

THE GREAT COMMISSION

DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY

- WORKBOOK -

SAMUEL M. MWANGI
ISAAC N. MAINA



www.pipesinternational.org
info@pipesinternational.org
A PIPES INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATION

THE GREAT COMMISSION DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY
Copyright @ 2020 PIPES INTERNATIONAL

Revised Edition 2021

ENGLISH VERSION ISBN 978-9914-9852-9-0

Other Translated Editions

SWAHILI VERSION ISBN 978-9914-9852-7-6

FRENCH VERSION ISBN 978-9914-9852-4-5

URDU VERSION ISBN 978-9914-9852-8-3

KINYARWANDA VERSION ISBN 978-9914-9852-3-8

KIRUNDI VERSION ISBN 978-9914-9852-5-2

KIKUYU VERSION ISBN 978-9914-9852-6-9

All rights reserved.

Cover design and cover photos: Stuart Isaac Harrier, Marketing & Communication
Director, PIPES International, USA

Vector Credits: www.freepik.com

Content Editors: Pastor Samuel Mwangi, PIPES International, USA.
Pastor Isaac Maina, PIPES International, Kenya
Mr. Peter Kamau Ngure, The Olive Marketing and Publishing Co. Ltd,
Nairobi, Kenya.

Scripture quotations are taken from The Holy Bible, New King James Version (NKJV).
Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.

Published in Kenya by;



The Olive Marketing and Publishing Company Ltd.

P. O. Box 816 Sarit Centre - 00606

Nairobi, Kenya.

Email: info@tomplimited.com

Web: www.tomplimited.com

For the book copies, language translations, and facilitators training, please contact:

Africa office: Isaac Maina (Isaac@pipesinternational.org)

Asia office: Victor Sirdar (info@pipesinternational.org)

International office: Samuel Mwangi (samuel@pipesinternational.org)

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without permission of the copyright owner and the publisher.

CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	iv
Introduction to The Discipleship Pathway Workbook.....	vi
How to use this Book	ix
A Twelve-Month Lesson Plan and Completion Record.....	xiii
Chapter 1: Salvation: The Gospel	1
Chapter 2: Sin	7
Chapter 3: The Law	14
Chapter 4: Jesus, the Savior.....	20
Chapter 5: Crucifixion, Death, Burial, Resurrection, and Ascension	27
Chapter 6: Assurance of Salvation.....	32
Chapter 7: Victorious Christian Living	36
Chapter 8: Christian Doctrines	48
Chapter 9: The Great Commission	53
Chapter 10: Multiplying Disciples	60
Chapter 11: A Disciplined Christian Life.....	65
Chapter 12: Finishing well as Faithful Stewards.....	73
Overall summary of the Discipleship Pathway.....	79
Appendix 1: Part 2: Reading the New Testament in one year	80
Appendix 2: Divisions of the books of the Bible according to their classifications.....	83
A Prayer of Repentance.....	84
About PIPES International	85
About the Authors	88

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The study materials were developed by PIPES International staff led by **Pastor Samuel Mwangi** (Founder and President), **Pastor Isaac Maina** (Africa Coordinator), **Missionary Jane Kamuya** (Rwanda & Burundi Coordinator), and **Pastor Victor Sirdar** (Asia Coordinator).

I want to thank PIPES church partners who endured many weeks of meetings to ensure the workbook's completion.

I am sincerely thankful for the contributions that a variety of people have made to this workbook. I particularly want to thank the team of ministers from Africa, Asia, and the United States who helped to ensure that we have addressed core areas of discipleship.

Special thanks to the following people who have contributed towards the making of this Discipleship workbook.

- PIPES International Board of Directors, USA.
- Bishop Joseph Kamanza, Founder and Bishop, Victory Churches of Rwanda.
- Rev. James E. Ngahu, Priest, Anglican Church, Diocese of Nairobi, Kenya.
- Rev. Peter Kamau, Senior Pastor, Tatu Chapel-Ruiru, Kenya.
- Samuel Mwitii, Trinity Fellowship (TF), Nairobi, Kenya.
- Mr. Peter Macharia, Senior Director of Operations, World Concern, USA.
- Rev. Bernard Kambale, Eglise Gloire de Dieu (EGD), DR Congo.
- Bishop Jean Bosco, Fountain of Life churches, Bujumbura, Burundi.
- Peter W. Kanake & Damaris K. Karago, PCEA, Nyamachaki Church, Nyeri, Kenya.
- Pastor Rose Shiku, Effective Global Training, California, USA.
- Rev. Jason Kabera, Abundant Life Family Chapel, Nairobi, Kenya.
- Pastor Steve Magua, The Well Church, Missouri, USA.
- Rev. Samuel Kaberere, Living Gospel Assembly Church, Kiritiri, Kenya.
- Rev. William Wachira, KAG-Sagana, Kenya.
- Rev. Peter Kailiti, Deliverance Church Cornerstone, Githurai, Kenya.

