

1) How would you describe sin to someone?

Sin is "Lawlessness" **1 John 3:4**Sin is failing to live up to the expected standard and conduct of a perfect God. This includes both internal and external unholy practices, actions, thoughts, and desires that directly violate God's divine will

2) How can we receive Christ?

- **C Confess** your sin and acknowledge Jesus as your Lord. (<u>1 John</u> <u>1:9, Romans 10:9, Colossians 2:6</u>)
- **B Believe -** that God raised Jesus from the dead. (<u>John 1:12</u>, <u>John 3:16</u>, <u>Romans 10:11</u>)
- **S Surrender** is dying to self, which begins our formation into Christ-likeness. (Romans 12:1-2, Luke 9:23-24, Galatians 2:20)

3) After we accept the truth of Jesus Christ, should we get baptized? Why or why not?

Yes, we should. Jesus commands us to do so, and he was also baptized as an example. Baptism is a public and symbolic gesture showing that you have accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Lord & Savior. Going under the water represents you dying to your old life. Being raised out of the water represents a new birth (spiritual birth), and you are now raised to a new life with Christ

4) How would you lead someone to salvation?

- Sin has caused a separation between man and God (Romans 3:23)
- The penalty for sin is death and separation from God, but Jesus died to make us right with God & to give us eternal life. (Romans 6:23)
- Jesus loves us and showed us by dying on the Cross while we were with no hope of being made right by God. (Romans 5:8)
- If we confess and believe in our hearts that Jesus is Lord and was raised from the dead, we will be saved.(Romans 10:9-10)
- Lastly, lead them in a prayer to accept Christ!



1) If someone asked you how to have a relationship with God, what would you tell them?

Relationship in the world takes work. There is no difference in our relationship with God: we must put forth the effort. (**Jeremiah 29:13**) says "You will seek and find God when you seek him with all your heart". There is something about the idea of fully committing your entire being (mind, will, emotions) to God, not just the convenient parts of our life,

2) What is the difference between temptation and sin?

To clarify, temptation is not a sin- you can think of temptation more like the "attraction", "desire", or "suggestion" to commit sin. 1 Corinthians it talks about temptation for believers. **1 Corinthians**10:13. The danger with temptation is it has a strong, compelling factor that tries to lead us into sin. You can only overcome temptation; once you cross the line into action and commit sin, at that point it is no longer temptation.

3) What does it mean to live a "Christ-centered" life, and how does this affect our actions and decisions?

To explain "Christ-Centered," it simply means everything (actions, decisions, worldview, etc.) is now filtered through our newfound relationship and understanding of Jesus Christ. Therefore, we commit and obey His ways through the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit and His word (Bible). Through this, we may honor and glorify God by fulfilling His will in our lives (John 15:5).

4) What are the four pillars of faith in Christ, and why are they important in a believer's spiritual journey?

Understanding that you can gauge your spiritual health by these .4 pillars (Relationship, Community, Mission, and Commitment) is key



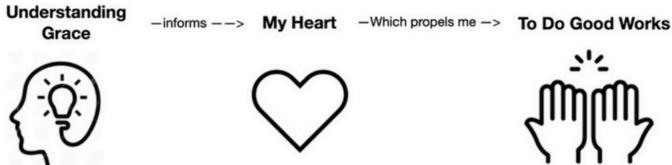
1) What is faith, and why is faith essential for salvation?

Faith is "complete trust or confidence in something or someone." Faith is required for anyone who has accepted Jesus as Savior. Apart from faith, it's impossible to receive and experience the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Faith is also vital to any believer as they live each day. **Hebrews 11:6** & **Ephesians 2:8-9**

- 2) What is the difference between simply believing in God and having genuine faith, as explained in James 2:19? Mere belief in God just acknowledges the obvious, that God exists, but when we have genuine faith, it produces in us an authentic meaning and the gift of salvation changes your life.
- 3) Do good works/deeds save us? Why or why not? Neither your actions nor your deeds save you. Jesus has already completed the work of salvation; it is finished (John 19:30). Eternal life is yours; it is by grace you have been saved (Ephesians 2:8-9), and nothing else is required from you outside your commitment to your faith in Jesus Christ. The proper way to understand this is demonstrated below.

4) How does grace help us better understand our faith?

Grace enables God to confront human indifference and rebellion with an inexhaustible capacity to forgive and to bless. Understanding His grace is the connection that places the desire inside of us to 'do good works.' Many new or maturing believers feel like they 'have to' do good things, but when we properly understand His grace and mercy on our lives, it changes to 'we desire to' do good things because we want to honor and worship Him.





