalm 19:10, 119:72, 103, 127]

It is pure, true and preserved [Proverbs 30:5, 2Samuel 7:28, Psalm 12:6-7]

The Bible is:

Inspired - Given to us by God

Inerrant - Without Mistakes

Immutable - Cannot be Changed

How to Use the Bible

1. *Hearing* [1Thessalonians 2:13]

Regularly attend the meetings in your local church when there is a gathering together to listen to the Bible being read, taught and applied. Pay attention to what is being said. If it helps, take notes.

2. *Reading* [1Timothy 4:13, Acts 17:11]

It's good to read the Bible every day [Psalm 1:2]. Schedule a time into each day for this. Reading 4 chapters a day will allow you to finish the Bible in one year.

3. *Studying* [2Timothy 2:15]

Pick a shorter passage and study it. Keep a notebook of your studies. Don't be afraid to mark your Bible. Get good commentaries and study books that your pastor recommends.

4. *Meditating* [Psalm 119:15, 148]

The idea of meditating means to ponder over something. After reading or studying the Bible it's good to take a truth with you throughout the day and to ponder over it.

5. *Memorizing* [Psalm 119:11]

Memorize helpful verses of the Bible. Save a verse on your phone, write it on a small card, download a screensaver for your phone with the verse on it. Keep memorizing different verses.

6. *Obeying* [Luke 8:21, 11:28, James 1:22-25]

After hearing, reading, studying, meditating or memorizing the Bible we should apply it to our lives. We need to obey what the Bible says, otherwise we have missed the whole point.

Study 2

How Do I Pray?

When Paul was saved in Acts 9 Christ told a believer in Damascus. The words Christ used were these; "*behold, he prays*". Paul began praying as soon as He came to Christ. Alongside a habit of daily Bible Intake, Prayer is key to spiritual growth.

Talk to the person about your prayer life. Talk about Biblical examples of men and women of prayer; Nehemiah, Hannah, Daniel, Christ. Talk to them about the prayer life of men and women that God used throughout Church history; Hudson Taylor, Amy Carmichael, George Muller.

What is Prayer - Christ has opened up the way for us to come directly to God's throne as His children. The idea of coming boldly means to come with confidence, it doesn't mean to come without reverence.

How to Pray - the five types of prayer listed should aid the student in developing their prayer life. Many people see prayer as a list of requests offered to God, however, it is so much more than this. The five types of prayer have been arranged in their order intentionally to show this.

Praying through the Bible - this method is not a necessary principle for prayer, however, many men and women of God have used it throughout history. Take them to a passage of scripture and talk to them about how they can pray through it; consider John 17 or Psalm 37.

Teach them how to pray through the promises of the New Testament. Perhaps you have a number of promise verses that you use while praying - share them. There are small books that list themes and have promise verses for each, for example; afraid, unsaved friends or family, lonely, discouraged, rejoicing etc.

Some people create a prayer journal or record prayer requests and prayer as a reminder to pray for certain things or to record answered prayer for future encouragement.

Study 2

How Do I Pray?

What is Prayer?

Prayer is communication with God.

When Christ died the veil was rent from top to bottom [Matthew 27:51]

This was a sign that we now had access to God through Christ [Ephesians 3:12]

We are now invited to come to God's throne of grace boldly [Hebrews 4:16]

How to Pray

Christians pray to the Father, through Christ, by the Spirit [Ephesians 2:18]

1. Praise (Hebrews 13:15)

This is where we praise and worship God for His character and attributes. As we meditate through the persons of God the Father, God the Son and God the Spirit we will discover so much to praise. It's important to see, here, that prayer is not just *asking* but also *basking* in who God is.

2. Thanksgiving (Colossians 4:2)

This is where we thank God for all that He has done, is doing and will do. We can thank Him for the gospel, for providing for us and protecting us, for hearing us, for working in ours or another's life, for a previous prayer that He has answered. We can even thank God for the difficulties we face, knowing that He is using them for our good and His glory.

3. Confession (1John 1:9)

This is where we confess our sins to God. As Christians we still stumble into sin and when we do we need to come and admit it to God and ask for strength to resist. Psalm 51 is a good example of a prayer of confession.

4. Intercession (1Timothy 2:1)

This is where we pray for the needs of others. Here we can pray for the unsaved people we know and have spoken to about Christ. We can pray for those who are sick or mourning. We can pray for missionary friends. We can pray for the leadership of our church. We can pray for countries around the world that need the gospel.