- Missionary John Ndegwa, Christ is the Answer Ministries - CITAM, Kenya.
- Rev. Robert Kiama Ndirangu, Kingdom Glorious Tabernacle Church, Seattle, USA.
- Rev. John Thuku, KAG, Malindi, Kenya.
- Clement Karuri Kinyanjui, Nairobi based editor, Nairobi, Kenya.
- Bishop Simon Mwangi Muriithi, Full Gospel Churches of Kenya, Kiambu, Kenya.
- Bishop Armstrong Cheggeh, Founder, Fountain of Life churches, USA.
- Missionary Bernard Mungai and Jane Kamau, BCOM, Burundi.

Special thanks to Mr. Kamau Ngure and The Olive Marketing and Publishing Company Ltd team for providing helpful insights through the concept development, editorial coordination, book layout, and the final publication of this workbook.

I want to thank Pastor Isaac Maina, who played a significant role in developing this workbook. We consulted every day to ensure the book is of the highest standard.

I sincerely thank our partners who gave their financial resources to make this project possible. May God richly bless you for your generosity.

My earnest appreciation to my dear wife, Esther Mwangi, and my son, Sammy Mwangi Jr., who endured my absence as I put many hours developing the materials. Their encouragement and support motivated my team and me to complete the project successfully.

Most of all, to the only true God, the King of kings, and lord of Lords. To Him be glory, majesty, power, and authority through Jesus Christ, our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

With Gratitude,

Pastor Samuel Mwangi

Founder & President

Partnership for Indigenous Peoples-PIPES International.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY WORKBOOK

Over two thousand years ago, Jesus sent out His disciples (followers) to go and make disciples of all nations (*Matthew 28:18-20*). The disciples and the early church passionately fulfilled the commission that Jesus gave them.

Today, the Christian community continues to spread the gospel to those who do not know Jesus. The responsibility to reach the world and to disciple men and women lies in the body of Christ or the church. Every Christian must be involved in the Great Commission. A new believer is disciplined to become mature so that he or she can disciple others.

Paul disciplined Timothy and asked him to entrust the teaching to faithful men who would teach others as well.

Today, we need to establish disciple-making movements to help accelerate disciples making disciples. These movements will transform communities, establish fellowships, plant churches, and turn the world to Jesus.

FIRST OBJECTIVE OF THIS WORKBOOK ▲

The primary objective of this workbook is to help believers to be rooted in Christ. The workbook explains how to walk the journey of faith as a believer and an ambassador of Christ. Believers must be nourished with spiritual food to grow. The word of God is the food we feed on every day and grow to become more like Christ. The goal of discipleship is to help believers mature spiritually and become ambassadors who spread the word of God to other people.

SECOND OBJECTIVE OF THIS WORKBOOK ▲

The second objective is to help church leaders, pastors, and mature Christians to take up the challenge to disciple others. Remember discipleship process is not a program or an activity in the church. It's a LIFESTYLE. Jesus commanded us to GO and MAKE DISCIPLES. Church leaders and mature Christians can

train people to make disciples. Each believer should have one or more people they meet regularly to read the word of God together, pray, and discuss real-life issues.

2 Timothy 2:2 says, “And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

This process of disciple-making does not just happen. We must be intentional in executing a disciple-making plan.