1) What are the two enemies we face on a daily basis?

Sinful Nature & Satan/Demons. We have these two forces working against us at all times. Since we still live in this world (which is fallen), and our soul dwells in the body and mind (which have the fallen nature), we have to acknowledge these opposing forces so that we take into consideration what actions we should take to battle and win the fight.

2) What are the daily goals as a believer?

- 1. We Live Daily To Glorify God.(1 Corinthians 10:31)
- 2. We Live Daily For God's Will. (1 Peter 4:1-4)
- 3. We Live Daily To Love God and Love Others (Matthew 22:37-40)

3) What does it mean to become a living sacrifice?

To become a living sacrifice means that we offer our lives to God for His glory. This is the only way we move from conceptual Christians to devoted Christians. If there is no commitment within this step daily, your spiritual journey will end very quickly, and the thought of God and the power of salvation will just become a nice thought, not a reality. **Romans 12:1-2**

4) How do we renew our mind?

- Scripture Joshua 1:8
- Worship **Psalms 150:6**
- Taking Every Thought Captive 2 Corinthians 10:5
- Dependence on the Holy Spirit Galatians 5:25
- Prayer 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

To "take every thought captive" is so crucial to you as a believer. You have the power, through Christ, to take every thought captive. Meaning every negative, sinful, lustful thought, etc. As the gatekeeper to your mind, imagine (hypothetically) that you're standing at the front gate of your mind, and the gate is closed. Only you possess the power to open that gate, so when lies, negative thoughts, and sinful thinking come to that gate, you now have the power to reject it as a believer.



1) Why do we pray?

Prayer is simply talking to God, just like you would talk or communicate to any human on earth. The difference is that He is God, but He is our father, and we are his sons and daughters, so we should approach Him within that mindset. I would dare to say that there is no special formula or structure to prayer. It's not as if you say a prayer a certain way, God will hear you better, but I would tell you that <u>James 5:16</u> says, "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." So if you are in Christ and are truly devoted to Him, I believe he hears us

2) How would you teach someone else how to pray?

So, what are a few things that we can pick up from Matthew 6:9-13? Honor God -"Hallowed be your name." Hallow means to make or declare holy, meaning we should approach God with honor and reverence, understanding His Lordship in our lives. Prioritizing God's Will -"Your kingdom come." This acknowledges God's will to be a priority within your life and understanding. Provisions -"Give us today our daily bread." This acknowledges that everything that gives life comes from Him. Repentance - "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors." Acknowledging the sin in your life and forgiving those who have sinned against you. Give Power To Resist & Provide Victory Over The Enemy -"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." This simply acknowledges that, as the enemy will come at us, we ask for God's assistance to combat the sinful nature and satan.

3) How often should we pray and why?

Continuously: **1 Thessalonians 5:17** -"Pray continually" **Colossians 4:2** - "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful" **Philippians 4:6** -"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

4) Why does prayer matter?

You probably heard the phrase "communication is key". It is no different within our relationship with God. It's imperative that we take hold of one of the most important tools that we have in building our relationship with God, and it should be a very familiar practice in your life.



1) What does it mean to be "created on purpose, for a purpose," and how does scripture define it?

That you were not an accident...God knew about you whether your parents planned you or not. Also, God has a plan for each of his children. (**Luke 12:7, Psalm 139:13-14, Psalms 57:2, Matthews 11:28-30**)

2) What is the significance of being made in the "image of God" (Imago Dei), and how does this shape our identity and purpose?

Latin phrase, "Imago Dei", which means "image of God." This concept sheds light on us as humans; we are "God's image bearers". Since we are made in his image, **God has clearly defined who we are as His children**, and although we are not equal to God, He has made us with similar capacities and abilities that He possesses and wants us to have.

3) How does the Bible describe the three components of human being?

Physical Body: The Bible teaches that humans have a physical body formed from the dust of the ground. **Genesis 2:**7 states, "Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being."

Spirit: God breathed the breath of life into the physical body, giving humans a spirit or life force. **Ecclesiastes 12:7** says, "The dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it."

Soul: The soul represents the innermost part of a person, encompassing emotions, intellect, and will. **Matthew 22:37** describes aspects of the soul. "Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart (will/emotions) and with all your soul (will/emotions) and with all your mind (intellect)."

4) What responsibilities come with the authority and stewardship that God has given humanity?

To **respect human life**, knowing that it is sacred and that we should treat everyone **equal no matter male/female or ethnicty**.