5. Supplication (Philippians 4:6)

This is where we pray for ourselves. We can pray for God to guide our future. We can pray for our needs. We can pray for safety in travel. We can pray for God to use us.

Praying through the Bible

We can pray as we read the Bible. God speaks to us through the Bible and we speak to Him through prayer. Try reading a passage of the Bible, stop after reading each verse and think about something or someone to pray for in relation to the verse, then move on to the next verse. God has given us many promises that we can claim in prayer. A number of the New Testament epistles contain inspired prayers that you can use to guide your prayer [Consider Colossians 1:9-11].

Study 3

Is Church Important?

The next essential theme for the student to understand is the importance of church. In our generation there are many misconceptions of what church is. Some people believe it is the building, some think of a dry and lifeless gathering of people every Sunday morning. However, the church is so much more than this; the church is a community of believers who gather together, grow together, serve and pray together and bear each other's burdens.

The person going through these lessons needs to be coming to assemble with the church body. Be an example and an encouragement to them in this. If they need a lift, pick them up or organize some other way for them to get there. Be excited about church yourself.

What is a New Testament Church?

- Local - a church is a gathering together of believers in one area. Today, with cars and good public transport we can travel further. However, the church you attend should still be local in the sense that it is easy to get to. You can't call it a local church if it takes a day to travel there.
- Independent – a biblical church is independent of other churches. This doesn't mean they don't fellowship with other churches, but rather, they don't have a church or body of churches overseeing and ruling them.
- Baptised – the Bible stresses that members of a local church must first be baptized.
- Believers – you cannot be a member of a true New Testament church unless you are a born again Christian
- Ordinances – the church will be baptising converts and keeping the Lord's Table.
- Teachings – the church will be gathering together to hear the word of God preached faithfully
- Gospel – the church will be actively sharing the gospel in the community around it
- Leadership – the two biblical offices of a church are Elders and Deacons. These leaders are to be males.

Membership – eventually it will be a good thing for the student to become a member and not just a regular attender of your local church. Talk to them about the importance of becoming a member of the church.

Encourage them to get plugged in to the ministry life of the church. We don't just come to church to receive a blessing, but to be a blessing. There are so many ways that you can be a blessing in church.

Study 3

Is Church Important?

Universal and Local Church

Every born again believer is part of the Universal Body of Christ. Every born again believer should also become part of a local church.

The Church is the Body Christ is the Head [Ephesians 1:22-23]

The Church is the Bride Christ is the Husband [Ephesians 5:22-33]

A true New Testament church is a **local** and **independent body** of **baptized believers** who keep the two **ordinances** and who are committed to the **teachings** of Christ and the spread of the **gospel** under the **leadership** of **male elders** and **deacons**.

Is Church Important to Me?

We are commanded to not forsake assembling [Hebrews 10:25]

What are we do to instead? exhort one another

When are we to meet more? As the day approaches

Becoming a Member

You must be saved [Acts 2:47] and baptized [Acts 2:41]

You must be committed to live in obedience to Christ and in love for His body [Matthew 18:15-17]

What should be the characteristics of the church I join?

- They will be obedient to the Great Commission [Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8]
- There should be careful preaching and teaching from the Bible [Acts 20:28-31]
- There should be noticeable separation from the world [2Corinthians 6:14-16]
- Discipleship should be an important ministry in the church [2Timothy 2:1-3]
- They will practice the two Ordinances of Baptism and Communion
- The church is led by male elders and deacons [1Timothy 3]

The benefits of being a member;

- Being a member means you can be more involved with the work
- Being a member gives you accountability
- Being a member gives you the right to vote

Do I Have a Role?

- Come and learn all that you can so you can grow and mature in your new life
- Encourage others to come, encourage those who come to love Christ
- Gather to worship Christ in song, prayer and preaching, come ready to worship
- Each of us have a different role to play in the life of the church [1Corinthians 12]

Study 4

What is Baptism?

Baptism is one of the first steps of Christian obedience as a born again individual publicly declares their faith in Jesus Christ and their identity with Him.

Examples of Baptism – there are a number of important things to stress here in this section:

- Christ was baptized; giving us an example to follow.
- The baptisms took place where there was much water (indicating immersion rather than sprinkling). The word 'baptizo' indicates full immersion.
- One had to believe first before they were baptized; a baby cannot believe on Christ.
- Baptism, in the book of Acts, happened immediately after salvation.