INTRODUCTION TO DISCIPLES AND DISCIPLESHIP ▲

OUR BIBLICAL MANDATE TO DISCIPLE-MAKING. ▲

Jesus, after His resurrection, authoritatively gave the Great Commission to His disciples. *Matthew 28:18-20* says,

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

As disciples of Jesus today, this remains our core mission here on earth. We seek the lost and bring them to the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

CONVERSION ▲

Conversion happens when one turns away from a life of sin and worldliness and turns to God through faith in Christ Jesus. *Acts 3:19* says, “Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.” Conversion is the first step in this journey of discipleship. One is now a believer. It means one has believed, repented, and confessed Jesus as Lord and Savior. After conversion, you become a follower of Jesus Christ or a disciple. The next step is to mature in faith through studying God’s word (what this workbook is about), praying, and fellowshiping with other believers.

WHO IS A DISCIPLE? ▲

The word disciple is used in the Bible to describe the relationship between Jesus and his followers. People referred to Jesus as Rabbi (teacher) and his followers as disciples (learners). The word “disciple” means a learner, a pupil, or a student. He or she is a follower of someone else. A disciple is someone who has decided to follow Christ in everyday life. Disciples are imitators of their teachers. Christians imitate Christ. Jesus said, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.”- (*John 8:31*). Jesus disciples were first called Christians in Antioch (*Acts 11:26*)

A disciple is attached to a teacher, and he or she follows his teaching. The teacher must be willing, available, and knowledgeable. You cannot give what you do not have. Paul told Timothy, “*Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.*” *2 Timothy 1:13*.

Jesus calls us to be His disciples and He changes our hearts as we learn from Him, then uses us to bring more disciples to Him. *Mark 1: 17* says, Then Jesus said to them, “*Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.*”

The three lessons that we learn from this are:

1. **Follow me:** A disciple knows and follows Christ (**HEAD**)
2. **I will make you become:** A disciple is being changed by Christ (**HEART**)
3. **Fishers of men:** A disciple is committed to the mission of Christ. (**HANDS**). (*Putnam & Harrington-Disciple shift*)

For the purpose of this workbook, we will use the word “learners” to describe the Bible study group members. This word effectively represents all categories of participants, be they students, church fellowship groups, community fellowship clusters, or any other organized small groups of bible study teams.

WHAT IS DISCIPLESHIP? ▲

Discipleship is the process by which mature Christians commit to an extended period of time to help new believers to grow in faith to maturity. We help new believers to embrace and treasure Jesus as savior. We bring people to Christ and grow them up to what they ought to be as Christians. To act and walk as Christians or disciples of Jesus. Every Christian should help unbelievers know Christ and help believers grow.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

PART 1 ▴

STUDY TWELVE CHAPTERS ORGANIZED INTO FOUR (4) LESSONS IN EACH CHAPTER. ▴

If you study the workbook as an individual or a family, you may choose how often you want to study the workbook. We encourage you to be consistent—Once, twice or three times a week. If you are a regular church or fellowship, you may choose to hold a Bible study once or twice a week. Whichever the choice, use the outline in The Twelve Chapter Lesson Plan provided. The lessons include teachings, discussions, questions, and activities.

SAMPLE BIBLE STUDY LESSONS - CHAPTER ONE ▴

1. Creator's love
2. Deeply sinful
3. Fully forgiven
4. Personal confession

PART 2 ▴

NEW TESTAMENT READING IN ONE YEAR. ▴

We have outlined a weekly reading of the New Testament to help learners read the entire NT in one year. Each week, the learner will read six chapters, as outlined in Appendix 1. After each week's readings, you will discuss selected topics during your regular Bible study. Below are some sample readings, discussions, and assignments for the first chapter. For the rest of the chapters, learners and facilitators will generate questions from the New Testament readings using the same format as the samples given below. During the discussion, learners will narrate the story, discuss lessons learned and applications in one's life, family, community, and today's society.

NEW TESTAMENT SAMPLE DISCUSSIONS & ASSIGNMENTS ▴



WEEK 1: ASSIGNMENT.

You have already read *Matthew Chapters 1-6*.

Discussion: *Matthew 1:18-25*

(Without reading, narrate the story of the birth of Jesus)

1. What is so unique about the birth of Jesus?
(An example is the Virgin birth)
2. How does the passage explain the plan for salvation?
(*Matthew 1:21-23*)
3. What is the purpose of the genealogy in the book of Matthew?



WEEK 2: ASSIGNMENT.

You have already read *Matthew Chapters 7-12*.

Discussion: *Matthew 8:5-13*

(Without reading, narrate the story about the healing of Centurion's servant)

1. How does a chain of command work in society and nations?
2. How did Jesus exercise His authority over sicknesses in chapters 7-12?
3. Why did Jesus marvel about the Centurion's faith?



