



GOD'S PURPOSE FOR SOULS

GPS Bible Study Guide

This study guide is an aid to assist you in introducing an individual to the word of God.

Each study should last for about 30 mins.

It is advised that you revise each topic before teaching to ensure that you know what the outcome should be.

These studies provide a structure but should never replace the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Before embarking in this programme ensure that the soul has an understanding that the bible is the word of God.

It is advised that two Christians study with the candidate. (One person to lead and the other to take notes).

You may want to ask the candidate to read out each scripture aloud.

Q: = Questions to ask the candidate

A: = Possible answers to the questions (adaptable)

C: = Comments that can be made by teacher (adaptable)

God can and will use you if you step into the field. Fear not.

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. **Proverbs 3:5**

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SIN



Study 1 Sin

The aim of this study is to guide a soul into understanding the meaning of sin and how it affects their life.

What is Sin?

Sin in Hebrew is **châṭâ**: to miss the mark

Sin in Greek is **hamartanō**: to miss the mark

Q: What is the mark?

A: The mark is the glory of God.

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

C: God is holy, sin pulls us away from His glory.

Q: Where did sin come from?

A: Eating the fruit of knowledge of good and evil.

Consequence of Sin

Genesis 3:1-11

God said that if they eat the fruit of that tree they should surely die. This suggests that the action of eating the fruit caused them to miss the mark.

This mark can be found in **Genesis 3:22-23**.

Q: Why should they die for eating fruit?

A: Romans 6:23 *Wages of sin*

Romans 5:12 Sin brought death to all.

Q: What exactly will die?

Q: Should we fear death?

Matthew 10:28

What Actions are Sinful?

C: The fruit of the tree in the garden contained knowledge of good and evil.

Adam and Eve thought it was good to cover themselves.

Q: Was this good? Did it hit the mark?

Every good thought as well as evil thought is birthed from that fruit. It gives us a type of spiritual blindness.

God's glory demonstration

The fruit that was withheld from them was the fruit of the tree of life. **Genesis 3:24**

C: If all have sinned and we cannot be good enough to 'hit the mark' we need some other way to have the fruit of life.

Look up these scriptures before the next study.

Mark 7:18-23 **Galatians 5:19-21**

Q: If you were to die today what would be your fate?

A: There is hope for you. Jesus already died for your sin.

CHRISTIANITY



Study 2 Christianity

The aim of this study is to guide a soul into understanding the true meaning of Christianity and how to live as a Christian.

What is a Christian?

Q: What does the term Christian mean (to you)?

Acts 11:26 Christians are disciples.

Christian in Greek is ***Christianos***: follower of Christ.

Christ means *anointed one* and the word ending (ianos) means *belonging to or owned by*.

Q: What does this definition mean to you?

A: A Christian is not just someone who goes to church.

Q: So what is the life of a Christian like?

Just a Believer?

John 8:31-32 Here we see Jesus talking to those who believed what he taught.

Belief alone is not enough.

Jesus said that those who hold to, follow or put into practice His teachings are his disciples

Knowing what is right to do must be followed by practising what is right.

Q: Do you know anyone who claims to be Christian but does not practice the teachings of Jesus?

Q: Are they really Christians?

Q: What are the teachings of Jesus?

Signs of Christianity

Matthew 5:21-22/22-28 Matthew 28:18-20

Jesus taught us how to act towards each other and that we should also teach others to do the same.

Being Christian is not just about how we behave on a church day. It is a lifestyle.

John 4:21-24 Jesus said that worship is not about proximity (where you are). It is a spiritual act of truthful service to God.

A Christian is a disciple at home, at work, at school, in front of others and behind closed doors.

Churchgoers

Q: Can you be a Christian without going to church?

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

A: The church is the body of Christ. Each person has a specific divine purpose within the body (symbiosis).

Q: Does your hand climb off your arm and declare it can survive by itself as it has a strong relationship with your heart?



The hand will eventually die when cut off from the blood flow.

The same can be said of the Christian without the church.

Becoming a Christian

Q: How do you become a Christian?

Q: What does it mean to be born again?

John 3:3-6 Jesus talks about the kingdom of God.

This phrase talks about the lifestyle a Christian lives.

A kingdom is a sovereign state in which subjects are ruled by a monarch.

In our case the kingdom is your heart and the ruler is God. Our actions become subject to His rule.

A Christian allows God to rule his or her heart so that God's will is carried out on earth.

Matthew 6:10

Q: So how do you become a Christian?