Explanation of Baptism – it's important to stress here that baptism doesn't save you, but rather, it is a picture of the fact that you are saved. There is nothing special in the water that makes a spiritual difference in a person's life, rather, it is a declaration that you want to begin walking in obedience to the commands of Jesus Christ.

When we trusted in Christ we were crucified with Him, buried with Him and risen with Him to walk a new life. We were spiritually baptized when we trusted in Christ as Saviour (consider 1 Corinthians 12:13) and water baptism is an outer picture of this inner truth.

Exhortation for Baptism – there are no requirements for baptism except that a person has truly trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. There are no time constraints or age limits. There are no additional commands to obey before one is ready for baptism. Once a person has been born again they should be baptized.

Encourage the person to seriously consider baptism as an act of joyful obedience. Don't force or push them into it, but do encourage them. Help them to see it as an exciting step of obedience. It is also an opportunity to invite family and friends to church to hear the gospel message being preached.

Study 4

What is Baptism?

Examples of Baptism

Jesus (Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22)

Jesus was baptized in the river Jordan (Mark 1:9)

The Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:41)

They that gladly received the word were baptised

The Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:36-39)

He had to believe with all his heart first

The Jailer (Acts 16:25-33)

He and his family trusted Christ and were baptised straightway

Explanation of Baptism

- Baptism is a Church Ordinance that God has commanded us to do (Matthew 28:18-20)
- Baptism is one of the first steps of Christian Obedience
- Baptism is an outward picture of an inward reality; it's a public testimony of our faith in Christ

Read *1 Corinthians 15:1-4, Romans 6:1-6*

Death - death to sin Burial - burial with Christ Resurrection - risen to new life

Exhortation for Baptism

Why should a person get baptised?

- Jesus gave us this example and commanded us to do it
- It is the example we see from the book of Acts
- It's a way to identify with and publicly testify of what Christ has done in you

Who should get baptised?

- Those who have trusted in Christ and are sure they are born again
- Those who want to be identified with Christ and testify of what God has done in their lives
- Those who want to obey God

When should a person get baptised?

- After you have trusted in Christ and are born again

How should a person get baptised?

- By immersion (going under water, not by sprinkling or pouring water on you)
- In the name of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19-20)
- In a way that pictures the death, burial and resurrection of Christ

Study 5

What is the Lord's Table?

The Lord's Table can be a wonderful gathering together of God's people as they remember, both corporately and individually what Christ has done for them.

- Some churches do it once a week, others do it once a month, or once a quarter. Some only do it once a year, or when there is a baptism service.
- Some churches do it before the main service, some do it after and others do it as part of their main service.
- Some churches have one glass that they pass around the congregation, other churches have an individual glass for each partaker.
- Some churches wait until each person has the bread and cup and take the elements together at the same time, other churches take the bread and the cup as they come to each individual

None of these are essential doctrinal points; it comes down to personal preference and interpretation.

However, there are some important issues to cover here:

- The Lord's Table is for born again Christians who are walking in obedience to God and in fellowship with brethren in the assembly.
- The Lord's Table cannot save an individual.
- The bread and juice remain bread and juice throughout the service. They do not become the body and blood of Christ [transubstantiation] nor does Christ enter into the bread and juice in a spiritual way [Consubstantiation].
- A person who refuses to be baptized should seriously consider their eligibility for the Lord's Table, as baptism is one of the first steps of Christian obedience and the first of the two ordinances.
- If church discipline is exercised upon a member of the church they will be disqualified from the Lord's Table until they truly repent of the sin they are publicly committing.

The Lord's Table can be a reverent time of worship as the church quietly meditates on a passage of scripture that speaks of the person and work of Jesus Christ. Encourage the person to come along to the service when the church has the Lord's Table. Be an example to them of someone who attends and enjoys this special service.

Study 5

What is the Lord's Table?

The Lord's Table, also known as Communion and the Lord's Supper, is a beautiful opportunity to remember the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for His people. It is the second of the two ordinances of the Church.

In 1 Corinthians 11 we can note 5 different directions you can look while taking part at the Lord's Table:

1. Look Up to Christ (v23-26)

The Lord's Table is a time of fellowship with God. Christ tells us to do this "in remembrance" of Him. Our thoughts are to be fixed on Jesus Christ and who He is. The Lord's Table is for Christians, as you can only remember someone you know. Notice that there is nothing in this passage about the Lord's Table making you a Christian or saving you; rather, it is because you are a Christian that you should do these things.