WEEK 3: ASSIGNMENT.

You have already read *Matthew Chapters 13-18*.

Discussion: *Matthew 13:3-23*

(Without reading narrate the story of the sower)

1. What happened to the seeds that fell on the various four grounds?
2. How are Christians today prevented from bearing fruits by persecution, worries, and wealth?
3. What is the role of using stories to share the gospel?



WEEK 4: ASSIGNMENT.

You have already read *Matthew Chapters 19-24*

Discussion: *Matthew 21: 18-22*

(Without reading narrate the story of the Fig tree)

1. Discuss the reasons why Jesus cursed the fig tree.
2. Why were the disciples surprised that the fig tree withered away so soon?
3. What lessons do you learn about faith and prayer?

FACILITATORS PREPARATION ▴



BEFORE EACH STUDY

- Prepare your heart in prayer.
- Study the passage and go through the questions.
- Read the Bible references again.
- Use a Bible commentary or other useful reference materials (where possible) for better understanding.
- Write summarized notes in your notebook to use during the group study.



In the passage, look for:

- a) **Observation:** Observation helps learners observe from scriptures what is going on (Facts, characters, repeated words, and important phrases).
TRY TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS: Who? What? When? Where? Why?
- b) **Interpretation:** It helps to understand the meaning of the scriptures.
- c) **Application:** Helps us apply the scriptures to life, family, church, ministry, and nation.

FACILITATORS PREPARATION Cont'd ▲



DURING THE STUDY

1. Begin each study with prayer led by the facilitator or a group member.
2. Review the previous lesson.
3. Introduce the topic of the day (2-3 minutes).
4. Encourage each member to participate.
5. Follow the questions in the study.
6. End the study with a prayer.

PLEASE NOTE: We have developed a free facilitator's manual, which is available on our website for free download. Please download it for guidelines on how to use the workbook. www.pipesinternational.org

A TWELVE-MONTH LESSON PLAN AND COMPLETION RECORD

	#	PAGE	LESSONS	DATE COMPLETED
1.	1	1	Creator's love	
	2	3	Deeply sinful	
	3	3	Fully forgiven	
	4	4	Personal Confession	
2	1	6	God and creation	
	2	7	The fall of man	
	3	8	The consequences of sin	
	4	9	The Patriarchs – Noah and Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph	
3	1	12	Moses and the Exodus	
	2	13	The Law and The Priests	
	3	14	The Judges and The Kings	
	4	15	The Prophets	
4	1	17	The birth of Jesus	
	2	19	Ministry	
	3	21	Betrayal	
	4	22	Jesus before the rulers	
5	1	25	Crucifixion	
	2	26	Death and burial	
	3	27	The resurrection	
	4	28	The ascension	
6	1	30	You need to know that God has saved you	
	2	30	God gave, and whoever believes in Him.	
	3	30	Will not perish but have eternal life	
	4	31	Benefits of the assurance of Salvation	

	#	PAGE	LESSONS	DATE COMPLETED
7	1	34	The Word	
	2	36	Prayer	
	3	39	Fellowship	
	4	40	Evangelism	
8	1	45	Trinity, God the Father, and the Son	
	2	46	The Holy Spirit	
	3	47	Gifts of the Spirit and the Fruit of the Spirit	
	4	48	Tenets of Faith	
9	1	51	The Great Commission	
	2	52	Practical steps in fulfilling the Great Commission	
	3	53	Water baptism	
	4	54	The Twelve Disciples of Jesus Christ	
10	1	57	Multiplying disciples	
	2	58	Discipleship Multiplication Model of Jesus.	
	3	59	Discipleship Multiplication Model of Paul.	
	4	60	Practical application	
11	1	61	The purity of life	
	2	63	Temptations	
	3	65	Servant Leadership	
	4	66	Build family as God intended	
12	1	69	Finishing well	
	2	70	Bible characters who finished well and those who failed	
	3	71	Four potential dangers	
	4	71	Faithful Stewardship	

Chapter One



SALVATION: THE GOSPEL



"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

John 3:16.



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, learners should be able to;

- Explain the concept of Salvation.
- Explain the four basic principles of salvation.
- Describe the sacrifice that Jesus made for our sins.