Acts 2:37-39

This scripture speaks of a three step process

Repentance

Baptism

Filled with the Holy Spirit

We will look at each of these steps as we continue to study.

Before the next study look up the following scriptures on repentance.

Matthew 3:1-11

Luke 5:32

Romans 2:4

THE CROSS



Study 3 The Cross

The aim of this study is to guide a soul into understanding the purpose of the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Why The Cross?

Q: What do you see that makes you think of the cross?

C: Of all the things that usually come to mind it is not often that people see sin and think of the cross.

Genesis 3:21

In this scripture God does something because of the sin of Adam and Eve.

Q: Where did the skin come from?

Q: Why was an animal killed just to make clothes?

A: Because of sin death entered the world. Blood was shed to atone for sin.

Exodus 12:12-13

C: Here we see that lamb's blood was acknowledged by God as a token that would stop His judgement of death being carried out.

Atonement for Sin

Animal sacrifice was the way in which the children of Israel atoned for their sins. **Leviticus 1:4**

Q: Why did an animal have to die for their sins to be atoned for?

Leviticus 17:11

Here we see that God provided a way for man to have their sins forgiven.

C: The penalty of sin was paid by another.

This would have been done on many occasions throughout the life of an individual on the Day of Atonement.

This day represented the Day of Judgment in which God judges all men according to their deeds.

Romans 6:23

Prophecy of a Saviour

Isaiah 9:6-7

According to this prophecy the Mighty God was to come to earth and be born as a child to become our saviour.

Isaiah 53:1-7

This scripture was written over 700 years before the birth of Jesus. It speaks of the iniquity of all being laid on one man (v5 v6). This idea of one bearing the sin for others was not a new concept.

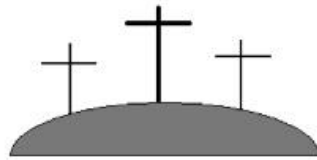
Why The Cross?

Q: What was the purpose of the suffering and death of Jesus?

C: According to the scriptures we have looked at, we can understand that one without blame had to die and shed blood so that the sins of all people can be atoned or paid for.

Matthew 27:45-46

C: The sins of the world were laid upon him just like the sin of the congregation on the Day of Atonement.



Q: What did Jesus have to go through to achieve this?

Matthew 26:36-75 Betrayal and Trial

Matthew 27:11-12 Accused

Matthew 27:21-25 Condemned

Matthew 27:26-31 Scourged, beaten and humiliated

Matthew 27:39-50 Mocked and killed

C: Jesus did all this for you. He suffered and died.

The Resurrection

C: He also rose from the dead.

Matthew 28:1-9

In rising from the dead Jesus took authority over death so that through Him we too will overcome sin (which brings death) and with Him rise to new life.

Romans 6:4

Q: Understanding that it is through baptism that we die to our sins, would you like to die to your sins?

REPENTANCE



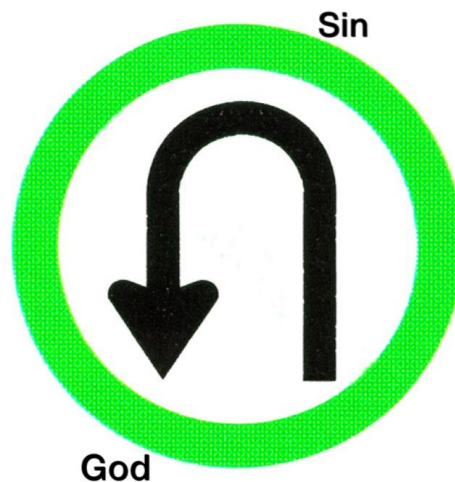
Study 4 Repentance

The aim of this study is to guide a soul into understanding the meaning of true repentance. They should resolve to take action following this study to change certain aspects of their lifestyle.

A Change of Mind

C: The word repentance comes from the Greek word ***Metanioa***, which means a feeling of guilt that leads to a change of mind.

This word is mentioned several times in the bible but it is important to note that it is the first thing that Jesus preached. It is turning away from sin.



Matthew 4:17

Q: Why did Jesus preach about repentance?

Q: How would you expect someone to respond to this teaching?

2 Types of Sorrow

C: Repentance is not just about being sorry.
There is a godly sorrow and a worldly sorrow.

2 Corinthians 7:9-10

C: Here we see the difference between godly sorrow and worldly sorrow.

Worldly sorrow: Sorry because you've been caught.