2. Look Back to the Cross (v24-26)

Specifically, during this time, we are to focus on what Jesus Christ did for us. We are to meditate on His sacrifice for our sins; His body that was broken for us is symbolized by the broken bread. His blood that was shed for us is symbolized by the outpoured grape juice. We can think upon the weight of sin and the wrath of God He took on our behalf. Sorrow and joy can mingle at such thoughts.

3. Look Forward to the Coming (v26)

We are to partake of the Lord's Table "*till He come*". As we meditate upon the sacrifice of Christ, we can also meditate upon the fact that He has risen again, that He prays for us now and that He will come again for us one day.

4. Look Within to the Conscience (v27-32)

We are commanded to examine ourselves before we partake of the symbols. The Lord's Table is a good opportunity to search through your life over the week that has gone by to consider any sinful words, thoughts or deeds that you have not yet repented of. It is also a good time to resolve to reconcile with anyone you have a broken relationship with. Paul warns the church at Corinth that some of their people were sick and had died because they partook of the Lord's Table without first dealing with unconfessed sin and mending broken relationships.

5. Look Around to the Church (v20-22, 33-34)

Paul commands the church to consider each other, to be loving and gracious toward one another, to wait for each other. As you meditate upon all that Christ has done for you it is good to consider what you, out of an expression of your love for Him, can do for those around you in the church.

Study 6

What is Worship?

Worship means 'to revere', 'to adore', 'to pay homage'. When the word worship is used, many, including believers, immediately think of singing, worship bands and worship leaders. However, there is so much more to worship than singing. Worship is life. We can, and should, worship God in all that we do.

Individual Worship - worship isn't just done in a church building as hymns are sung. Worship is a part of each believer's daily routine. In fact, we were created to worship. If we aren't worshipping God, we will worship something else instead. Worship is a matter of the heart before it is a matter of our hands or lips.

Once our hearts are right with God, then we can worship Him truly. God isn't interested in our songs if we aren't meaning what we sing. Similarly, He cannot take delight in our singing if the theology of the song is not correct; this is what it means to worship in spirit and in truth.

The way we treat others is a form of worship to God. Caring for those who need help, loving the family of God and restoring broken relationships are all pleasing to God.

Corporate Worship - true corporate worship can only take place when the individuals who have gathered are worshipping in spirit and in truth. Again, there is more to worship than singing. We worship by encouraging each other, through listening to the word of God.

Authentic worship is all about delighting God not ourselves. We are secondary when it comes to any form of worship - God is the primary reason and purpose behind all worship. For a person to say they did not get much from the worship is to show a deep ignorance regarding worship. Worship is about *giving* God the glory He deserves it is not about *getting*.

Strange Fire - worship is both a privilege and responsibility. We cannot take worship lightly. We need to follow the principles laid down for us in scripture. Worship is not about our personal preferences and tastes. The examples given in this section show that in order to worship God properly, we need to follow the principles He gives us.

The examples are Old Testament and, therefore, the actual requirements are no longer applicable to us. However, the principles are unchanging. It is God who sets the standards and it is us who obey.

Study 6

What is Worship?

Individual Worship

Christ explained that we must worship in _____ spirit _____ and in _____ truth _____ [John 4:23-24]

The Pharisees were worshipping with their _____ mouths _____ but not their _____ hearts _____ [Matthew 15:8-9]

Before God wants our _____ outward _____ deeds He wants our _____ hearts _____ [Psalm 51:16-19]

Worship includes _____ compassion _____ and _____ purity _____ [James 1:27]

We worship God by giving Him our _____ bodies _____ [Romans 12:1]

We worship God by _____ praising Him _____ and _____ giving to others _____ [Hebrews 13:15-16]

We can live in such a way in which everything we do can _____ glorify _____ God [1Corinthians 10:31]

Good relationships with _____ others _____ is necessary for worshipping God [Matthew 5:23-24]

Corporate Worship

Christ is present in a unique way when _____ His people gather in His name _____ [Matthew 18:20]

We worship together by _____ singing _____, _____ thanksgiving _____ and _____ submitting _____ [Ephesians 5:19-21]

Worship also includes _____ reading _____, _____ exhorting _____ and _____ teaching _____ [1Timothy 4:13]

Strange Fire

Aaron's two sons offered _____ strange fire _____ on the altar [Leviticus 10:1]