THE FOUR BASIC SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES OF SALVATION



Lesson 1: CREATOR'S LOVE



WHAT IS SALVATION?

We will start our study by defining the word salvation. It is the conversion that takes place when one believes and confesses Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and extends to living with God's presence forever. Salvation means to be rescued from the kingdom of darkness, eternal condemnation and brought

into the kingdom of light which is eternal life. Conversion is made possible by the power of the Holy Spirit. We use the term being “born again” from a previous state of separation from God. You must be born again - (*John 3:1-7*).

When we say that we are saved, we mean that we have been reconciled to God. We are a New Creation.

- i) **RECONCILIATION:** Refers to the restoration of the relationship of two people who had fallen out. Reconciled to God: Through Jesus, we have been reconciled back to a relationship with God.

Rom 5: 11, 2 Corinthians 5: 18.

- ii) **NEW CREATION.** *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new”.*

2 Corinthians 5: 17.

To study the story of creation, read *Genesis 1 and 2*.

In this study, we learn that God created human beings. God created the universe and everything in it. He created man and woman with a purpose. He called them to “be fruitful and multiply” (*Genesis 1:28*) and to take care of the Garden of Eden (*Genesis 2:15*). We also see that we are wonderfully made by our loving Creator God wanted to be in fellowship with human beings in a perfect relationship.

“¹³For You formed my inward parts; you covered me in my mother’s womb. ¹⁴I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. ¹⁵My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.”

Psalms 139: 13-15.

From *Genesis 1 and 2*, look for:

- ☒ **Observation:** Facts, characters, repeated words, and important phrases. For example, let there be. It was good. It was very good. Let us make. TRY TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS: Who? What? When? Where? Why?
- ☒ **Interpretation:** What is the meaning of issues observed?
- ☒ **Application:** How does this apply to my life, family, church, ministry, and nation?



Conclusions

- We see the beginning of the universe and humanity.
- We will later see the beginning of sin, civilization, and the Jewish nation.
- *Genesis 1* gives an outline, and Chapter 2 gives a detailed account elaborating on the outline in Genesis chapter 1.

Note: We will cover more on creation (~~Genesis 1 and 2~~ in Chapter two)



Lesson 2: DEEPLY SINFUL

Man is deeply fallen due to sin (*Genesis 3*).



In *Genesis 3*, man sinned by disobeying God. He ate the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil. Man sinned and became aware of the sin and hid from God. *Romans 3:23* says, “*for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*” In *Romans 3: 9-20*, Paul describes the sinful state and unworthiness we are in due to sinful nature. No one is righteous, not even one.

Romans 6:23 says, “*For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*”

There are consequences for sin.

In *Genesis 3*, we make the following observation:

☒ **Observation:**

- The cunning Serpent is introduced for the first time.
- The dialogue about the forbidden tree.
- Sin enters the world, and God confronts Adam and Eve for disobedience.

☒ **Interpretation & Application:**

- Man is sinful and sin separates us from God.
- We are all sinful due to the original sin.

Note: More details on sin will be discussed later in the 2nd Chapter under the fall of Man.



Lesson 3: FULLY FORGIVEN

Man is fully forgiven and reconciled back to God.



Read *Genesis 3:15*, *Leviticus 4*, *Hebrews 10:1-18*, and *John 3:16*.

In *Leviticus 4*, God gave the Israelites the sacrificial system. They sacrificed bulls and goats to cleanse sins. They repeatedly sacrificed every time they sinned. After man sinned against God in *Genesis 3*, God in His mercy promised that One would redeem us from sin (*Genesis 3:15*). In accordance with the promise, God sent JESUS to die for our sins. Jesus is the ultimate sacrifice. He is the Way, the truth and the life. (*John 14:6*).

In *Hebrews 10:1-18*, the writer explains how the Israelites had to sacrifice annually. It was a reminder of the guilt of their sins. The blood of bulls and goats could not take away their sins forever. They had to sacrifice animals repeatedly.

However, Jesus came to be the ultimate sacrifice. He came to die for our sins once and for all.

God loved us and sent Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for our sins. Whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. He died and rose again. The only way to God is through Jesus Christ. (*John 14:6*). Through Jesus, we can be forgiven. We must choose to trust in Jesus so that our sins can be taken away.

In *John 3:16*, we see that God loved the world and gave His son to die for our sins. Jesus, the perfect sacrifice, atoned our sins-once and for all. Therefore, when we believe in Jesus, our sins are forgiven.