5) Since sin has affected human sexuality and identity, what does Scripture teach about God's original design for gender and relationships?

Scripture clearly states two types of genders (male & female), and sin has twisted that truth for unnatural relationships. We can see in **Genesis 1:27** that God made both male and female, with no other variations (genders), that male and female are supposed to become one.



1) How do Old Testament prophecies shape our understanding of Jesus? Why is it important?

The prophecies about Jesus in the Old Testament are important because they provide evidence of the divine plan for salvation that extends throughout human history. It demonstrates that the coming of Jesus was not an afterthought or a random occurrence, but rather a fulfillment of God's promises and a part of his larger plan for redemption. It also helps to establish the credibility of Jesus as the Messiah.

2) Was Jesus God? How do you know?

Yes, John 10:30 - I and the Father are one."

3) Why is it important that we understand Jesus conquered death?

When Jesus conquered death, this proved His divinity (meaning He was God). This is also an encouragement to the believer, if Jesus conquered death, then what should we fear if we have Jesus in our lives? We have nothing to fear, not even death, for those who are in Him. We are now secure in our eternal life through Christ. **1 Corinthians 15:55-56**.

4) Are there other ways to be made right with God outside of faith in Jesus? How do you know?

No John 14:6, Acts 4:12, 1 Timothy 2:5

It's important to understand that Jesus Christ is the only way to a life reconciled with God. There is no amount of work or deeds you and I can do to earn our way to heaven. There are also no other religions or spiritual practices available to rescue us from sin and eternal separation from God. Jesus is the only way. Be cautious—the world around you will try to convince you that there are other ways, but that isn't true because of what we find in John 14:

5) Was there anything new that you learned about Jesus?

Ask them...See where that conversation may lead.



1) Is the Holy Spirit God? How do you know?

Yes, **John 4:24:** God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth. **Acts 5:3-4** - Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? 4 Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God."

2) What role does the Holy Spirit play in salvation?

The Holy Spirit plays a significant part in our salvation process; we see in **John 16:8** and **1 Thessalonians 1:5** that the Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin which leads us to know that we need a savior who is Jesus Christ.

3) How do you know if you have the Holy Spirit?

It's important to recognize that first, you have to be saved by Jesus Christ to receive the Holy Spirit. Second, there is a process of maturing in the Lord and recognizing the Spirit's leading. It is natural to question if you have the Holy Spirit. We have to practice the skill of listening (which includes reflecting and slowing down to listen), but then, by faith, actively live out the Spirit's guidance and direction within our lives, which builds our confidence in His leading. Here are a few practical ways to identify when the Holy Spirit is present in your life. (Below isn't an exhaustive list.)

When You Desire And Want To Obey God's Way. 1 John 3:24

When We See The Manifestation Of The Spirit In Our Lives. Galatians 5:22-23 - When You Sense His Presence. Ephesians 3:16-19 -

When His Words And Thoughts Start Forming How We Understand Life. 1 Corinthians 2:10-12

4) What role does the Holy Spirit Play in our daily lives?

- Convicts Us Of Our Sin. John 16:8
- Gives Us Spiritual Gifts For The Works Of The Ministry & To Edify The Church.1 Corinthians 12:4
- Empowers The Believer. Acts 1:8
- Intercedes For The Believer In Prayer. Romans 8:26-27
- Produces Good Works Within The Believer. Philippians 2:13
- Teaches Us His Way. John 14:26



1) How would you describe the Trinity to a friend?

Father, Son, Holy Spirit. The Christian faith sees the Trinity as One God. This is best understood as three in persons, but one being, meaning we hold to a monotheistic belief.

2) Did you watch the video? What did you learn?

Ask them what was it about?

3) Where do we see evidence of the Trinity in Scripture?

Read: Luke 3:21-22

This verse is great at showing us the Trinity. The father is represented in "voice", Jesus is physically there, and lastly, the Holy Spirit is represented as the "dove".

Read: Matthew 28:19

This verse is Jesus himself identifying all three parts of the Trinity.

Read: Genesis 1:26

Finally, we see the statement from God that he is making humans in "our image," which points to the Trinity. This means before the foundations of the world, Father, Son, & Holy Spirit existed.

4) What is monotheism, and how does it relate to our understanding of the Trinity?

Monotheism: Is the belief that there is only one God. Scripture helps us to back up that understanding within belief. (**Due. 6:4 / Isaiah 44:6 / 1 Cor. 8:6**)

5) What are the 4 pillars of After Salvation?

RCMC Relationship Community Mission Commitment



1) What does it mean to have a "Holy Fear" of God?