They were not supposed to _____ offer strange incense _____ [Exodus 30:9, 34-36]

This deed led to their _____ deaths _____ [Leviticus 10:2]

Uzza placed his hand on the _____ altar _____ [1Chronicles 13:6-9]

The _____ Kohathites _____ were to carry it but not _____ touch _____ it [Numbers 4:15]

This deed led to his _____ death _____ [1Chronicles 13:10]

King Uzziah attempted to _____ burn incense in the temple _____ [2Chronicles 26:16-17]

Only the _____ priests _____ were to do this [2Chronicles 26:18]

This led to him becoming a _____ leper _____ [2Chronicles 26:19-21]

Study 7

What is Giving?

Sadly, there is much said about religion being a money making enterprise. Worse still, many of these claims are true. Even in Christianity there are televangelists who manipulate people into donating to their unworthy causes. However, if a church is to function, it will need the financial support of its members. If foreign missions is to be successful, it will need the financial support of believers who stay at home. Giving, then, is an important theme to consider. The Bible speaks about this topic more than many think.

The Origin of the Tithe - some people teach that the giving of 10% to God is an Old Testament command that we no longer have to obey. However, this section clearly reveals that men were giving 10% before the Law of Moses came. It has been well said that we should give more under grace than what we were commanded to give under the law.

Quality not Quantity - this is an important principle in scripture. God is not as interested in the 'how much' as He is in the motives behind what we do. This section deals with the hypocrisy of the Pharisees who gave little because they gave out of their abundance while their real motive was to be seen. Meanwhile the widow gave much because she gave out of her poverty and she gave out of loving obedience and trust. Man saw the Pharisees with their 'much' but Jesus noticed the poor widow with her 'all'.

Can't Afford to Give - some believers make the excuse that they can't afford to give. The Macedonians/Philippians are a perfect example of a body of believers who were suffering both persecution and poverty and yet gave with glad hearts to the cause of Christ in a sacrificial way.

What do we Give and to Whom? - we are to give with a full and thankful heart for all that God has done for us. We are also to give with a trusting heart, knowing that God will bless us and provide for our needs as we honour Him with our giving. God doesn't want us to give out of reluctant, grudging hearts; He doesn't need our money. He wants us to give out of rejoicing, grateful hearts that He can bless.

Encourage the person to be a giver. Encourage them to start by giving 10% of their income. Be an example to them of someone who does this.

Study 7

What is Giving?

The Origin of the Tithe (Tenth)

Genesis 14:18-20 is the first mention of tithing in the Bible. Who gave tithes to who?

Abraham to Melchizedek (this man is a picture of Christ)

Genesis 28:20-22 is the second mention of tithing. Who gave tithes to who?

Jacob to God

Before God gave Israel the law in Exodus, men were already tithing their possessions.

Quality not Quantity

[Mark 12:41-44]

The rich looked like they were casting in a lot, but the truth was they were casting in very little:

Why were these rich men giving? To be seen [v38-40]

What were they giving out of? Their abundance [v44]

Jesus noticed someone that no-one else took note of – the poor widow:

What did she give? Two mites, all she had [v42, 44]

Who gave more? The widow [v43]

Can't Afford to Give

[2Corinthians 8:1-3]

The Macedonians were in a great trial of affliction and deep poverty

Yet they gave to their power and even beyond their power

Read also 2Corinthians 11:9 and Philippians 4:14-17.

What do we Give and to Who?

[2Corinthians 9:6-7]

He who gives sparingly / bountifully will reap sparingly / bountifully

How are we to give? Not grudgingly or forcibly. What does God love? A cheerful giver

When are we to set aside? The first day of the week [1Corinthians 16:2]

How much are we to set aside As God has prospered [1Corinthians 16:2]

- 10% to your local church is a good **start**
- You could also give to the missionary fund or toward another fund or cause in the church.
- Further Reading: Acts 4:32-37

Study 8

What is Evangelism?

Sharing the gospel is one of the most important things we can do as Christians. The person you are taking through these studies has read many verses that command them to share the gospel. This study will deal with the 'how' of evangelism.

Speak [The Method] - as you read through the New Testament and see how the church obeys the command to share the gospel, we can easily see that the major method of evangelism was to proclaim.

While it is necessary for the Christian to live a life that testifies of what the gospel has done in their lives, and it is important to practically help the people around us, our most important ministry is to bear witness of Christ and His gospel through our lips - by proclaiming the message.