Lesson 4: PERSONAL CONFESSION



Romans 10:9-10 says, "...⁹that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation".

Salvation comes through believing in your heart that God has raised Jesus from the dead and confessing with your mouth that He is Lord. It's not complicated. You connect with God when you hear the truth of the gospel and respond. When you believe in Jesus, you start a new life, and it lasts forever. We shall rule and reign forever with Jesus (*Revelation 22:5*).

As a messenger of the good news, it is important to preach the simple gospel that Christ died for our sins, he was buried, and that He rose again on the third day - (*1 Corinthians 15:3-4*). Also, give your listeners a chance to respond to the message. They may just be "an ask away," and may be ready to surrender their lives to Christ.

John 1:12-13 says: "12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

Summary ABC (Admit, Believe, Confess)

- ☒ **ADMIT** you are a sinner.
- ☒ **BELIEVE** that Jesus died for your sins and that God raised Him from the dead.
- ☒ **CONFESS** with your mouth that Jesus is your Lord and Savior.



Answer the questions below:

Q1 (a) Compare Genesis chapters 1 and 2.

.....

(b) Explain the four (4) spiritual principles of salvation.

i).

ii).

iii).

iv).

(c) List and explain the ABC's of salvation.

.....

.....

Q2. Fill in the blank spaces. *2 Corinthians 5: 17*:

Therefore, if anyone is in _____, he is a _____ ;

things have passed away; behold, all things have become _____ .

Summary and application

- ☒ God created human beings with love and fellowship.
- ☒ Genesis 1 and 2 explain the beginnings of the Universe and Humanity.
- ☒ Salvation is the conversion that takes place after one believes and confesses Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- ☒ There are four spiritual principles for salvation; **Love, Sin, Forgiveness** (through Jesus Christ who is the way, the truth and the life), and **Confession of Jesus as Lord and Savior**.



ACTIVITY

Describe how you could use the ABCs of salvation as a summary on how to share the gospel. Include a scripture in each case.

Chapter Two



SIN



*"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."
Genesis 3:15.*



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, learners should be able to;

- State and explain some of the attributes of God.
- Discuss the origin of sin and the consequences of sin.
- Discuss God's plan for salvation (*Genesis 3:15*) and (*Genesis 12*). Describe the significance of Abraham in the story of salvation.



Lesson 1: GOD AND CREATION

Genesis 1 and 2.



Psalms 24:1 "The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein."

Genesis starts with a prologue and then gives a detailed account of heaven and earth.

1. *Genesis 1:1-2:3* is the prologue, which sets the story in motion.
2. *Genesis 2:4-4:26* is the account of the heavens and the earth.

3. **Genesis 5:1-6:8** is the account of Adam.
4. **Genesis 6:9-9:29** is the account of Noah.
5. Then follows Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Part of Jacob's story is his son Joseph.

In Genesis, God puts everything in order. He has no beginning or end. He is the Alpha and Omega. As we look at the accounts of creation, we want to look at God's attributes.

Here are some of the attributes of God our Creator.

- **Omnipresence** - He is everywhere
(*Psalm 139:7-10, Jeremiah 23:23-24*).
- **Omniscient** - He knows everything
(*Isaiah 46:9-10*).
- **Omnipotent** - He is all-powerful
(*Psalm 33:6, Job 11:7-11*).
- **Self-existent** - He does not depend on anything or anyone in order to exist
(*Colossians 1:17, Psalm 147:5*).
- **Holy** - He is without sin and does not sin
(*Revelation 4:8, Matthew 5:48*).
- **Righteous** - He does what is right
(*Deuteronomy. 32:4*).
- **Sole creator** - He created all; the visible and the invisible
(*Genesis 1, 2*).

Genesis 1:1 opens with the words, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." God is the creator! On the sixth day, God created the first human (Adam) and out of Adam, He created a helper (Eve) for him. God rested on the 7th day.

THE FIRST PARENTS:

Read and discuss **Genesis 1 and 2**.

We learn that God created man (Adam) first and later created woman (Eve) out of Adam's rib. He put them in the Garden of Eden.

Discuss the meaning and application of the scripture below.

- **Genesis 1:26** (Let us make man in our image).
- **Genesis 1: 28** (Be fruitful and multiply).
- **Genesis 2:24** (Therefore, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh).