The concept of fear is not in the sense that you should run and hide, but it's a high level of respect towards God, meaning reverence and awe. We see this concept spoken about in Hebrews. **Hebrews 12:28-29**

Let's quickly define reverence and awe.....

Reverence - A feeling of profound respect.

Awe - An overwhelming feeling of fearful wonder.

2) In what ways can we worship God with our lives?

We now live for God, not for ourselves only. We have a call to worship God with our lives. Worship is defined as the feeling or expression of reverence (respect) and adoration (deep love) for God. I like to compare our relationship with God to marriage. In marriage, you are solely committed (deep love and respect) to one partner and completely sold out to that one relationship. The same goes for our relationship with God; to be committed to God is to worship Him solely, placing Him as a priority over everything, even your desire and will - Colossians 3:3

3) Why should we worship God with our resources? What does that mean?

We are called to be stewards of God's resources according to His will. If you think about it, God gives us the health to work and the ability to earn wages. With a healthy biblical perspective on this subject, we realize that no matter if it is a little or abundant resource, it's all the Lord's.

<u>Deuteronomy 8:17</u> You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." 18 But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

<u>2 Corinthians 9:7</u> Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

4) Why is singing and musical worship an important aspect of worshiping God, and what is its purpose?

The song should come out of an overflow of our hearts, understanding with **gratitude, respect, and awe** who God is and what He has done for us. If we choose to sincerely press into singing worship songs, it enables us to take a **deep reflection** within our hearts. It tends to reposition or even break our hearts back into proper alignment with God. Song is an **offensive approach** we can take **within our spiritual lives** to elevate God to His rightful place. Song is a way of communicating the sincerity of our hearts' affection toward God



1) What is significant about Matthew 16:18, and how does this statement shape our understanding of the church's purpose and foundation?

It is at this moment that Jesus declares that He will establish this community of people **that will not be defeated by the works of the enemy nor the flesh,** and they will be called the church. We are His people because He is the only way back to the Father, so He is our leader and our Lord.

2) In what ways is the church more than just a physical building?

The church is not just a physical location where believers come together in a building: it's deeper than that. It is true that in part we do go to a physical structure called "the church," or you might read it in scripture as temples or synagogues, but overall, the church is a collective group of Christian believers under the authority of Christ.

3) What does it mean that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, and how should this affect the way we live as believers? (1 Corinthians 3:16, 1 Corinthians 3:9)

Scripture gives us awareness that our physical bodies are temples. Because we now have the Holy Spirit, as believers in Christ, we are hosting the Holy Spirit within our physical bodies.

1 Corinthians 3:16 - Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?

1 Corinthians 3:9 - For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.

This is important to realize. We can now have fellowship with God continuously because we are made perfect through the blood of Jesus Christ (meaning because of His sacrifice). Since this is true, the Holy Spirit can rest within the believer permanently because we have been purified and made holy by accepting Christ as Lord. This is what enables the Holy Spirit to dwell within the believer.

4) What is the purpose of the church?

The church is a global living active group of Christ followers that come together to worship and honor God, by carrying out His will on earth. We are unified underneath the name of Christ, but as individuals, we each play our part to glorify God.



1) Why is unity important in the church?

Unity helps us to produce genuine fellowship, which honors God and keeps the body of Christ healthy. We as individuals hold the key to unity, and unity can only be accomplished if we are really "for" one another. To be for one another means we are not "one-upping" each other to make a name for ourselves, but that we are striving to be a servant first to those around us, to be trusted

2) Why is Acts 2:46 so important?

Acts 2:46 - Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts.

Consistency in our spiritual lives is a must and is tied into the idea of commitment, one of the four key pillars in our Christian life. To be committed to something means we have consistency with that "thing" we are committed to. The same goes for us coming together as the church; the regularity of coming together produces greater focus and encouragement in our lives.

3) How does generosity reflect the heart of God, and why was caring for those in need a defining characteristic of the early church?

The church is a place of selfless individuals who see people through the lens of Christ, meaning that people matter to God, so they matter to the Christian. Can we truly call ourselves followers of God if we leave a child and brothers or sisters in need? As the body of Christ, we should strive to bless and help those around us.

- 4) According to Acts 2:42-47, what are the 8 key components of a healthy church? (*Hint Answers are subtitles*)
 - 1. Teaching
 - 2. Fellowship
 - 3. Awe & Miracles
 - 4. Unity & Humility
 - 5. Generosity
 - 6. Consistency
 - 7. Gratitude
 - 8.Increase



1) What are spiritual gifts, and should everyone have at least one after salvation? Also, can you have multiple spiritual gifts?