Godly sorrow: Compunction (deep regret) that leads to a change.

Example of Repentance

Acts 16:22-24

C: The people rose up against Paul and Silas and beat them.

Acts 16:25-30

C: We see here that the jailor had a change of heart because of what God did.

Acts 16:31-33

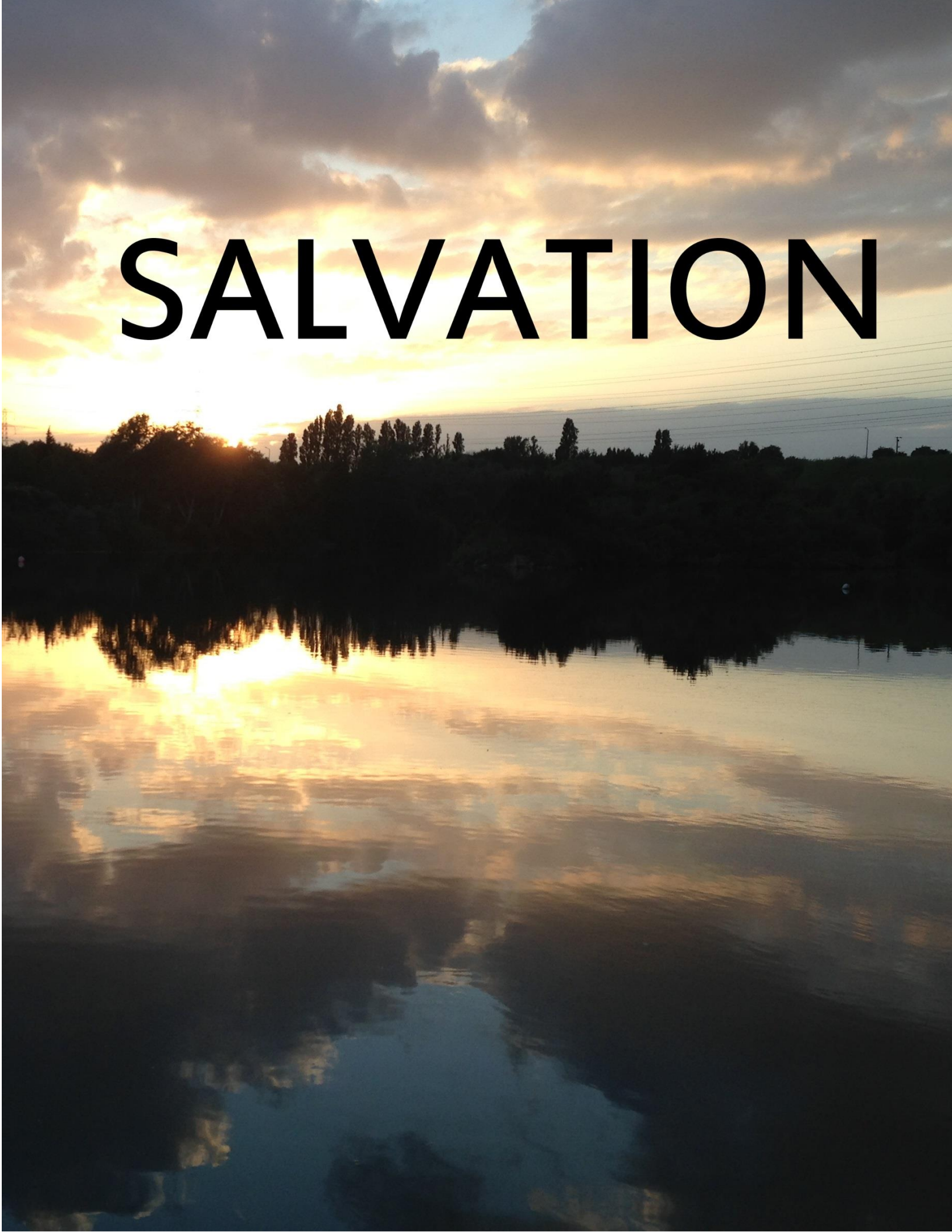
C: After receiving instruction on what to do to be saved the jailor then took it upon himself to wash their wounds.

C: This is an example of repentance.

Q: In what ways do you feel you may need to repent?

If you don't want to say them now you can write them down and set a time to turn away from them and turn to God.