Lesson 2: THE FALL OF MAN

Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-13



Adam and Eve were created in a state of innocence but with the power of choice.

In **Genesis 2:16-17** God gave Adam the freedom to eat from any tree in the garden but warned him not to eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God said, *“but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”*

In **Genesis 3:1-14**, the two gave in to Satan’s temptation and ate the forbidden fruit. Their eyes were opened and they realized that they were both naked. They hid while God came looking for them. Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed Satan for their transgression (SIN).

Satan tempted them and they yielded to the temptation and failed the test. Thus, sin entered the world and man was separated from God.

We learn that:

- God commanded man not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
- We then see the mention of Satan tempting Eve.
- Eve ate the fruit and gave her husband, who also ate the fruit.
- Humans have the power of choice to make decisions, whether good or bad.
- We must resist the devil and his deceptions.

What followed are the consequences of sin (**Genesis 3:14-24**).



Lesson 3: THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN



God is Holy and righteous. He does not tolerate sin. We will share with you the consequences that Adam and Eve faced due to their disobedience to God- *Genesis 3:14-24*.

Eve

- i). Pain in childbearing.
- ii). Her desire will be that of her husband who will rule over her.

Adam

- i). The ground was cursed and he would toil to eat all the days of his life.
- ii). Sufferings (thorns and thistles).
- iii). Sweating in order to eat.
- iv). Relationship between God and man was broken -they were driven out of the Garden of Eden.

Both (Adam and Eve)

- i) Spiritual death. In the day that you eat from it, you will surely die.

Serpent

- i). Cursed above all animals.
- ii). Condemned to crawl on its belly and eat dust all the days of its life.
- iii). The enmity between it and the woman and between its seed and the Seed of the woman.
- iv). The Seed of the woman shall crush its head.

On the consequences of sin, we learn that:

- Sin came through one man.
- Short term pleasure of sin leads to long term pain.



Lesson 4: THE PATRIARCHS



THE PROMISE

i) The first promise:

In *Genesis 3:15*, God promised that the Seed of the woman (Jesus Christ) shall bruise Satan's head.

ii) Noah: The preacher of righteousness:

In *Genesis chapters 6-10*, God preserved humanity. Sins multiplied, and God regretted creating man. In *Genesis 6:7*, God wanted to wipe out the human race from the face of the earth by the flood but Noah found favor in God's eyes and was preserved together with his wife, their three sons, and their wives. God instructed Noah to build an ark and they were saved from the flood.

In *Genesis 6:18*, God told Noah, *"But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you."*

iii) Abraham: The father of Faith:

Abram (Abraham) descended from one of Noah's sons, Shem (*Genesis 11:10-26*). God called Abram out of his own country, family, and people. He started the journey accompanied by his wife, Sarai and his brother's son, Lot. God promised him that in him all the families of the earth would be blessed. (*Genesis 12:1-4*). Abram totally believed and obeyed God. God declared Abram righteous because of his faith in Him. (*Genesis 15: 6*).

God informed Abraham about the future captivity of his descendants:

Genesis 15:13-14 says, ¹³ *"Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. ¹⁴ And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions."*

God later changed Abram's name to Abraham and Sarai's name to Sarah (*Genesis 17:5 and Genesis 17:15*), respectively.

iv) Isaac: The promised son.

Sarai was barren (*Genesis 11:30*), but when Abram was 75 years old, God promised him a child. Sarai was 65 years old then.

God lived up to His promise whereby 25 years later, God blessed them with a son, Isaac, the son of the promise.

Isaac married Rebecca (who was barren), and they were blessed with twins after 20 years (*Genesis 25:21-26*). The twins were Esau (firstborn) and Jacob.

God chose Jacob to carry on with His plan.

v) Jacob: His names changed to Israel:

Jacob married two wives Rachel and Leah. He had 12 sons and a daughter (Dinah). The sons came to be referred to as the 12 tribes of Israel. The sons were:

- | | | | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. Reuben. | 2. Simon | 3. Levi. | 4. Judah | 5. Issachar | 6. Zebulun |
| 7. Gad | 8. Asher | 9. Dan | 10. Naphtali. | 11. Joseph | |
| 12. Benjamin | | | | | |

God changed Jacob's name to Israel. (*Genesis 32:28*)

vi) Joseph: The loved son.