Yes, we are all supposed to have them

Yes, we can have more than one.

A spiritual gift is "a gift or endowment characteristic of the presence or enabling of the Holy Spirit." This means God supernaturally gives and enables gifts to humans for His glory through the power of the Holy Spirit. They are used to help carry out God's will on earth.

2) What should we be careful of when understanding our spiritual gift(s)?

We must not become **prideful about the gift(s)** that God has given to us. Remember that the spiritual gift(s) and the assignments that God assigns to you are for His Glory, not yours. **Stay humble** because no matter the number of people God might enable you to reach for His name's sake, this is all for His glory!

3) How does understanding and using spiritual gifts contribute to the overall health and mission of the church?

Spiritual gifts or empowerment of the Spirit were given to God's people for two purposes:

1) To demonstrate the truthfulness of God.

One of the ways is through prophecy. This is demonstrated in Acts 2:14-18 when the Holy Spirit fell upon the believers at Pentecost. At this moment, Peter confronted a small group of people who were saying the apostles were "drunk" because they were speaking in everyone's languages. Peter uses Joel's prophetic words in Joel 2:28-32 to combat these individuals.

- 2) To assist and empower the believer to accomplish God's will on earth.
- We each have a part to play in the church and God's mission. The coming of Jesus opened up a unique opportunity for God's people to have the Spirit rest upon them. Part of that uniqueness means spiritual gifts would assist the believer's daily life moving forward to accomplish God's will.
- 4) I encourage you to take some time and pray about your specific spiritual gift(s), and ask the Lord to help you to identify yours. (Take your time, don't rush). Also, use this time to take the Spiritual Gifts Assessment if you would like.

Encourage them if they haven't, also ask them to tell you their spiritual gifts if they know....



1) How does the enemy use deception and past hurts to keep believers from gathering with the church?

Many times, it's based on false pretenses. One is based on the idea that "The church wants my money." The second is, "I was hurt by someone last time I went to church, you can't trust anyone from churches." He does this to keep us out of unity and away from other believers because there is power there, **Matthew 18:20** For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.

2) What is a healthy way to understand denominational differences, and how can believers maintain unity despite having different expressions of worship and theology?

There will be different expressions of the body of Christ. What this comes down to is personality type and personal preference. God made us with all different personality types, and that is the beauty of different expressions within the body of Christ. We are all imperfectly trying our best to pursue Christ. Let us be united as one, even though we have different preferences. Let's not tear one another down but build each other up through prayer and encouragement. We are one!

3) How does isolation make us more vulnerable to spiritual attacks?

You see, the enemy wants to keep us isolated, away from the body of Christ, away from gathering together. Isolation creates environments of vulnerability where the enemy can attack our thoughts (**Genesis 3:3**) and discourage our faith (John 10:10). Being by yourself is not a bad thing, but consistent isolation can and will feed into such things as depression and hopelessness.

4) Why is gathering together as believers important for spiritual, emotional, and mental well-being?

As emotional beings, we do feed off the fellowship, encouragement, and momentum of others around us. Even if you are introverted, the gathering of Christians still matters no matter your personality type. It feeds your emotional and mental health, so we shouldn't neglect it. Scripture says,

<u>Hebrews 10:24-25</u> And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

5) What are the 4 pillars of After Salvation?

RCMC Relationship Community Mission Commitment

DAY 15

FRIENDSHIPS & ACCOUNTABILITY

1) How do friendships influence our spiritual growth, and why does 1 Corinthians 15:33 warn us about the company we keep?

1 **Corinthians 15:33** Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." This verse reminds us to be selective about whom we spend time with. You should be very defensive and don't allow just anyone to influence your life. The reality is we are all influenced by someone, so again I ask, who is influencing you, and do you want to be influenced by them?

2) How should you guard your personal life, and how can they determine whether these relationships are encouraging or hindering their faith?

As you examine this list, think about what categories your current friendships are in. Ask the Holy Spirit for discernment on the types of friendships you have. Depending on when you are reading this, you might find out that you don't have "close" or "best" friends after you examine your current relationships. Let me encourage you, God is faithful, ask Him to help you find that inner circle. Be patient in your pursuit of the inner circle, be selective, and guard personal information with new friend;, allow time and get to know their character as you develop that trusting relationship.

3) How does Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 illustrate the importance of having healthy friendships

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: 10 If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

Real friends are there for you, they carry your burdens and they will encourage you when you are down, pick you up, we need people around us, but good ones.