SALVATION



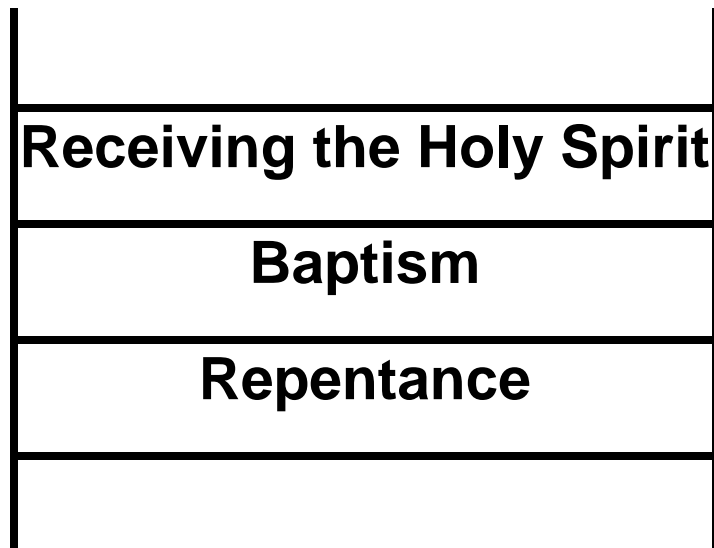
Study 5 Salvation

The purpose of this study is to guide a soul into understanding the process and purpose of salvation, in order to make a personal decision of commitment.

3 Steps to salvation

Acts 2:36-39

C: Here the Apostle Peter explains what to do to be saved. He shows us a three step process.



Having already covered repentance as the complete turning away from our sinful acts towards Christ, let's look at baptisms.

Baptism comes from the Greek word ***Baptizō***; which means ***Immersion***.

Romans 6:4

C: Baptism means that we die with Christ to sin and rise to a new life in Him.

Matthew 3:1-6

C: John preached baptism and repentance.

In **Romans 6** and **Acts 2** we see that we must be baptised in Jesus' name.

Q: What is the difference between the baptism of John and Jesus?

Acts 19:1-5

C: Now we see that we must be baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Significance of The Name

C: We are baptised in the Power and Authority of Jesus.

Imagine that you wake up one morning and decide that you want to become a police officer. Instead of applying and training you decide to go out on to the street and begin to direct traffic.

Q: What would happen?

C: The same can be said about those who try to do the will of Christ without being baptised or filled.

You need authority to do certain things.

(Acts 19:13-16)

Police act in the name of the law.

Christians act in the name of Jesus.

Filled with Power

Acts 19:6

C: The disciples were also filled with the Holy Spirit.
The apostle Paul specifically intended for them to be filled.
This was the promise of Jesus as a part of salvation.

Acts 1:4-8

C: Jesus promised the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Q: What do you understand when you hear Jesus' promise of power?

C: The word power comes from the Greek word ***Dunamis*** which means a supernatural, violent, mighty, abundance of force.

This word is also used for the word dynamite.

C: Our salvation is complete as we walk in the Spirit being baptised and filled with the Spirit of God.

Q: Do you desire salvation?

C: If you have repented of your sin and believe that Jesus is Lord, we can arrange for you to be baptised and also pray for you to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

COUNTING THE COST



Study 6 Counting the Cost

This aim of this study is to guide a soul in understanding what it means to follow Christ with their whole heart. To help them make a conscious decision before committing.

What Do You Love?

C: In life we realise that we do not commit to things without first of all checking to see if we are able to maintain our commitment. E.g. Buying a mobile phone on a contract, buying a car, buying a house etc. It is also wise to do the same when making the decision to follow Christ. Your desire on its own **will not** keep you. Your heart must be selflessly committed to Christ in order to sustain a lasting relationship with God as a Christian.

Let's look at what Jesus said to those who followed Him.

Luke 14:25-26

Q: What do you think this means practically?

A: You cannot put anyone in your life, even yourself, before God. Your desire should be to do the will of God regardless of what anyone else thinks or even what you may feel.

The word hate here means to love less. We should not love anyone more than God. Not even our own family.

Commitment Check

Luke 14:27

C: To take up a cross was understood at that time as sacrificing your own life. To take up a cross meant that you were willing to die following Christ.

People would never have taken up a cross but would have had one placed on them.

Jesus was saying that you must be willing to give your life to follow Him.

Luke 14:28-33

C: Here Jesus explains that you must check if you are able to do these things before following Him and uses the analogies of going to war and building a house.

When we realise we are **not** able, we must surrender.

Best Intentions

Luke 14:34-35

Q: Why did Jesus begin to speak about salt?