Truth [The Message] - once you have established that the person is to speak, the next thing for them to understand is what they should say. There are a number of important things for the person to communicate when sharing the gospel with someone.

We need to talk about the presence of sin, the absence of righteousness and the imminence of judgment to come. Also, it is useful, here, to explain to the person what the gospel isn't - it is not a prosperity message of wealth, health and happiness.

Love [The Manner] - finally, the person needs to learn to communicate the gospel in a gracious and gentle way. They must understand that, while the message itself can be offensive, they should not cause offense through bad manners and a judgmental attitude.

The gospel is good news. The gospel proclaimer was once a rebel of God who has been made a child of God. We are to communicate the beautiful riches of the gospel in this way.

Glory [The Motive] - the goal of evangelism is Christ glorified. Success in evangelism is not when people are saved, but when the gospel is faithfully proclaimed and explained to others. The result of a gospel encounter is between God and the hearer. We don't seek our own glory through people repeating a prayer after us, but rather we see Christ's glory through His message reaching the lost and changing lives.

With grateful hearts our one true desire will become Christ proclaimed and glorified.

Study 8

What is Evangelism?

Speak [The Method]

[Romans 10:13-14, 17]

Who shall be saved? anyone who calls upon the name of the Lord

What do people need to do before they can call on Him? believe

How do people get the opportunity to believe? hear

How will they hear? a preacher/someone has to tell them

What did Christ command His disciples to do? _____ [Mark 16:15]

How did the early church share the gospel? they spoke/proclaimed [Acts 4:20, 6:10, 8:35, 10:34]

Truth [The Message]

What is our ultimate authority of truth? Scripture [John 17:17]

According to Scripture, what constitutes the gospel? [1 Corinthians 15:1-5]

- Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;
- And that he was buried, and
- that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

What did Paul reason to Felix about? [Acts 24:25]

- righteousness - we need to explain the need for righteousness
- temperance - we need to explain the reality of sin in each person
- judgment - we need to explain that there will be eternal consequences

Anything other than the true gospel is perversion/corruption [Galatians 1:7-9]

Riches won't profit in the day of wrath. Righteousness delivers from death. [Proverbs 11:4]

Love [The Manner]

What attitude should we have? gentle/patient/meek [2 Timothy 2:24-25]

How should we explain our hope? with meekness and fear [1 Peter 3:15]

Glory [The Motive]

Who is worthy to receive glory and honour and power? Christ [Revelation 4:11, 5:9]

Study 9

What is Discipleship?

Discipleship has become a neglected practice, yet is one of the most essential ministries of a local church. When a person is born again they become a newborn child of God and they need a spiritual bigger brother or sister to nurture them, teach them and guide them in their new walk with God. This can, and should, be done within the local church.

To be a disciple means to be a follower or student. No one becomes *your* disciple, they become disciples of Christ and we are given the privilege and responsibility of helping them grow.

Multiplication or Addition - discipleship is the moulding of a new or young convert into someone who can share their faith, involve themselves in the local church and, eventually, disciple others themselves. The principle of multiplication is the key to reaching the world with the gospel. Therefore, the person studying this course must understand that they too, one day, must be involved in discipling others.

Example - this is the first tier of discipleship. Every Christian can be involved in discipleship at this level. We will always be influencing others - either positively or negatively. We need to search through our lives and ensure we are being good examples in all aspects. Home life, church life, work life, social life - we must get to the point, like Paul, where we can say "follow me as I follow Christ". There are two main words for 'follow' in the New Testament one of them means 'to follow' and the other means 'to mimic'.

Exhort - this tier can only come after we are good examples. We need to live the life before we can exhort others to do so. To be an exhorter means to be someone who encourages, challenges and inspires others to live for Christ. At this stage, you may not be going through studies with someone, however, as a member of the local church you will already be an example and encouragement of living for Christ before God gives you a specific person to disciple.

Explain - though the elders of the church are given this responsibility primarily, each believer, who is mature in their faith can be involved. This tier of discipleship is when you are sitting down with a person and nurturing them in their faith on a regular basis. In order to get to this point you will need to be spiritually and theologically ahead of the person who wants to learn from you. You will need to learn so that you can teach and you will also have to learn how to teach. At this stage, you will still be growing and learning yourself. You will need to be investing into the person's life, you will need to be there for them. It is hard, but rewarding work. They will be your friend and not your student, they will be your brother or sister, not your project.