4) Do you have a mentor? If not, make a list of potential mentors and reach out to find one.

Ask them if they have done this?



1) What is the mission of God?

The idea of "mission" is derived from **Matthew 28:18-20**, where Jesus gives the famous command to "Go and make disciples of all nations." This final charge of Jesus, following His resurrection, is known as the "Great Commission." The word "commission" is defined as "an instruction, command, or duty given to a person or group of people." After His resurrection, Jesus could have directed us toward anything, but He chose to give us a clear directive—a mission He wanted us to accomplish with His assistance and guidance. Imagine a picture of someone who appears to be drowning. This is a powerful representation of the world around us. We are part of this rescue mission, and we are called to engage in it!

- 2) What are some reasons why believers may struggle to engage in discipleship and multiplication, and how can they overcome these challenges?
- 1) They have never been discipled.
- 2) They don't understand how they got to within their faith.

After Salvation is a tool to help them understand how to make disciples in a very simple and easy way.

3) How does Acts 1:8 emphasize the role of the Holy Spirit in carrying out God's mission, and what does it mean to be a witness for Christ?

1) Receive Power:

When you become a Christian, you receive the power of the Holy Spirit in your life.

2) Witnesses:

A witness is someone who testifies to what God has done in their life.

4) What is one way you can become a part of His mission today?

Ask them to reflect on this and give specific examples.



1) What is a disciple?

- A person who believes in and follows Jesus Christ. Matthew 4:19
- A person who is consistent in their obedience. John 14:23
- A person who produces good fruit. John 15:8
- A person who loves others. John 13:35
- A person who is truly committed to God's rescue mission (making other disciples, multiplying). Matthew 28:19
- 2) Is making disciples a duty or an option for Christians? Is it solely the responsibility of pastors, or does it apply to all believers?

A duty of every believer.

No, it is not solely the responsibility of the pastors; we are all called to make disciples **Matthew 28:18-20**

3) What is the ultimate goal of discipleship, and how does spiritual maturity equip believers to fulfill the Great Commission?

The goal of discipleship is "To make people fully dependent on the Lord, not us" as spiritual mentors/leaders/disciplemakers, etc.

Spiritual maturity manifests signs of authentic discipleship, which are answered in question 1: "What is a disciple?" Especially A person who is truly committed to God's rescue mission (making other disciples, multiplying). Matthew 28:19

4) How do we make disciples?

1) We Invite. - Jesus would invite those to follow Him, not just hope people would follow Him (Matthew 4:19). We should be aware when we see signs of spiritual hunger and open hearts around us. It starts with recognizing and simply asking.

2) Keep It Small.

Jesus had a small group of people He focused on called "disciples," but He also ministered one-on-one.

3) Have A Plan.

Jesus would teach His disciples with intentionality, and we should too. Use "After Salvation" leader guide

4) Commit To Spiritual Maturity.

My definition of a "fully mature" believer has full dependence on God.

5) Challenge Them To Replicate/Reproduce (Multiply).



1) Do you truly believe there is an unseen spiritual battle occurring in the spiritual realm? Why or why not?

The spiritual battle is so real.....

We do have the ability to see it raging in front of us, but we have to have eyes to see **(spiritual eyes)**. The more in tune with the Holy Spirit we are, the greater this reality becomes, but also the greater peace, life, and understanding we will have (Romans 8:6).

With that said, it's not like the devil is behind every corner or under every rock. **Do not live in paranoia or fear because we have victory through Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit.** Below are some verses to help us with struggles of fear, or if we feel like we are defeated at times.

2) Why would the enemy want you to think that spiritual warfare is nonexistent, strange, or merely a myth?

Eternity is on the line. Souls will have a destination after this life. It will be either heaven or hell, and a war rages for all souls, even those who are evil people. There is a stigma on spiritual warfare because certain Christians have taken this topic way out of context or emphasized it so much that it feels like satan is an unstoppable force.

The truth is that the enemy doesn't want us to understand the power, freedom, and authority we now possess. If we understood and tapped into that potential, our lives would completely change, and we would become dangerous to the kingdom of darkness. Could you imagine if Christians were all in, not just a little, but 100%, and knew how to fight this battle?

3) How does the enemy use our sinful nature against us, and what steps can we take to resist temptation?

The enemy tries to use our sinful nature against us to discourage and try to destroy us

- We shouldn't walk in fear
- We are more than conquerors
- Victory is through JC
- Be Alert / Be Strong & Courageous

4) Why is spiritual armor important?