C: Salt and its flavour are like a disciple and their zeal.

Just as salt cannot make itself salty so a Christian cannot fuel their own zeal. Our zeal must come from God and be fuelled by God's Spirit and word.

Compelled by The Cross

A disciple of Christ can do nothing by their own strength.
We need to surrender all to Christ.

It is very important that we do not do anything to please people or leaders but that we work to please God.

The truth is everyone you know is capable of letting you down. Only God is faithful and just. **1John 1:9**

Q: Do you have any questions about what it means to commit to Christ?

Q: Are you willing to give your life to Christ?

Here is another scripture about counting the cost that you can read in your own time.

Matthew 19:16-26

THE BATTLE



Study 7 The Battle

The aim of this study is to raise the awareness of the initial struggles that face a soul after baptism. This study should prepare them to face these struggles using prayer and the word to fight.

Temptation of Satan

Matthew 4:1-11

C: The bible clearly states that Jesus was led by the Spirit to be tempted of the devil.

When we are baptised and or filled the devil will come to tempt you.

Q: How did the devil tempt Jesus?

A: By questioning His purpose. (If you are?)

C: The same happens to us today; the devil will come to question the validity of our salvation.

Q: How did Jesus respond to the temptation?

Matthew 4:v4 v7 v10

C: Jesus responded with scripture.

It is very important for you to read and memorise scripture when you are saved. This will help you to fight the enemy.

Q: When did the devil come to tempt Jesus?

C: It was after Jesus had fasted for forty days and nights that the devil came to tempt Him. It was at a time when Jesus could have eaten, the fast was over. Jesus was physically tired and hungry. Be aware that the devil will come when you least expect and when you have little energy to fight.

The Discipline of The Lord

C: A spiritual trial usually occurs when your life (or an area of your life) is going in a direction that is not God's will. You feel hindered and tested and your faith is pushed to the limit.

James 1:2-4

C: God allows these to take place for our good.

Hebrews 12:4

C: You must try your best to resist temptation and trials when they come.

Q: Who do you think gets the blame when we go through hard times?

a) Satan b) Ourselves c) God

C: Most of the time people tend to blame God when things start to go wrong in our lives.

James 1:13

C: God will not tempt you.

Hebrews 12:5-8

C: God is our Father and He loves us.

Hebrews 12:9-13

C: Submit yourself to the wisdom of God and you will reap the rewards.

Spiritual Weapons

Ephesians 6:11-18

C: Every soldier needs weapons and armour.

Just as the temptation Jesus faced, we are not fighting physical battles but spiritual ones.

Notice that the offensive weapon in this scripture is the word of God. It will keep you in all situations of attack. **Put on the whole armour!**

Revelation 12:10-11

C: Be encouraged that we overcome by the blood of the lamb and the word of our testimony. You have the victory already, be ready to fight the battles through the power of God.

A blue signpost with a pointed top and several blank, arrow-shaped directional signs. The signpost is set against a clear blue sky with some light, wispy clouds. The word "YOUR" is written in large, bold, black capital letters to the left of the signpost, and the word "CALLING" is written in large, bold, black capital letters to the right of the signpost.

YOUR

CALLING

Study 8 Your Calling

The purpose of this study is to guide a soul in discovering what it is they are called to do in the kingdom of God. To enable them to develop in the area of their calling.

Where Do You Fit In?

1 Corinthians 12:12-18

Q: What do you understand from this scripture?

C: We all have a purpose in the kingdom that is chosen by God.

We are not all the same; neither can we all do the same job. You are called for something unique.

Q: Are you clear on what God has called you to?

Know your Purpose

John 1:19-27

C: John the Baptist knew his purpose.

Romans 1:1

C: The apostle Paul knew his purpose.

Luke 4:16-22

C: Jesus knew his purpose.

God has a purpose for your life. Spend some time in prayer to discover what this plan is.

When it is revealed to you, surrender to God's will, seek His strength to accomplish this will and nurture the gift of God that is in you.

You Have Gifts Inside You

2Timothy 1:6-7

C: Do not be afraid. Stir up those gifts.

Remember that once you have fully surrendered your desires you will be open to receive God's will for your life.

Jonah 1:1-3

C: Trust in what God has called you to do.

It is wise to obey God's call as it always works out for good. **(Rom 8:28)**

Ephesians 1:17-19

C: Let this be your prayer.

1 Chronicles 28:20 The Lord is with you!

God's Purpose for Souls

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