After this study, the student must understand that one of the reasons they have studied all of the lessons, is to equip them to teach it to others in the future so that the person they teach will one day teach someone also - and so on.

Study 9

What is Discipleship?

Multiplication or Addition

What are the 3 points of the Great Commission? [Matthew 28:19-20]

Teach - this means to share the gospel to the conversion of others

Baptise - this means to bring people into the community of the local church

Teach - this means to instruct the convert in all of scripture

Example - Step One

Paul asked the Thessalonians to follow his example [2 Thessalonians 3:9]

He asked the Corinthians to follow him as he followed Christ [1 Corinthians 11:1]

He asked the Philippians to follow him and other mature saints [Philippians 3:17]

Exhortation - Step Two

We are supposed to exhort one another daily [Hebrews 3:13]

We are able to provoke one another to love and works [Hebrews 10:24]

We can comfort and edify each other [1 Thessalonians 5:11]

Explanation - Step Three

Timothy was required to study the word [2 Timothy 2:15]

Eventually those who learn are also supposed to teach others [Hebrews 5:12]

We are to treat those we teach with gentleness and love [1 Thessalonians 2:7]

Study 10

What is Missions?

The command of Jesus Christ is to take the gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth. Each Christian must be involved in obeying this command at a sacrificial level. There are three ways to respond to this command, but only two ways to obey it.

Send [Home Base Ministry] - the health of a local church is evidenced by how involved it is in biblical foreign missions. As a faithful, giving member of the local church, one of your responsibilities will be to export missionaries into foreign fields. This will be done in a number of ways, and it must be done in a way that requires sacrificial commitment.

It is essential that the local church remains a strong body that can continue to send out and support missionaries. If a person believes they are a part of the Home Base Ministry, then they must be actively involved in maintaining and building the local church, while involving themselves in supporting those who are sent out by the church to foreign fields.

A person who stays and sacrificially supports missions can be just as involved in the foreign missions project of the local church as the person who goes. It is not the easy option. Reaching the world with the gospel is a mutual project for both the sender and the one who goes.

Go [Foreign Base Ministry] - there must be willing and able candidates from within the local church who will be sent by the local church into another part of the world to share the gospel, disciple others and plant other local churches. These people are not an elite force of Christians. They are simply men and women who want to obey the Great Commission by making the gospel known amongst those who haven't heard.

The candidates for Foreign Base Ministry will have already been faithful workers in the Home Base Ministry. They will have been disciplined and trained. They will have seen souls come to Christ, they will have helped nurture new Christians into mature believers who can disciple others, they will have proven themselves as Foreign Base candidates through their Home Base commitment.

Disobey - the only other option that is left to us as children of God is to disobey the Great Commission. Even if God would have us stay - If we are not willing to go - we are showing a disobedient heart. If we are not sacrificially involved in exporting - we are disobeying the command to make Christ known to the uttermost. Sacrificial involvement either in the Home Base or the Foreign Base is the only way to obey the Great Commission.

Study 10

What is Missions?

A Global Mission

Where were the disciples to go? all the world [Matthew 28:19, Mark 16:15, Acts 1:8]

Who was the message for? all people and nations

A Mutual Project

List the two types of people in Ezra 1:1-6 and how they were involved in rebuilding the temple.

Goers they returned to Jerusalem to build the temple

Senders they stayed and gave their possessions to those who went

Send [Home Base Ministry]

How did the church at Philippi help Paul in his mission work?

With Prayer [Philippians 1:19]

With People [Philippians 2:25-30]

With Finances [Philippians 4:10-16]

What two things does Paul ask for prayer for in 2Thessalonians 3:1-2?

Success of the gospel [see also Romans 15:30-32, Philemon 1:22, Hebrews 13:18-19]

Safety for the messengers [see also Ephesians 6:19, Colossians 4:3-4]

What does Christ command us to pray for? more labourers [Matthew 9:37-38]

Go [Foreign Base Ministry]

Who anointed Paul as Apostle? Christ [Acts 9:15]

What was Paul doing in Antioch? teaching and serving [Acts 13:1-2a]

Who sent Paul out? the Holy Spirit and the church at Antioch [Acts 13:2b-4]

Disobey

What did Christ have? all authority and power [Matthew 28:18]

If we love Christ what will we do? obey His commandments [John 14:15]

What are we not to do? Call Him Lord, then Disobey Him [Luke 6:46]