Very simply, it helps us defend against the spiritual attacks of a spiritual enemy. Go through each piece of the armor and discuss.



1) What does it mean to be an Ambassador of Christ?

An ambassador is a high-ranking diplomat who represents a state or government. They are usually assigned to another sovereign state or international organization. So in plain terms, just as ambassadors represent their respective countries or governments, Christians represent Christ here on earth. Scripture talks about us being ambassadors for Christ in

2 Corinthians 5:20 - "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God."

2) What fears or obstacles prevent Christians from stepping into their calling, and how can they overcome them?

- Lack of experience
- Not knowing all the answers...
- Fear of what others may think
- Lack of Bible knowledge
- Not fully understanding God's will for their life
- Not enough time in the day

They can simply overcome these obstacles by being a part of the rescue mission. And allow the Lord to guide them and be obedient to the direction he calls each of us uniquely within the context of his mission.

3) How can we develop boldness and confidence to step out in faith and disciple others, even if we feel unqualified?

By going through and using this tool (www.aftersalvation.com or After Salvation App). I want you to feel confident and equipped to help others on their journey. You do not need a seminary degree to make disciples, you just need the desire, boldness, and commitment to step out in faith and do it.

4) Without looking, what are the 4 pillars of After Salvation?



1) What is your testimony? (Write on a separate sheet)

If you haven't yet, work through this... Challenge those you are discipling to really think through this.

2) Did you really write your testimony out?

Ask them to share it....

3) Who will you share your testimony with?

Challenge those you are discipling to share with you who they will tell....



1) How does our culture's "fast and now" mentality negatively impact a Christian's spiritual commitment and growth?

The reason this mentality of "fast and now" is dangerous, especially to the Christian, is that there is a **maturity process that has to take place within the believer.** There is no substitute for time. You will find that scripture and the Holy Spirit will constantly challenge the inward being throughout the course of life. Our being and will (or desires) are very stubborn, and it takes time to be shaped in the image of Christ. We are shaped by our obedience to what God is calling us into.

2) What does it mean to "abide" in Christ, and why is abiding essential for bearing spiritual fruit, as described in John 15?

When you think of a vine and branches, these two parts are woven so perfectly together that they have this unbelievable strength. Since our life is now supposed to be hidden in Christ (Colossians 3:3), we should be woven so tightly together, just like a vine and a branch, that we become "spiritually" strong in Christ.

if we find ourselves apart from God, we will not be able to live out the life He intends: "Apart from me, you can do nothing." We need to have a **strong trust and dependence on God**; that trust and dependence are what form this strong bond in our relationship with God.

3) In what ways did Jesus demonstrate all four pillars (Relationship, Community, Mission, Commitment), and how should that shape our Christian life?

Jesus was **committed** to showing us how to live on earth in **relationship** with the Father. He was also committed to the success of His **community**, the church, by teaching, modeling, and by sending the Spirit of God to equip and guide them. Lastly, Jesus was committed to His **mission** of conquering sin and death through the power of His resurrection, to set people free from the bondage of sin.



1) What could be considered an idol? List all category types?

An idol is a pagan and material effigy that is worshiped as a representation or instead of a deity. So in simpler terms, an idol is anything we worship and place a higher value on than God.

Examples:

- Another world religion.
- When a mother makes her children her world, and nothing else matters.
- The athlete who places a priority on perfecting that sport to a point where he drowns out all distractions in his or her life.
- The man who values his worth by the money he makes, and places his focus and attention solely on his bank account.
- The musician who plays and practices, he or she eats, sleeps, and lives music.

I already know what you are thinking, "Some of these things are not that bad," and you are right. If these desires are rightly prioritized within us, they are not bad.

2) What is the significance of Jesus' strong language in Luke 14:25-35 regarding hating family and possessions? What is he trying to get us to understand?

This scripture points out the reality of the following ideas:

- Your love and commitment towards God should not have any equals.
- There is a cost to truly follow Jesus.
- We must constantly gauge how we're prioritizing God in our lives.

3) What does Deuteronomy 18:10-11 say about sorcery and astrology, and why does God warn against them?

it's important to note that within this same line of thinking, sorcery, and fortune-telling would also need to be considered idol worship. We need to stay far away from the influencers of the world, the enemy.

4) What does it mean to have a "radical commitment" to following Jesus?

Through radical commitment, a real transformation takes place within our minds in how we view God and life. When you have a radical commitment, you are trusting Jesus above all things, and nothing holds a higher value in your life. For most people, there are four main priorities: family, friends, career, and possessions. Shouldn't these things come secondary to the One who gave you all these wonderful gifts in the first place? Following Jesus is a true sacrifice,



1) How does our relationship with God help us understand His will for our lives?

To accomplish the will of the Father, it requires that we know the Father intimately. This is why on the circle diagram we see daily that you see every day, you find "Relationship" at the top, because a relationship is really that important. That is also why we have spent the bulk of our time together understanding our relationship with God.

2) How does Matthew 7:21-23 challenge the idea that simply confessing belief in God doesn't necessarily lead us to true salvation in Christ?

When you accept Christ in your life, you are acknowledging Him as King of your life, ruler of your desires, will, emotions, actions, and thoughts. It's a surrendering of one's life to God. Mere belief in God is just one aspect of real faith. You are handing over your life to God because you know that what He can do in your life far outweighs anything you can do within your strength. Pay attention to the "will of my Father" in **verse 21**. Only God knows what His will is, meaning, what He desires to accomplish for His glory. No human can break down the depth or understanding of how exactly that will play out. So, to accomplish the will of the Father requires that we really know the Father intimately.

3) What is the connection between faith, commitment, and God's will, as shown in Proverbs 3:5-6?

Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and He will make your paths straight.

In verse 5, the word "trust" communicates belief or faith in God. Next, the phrase "with all your heart" expresses the thought of a full commitment to your belief or faith. After that, it says, "lean not on your understanding." This helps the believer to identify that when we have genuine faith, we shift our priority from trusting ourselves only to trusting God fully. Starting in verse 6, it says, "in all your ways submit." This again pushes us to be fully committed and surrender our thoughts, ideas, desires, etc., before the Lord. If we do this, there is a promise that follows at the end of verse 6, "He will make your paths straight." Making our paths straight means God has full control of every part of our life; therefore, we are in a posture of active listening and willing to be obedient to what He says to us. If all the conditions that we just talked about are met, this enables God to show us His will and purpose for our lives.

4) Why can't we rely on others' experiences to understand God's will for our own lives?

God's will for your life, individually, will look different from your friend, family member, or pastor. We cannot inherit the will of God from others, nor borrow from others' experiences to understand His will. There are no patterns or shortcuts. The Father's will for us is developed solely through a relationship over a lifetime with Him.



1) Why does spiritual maturity matter?

In short, helps us to grow into the deepest possible relationship with God here on earth.

- helps us to overcome sin and the attack of the enemy.
- Keeps on track with our relationship with God.
- Helps us to understand his will and keeps us on track with what God called us to.

2) How do you know if you are spiritually mature?

What is a fully mature believer?

"Spiritual maturity is a Christ-centered commitment to relationship, community, and the mission of God. (4 Pillars)

Colossians 1:28

28 He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ.

3) Why is consistency considered one of the hardest spiritual disciplines to develop, and how does it impact maturity?

Because we still battle with our sinful nature, we must take up our cross daily and die to ourselves. Consistency is not a call to perfection but rather a call to daily surrender. A lack of consistency can stunt the believer's spiritual maturity.

4) What is the author's hope that the 4 pillars of After Salvation will instill in you?

That it would be a spiritual gauge to help you examine your spiritual life on a daily or weekly basis, and that it would lead the believer into full maturity and dependence on God.



1) How can emotions mislead us in our understanding of God's love in our lives?

We must learn how to separate our emotions. What I mean by that is, that just because you're having a rough day, it doesn't mean God is mad at you. Also, just because you might not be in the job or role that you want to be in, it doesn't mean God is trying to hold out on you because you must not have great faith. In **Hebrews**13:8 it says, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

2) What is quenching the Holy Spirit, and why is that considered bad in our lives as believers?

In <u>1 Thessalonians 5:19</u>, it says, "Do not quench the Spirit." This is probably one of the hardest things to be sensitive to as a committed Christian. How do we know if we are quenching the Spirit of God in our lives? The tension comes when the believers become out of balance within their spiritual life. To quench the Holy Spirit means we stop listening to the correction and guidance of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

3) How does Hebrews 6:19 describe the role of Jesus as our anchor during tough times?

The Lord is our anchor and in <u>Hebrews 6:19</u> it says, "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure." Jesus never promises a life without difficult times. He tells us there will be trouble, but there is good news in even knowing this. In <u>John 16:33</u>, it says, "I have told you these things, so that in me, you may have peace. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

4) Now that you have completed After Salvation, do you feel you could lead someone else on this journey? If so, who is one person you sense could benefit from this?

Challenge them to think of some if they haven't already, then challenge them to go make a disciple:)