Rachel bore two sons; Joseph and Benjamin. God chose Joseph for His plan and allowed him to be sold as a slave in Egypt. God was with him, and after going through and overcoming trials and temptations, he became the second in command after King Pharaoh in Egypt. His family of 70 people moved to Egypt and settled at Goshen in Egypt. God used Joseph to save many from hunger, including his family. Later, Jacob died and Joseph too.



Answer the questions

Q1. Quote *Psalms 24:1* from memory

.....

.....

Q2. Describe how sin damaged God's creation and His relationship with humanity.

Q3. Discuss God's restoration plan for mankind from the book of Genesis?

Q4. Who do we regard as the father of Faith, and why?

Summary and application

- ☒ God has no beginning and no end.
- ☒ He has attributes that are righteous, holy, just and He does not change.
- ☒ He created and sustains everything that exists.
- ☒ The first people God created (Adam and Eve) sinned against Him and the nature of sin was subsequently passed on to all who are born in this world. This tells us that man needs a Savior.
- ☒ God loved man and had a plan for the salvation of man.
- ☒ Abraham was chosen by God to become the father of faith and receive the promise of salvation for all nations - **Genesis 12:1-3**
- ☒ Jacob, Abraham's grandson, was chosen by God and his name was changed from Jacob to Israel. He was blessed with 12 sons who became the 12 tribes of Israel.
- ☒ One of Jacob's sons, Joseph, was sold to Egypt by his brothers but God was with him and made him great. Joseph died and the Israelites were greatly oppressed.

ACTIVITY

Read **Matthew 24: 36-44** and discuss;

1. The similarities between the days of Noah and the last days.
2. How should we prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ?

Chapter Three



THE LAW



"The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear"
Deuteronomy 18:15.



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, learners should be able to;

- Describe God's way of dealing with His people during the time of law; from Moses to the time of the prophets.
- Describe how the Ten Commandments relate to us today.
- Describe the roles of Priests, Judges, Kings, and Prophets in Israel.



Lesson 1: MOSES AND THE EXODUS

Read Exodus chapters 1-5 and chapter 14.



DELIVERANCE OF ISRAELITES FROM EGYPT

Other references: (Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy).

After many years, the number of Hebrews (the sons of Israel) had greatly increased. There came a pharaoh who did not know about Joseph and he feared that the great number of the Hebrews would one day overpower them.

He therefore, ordered the oppression of the Israelites. He went further and ordered for the killing of the Hebrews' male sons immediately after their birth. Moses was born during these terrifying times but God preserved him.

Moses was taken by pharaoh's daughter, who later, unknowingly, gave the child to its biological mother for weaning. When he was of age, Moses killed an Egyptian whom he found beating a Hebrew. His life was in danger and he fled to Midian. God appeared to him there and sent him back to Egypt to deliver the Israelites from bondage to Canaan.

I HAVE SEEN, HEARD, AND I KNOW

Exodus 3: 5-7 says, “⁵Then He said, “Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.” ⁶Moreover He said, “I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God. ⁷And the LORD said: “I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows”.

In the next three lessons, we will learn about the Law, the Priests, the Judges, the Kings, and the Prophets. **Reference (Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, 1 and 2 Chronicles, and books of the prophets).**

The Israelites often rebelled against God. God sent different groups of people to warn, correct, and offer them the chance to turn back to Him. He would often punish them for their sins and forgive them when they repent. God's judgments were redemptive in nature- they were meant to make His people acknowledge their sins and turn back to Him. We will now explain how God dealt with His people.



Lesson 2: THE LAW AND THE PRIESTS



THE LAW

It was given by God to Moses for the Israelites at Mt. Sinai. It contained strict rules, guidelines and regulations on how they were to live. They always fell short of its standards and demands.

The Ten Commandments.

Exodus 20:1-17:

1. You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image.
3. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
5. Honor your father and your mother that your days may be long.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
10. You shall not covet.

THE PRIESTS

They repeatedly offered sacrifices of specific animals before God on behalf of the people to atone for their sins and the sins of the people.

Here are some of them:

- **Aaron** – The first priest of Israel who served during the time of his younger brother, Moses.
- **Eli** – He was entrusted with the care of young Prophet Samuel.
- **Zechariah** – The father of John the Baptist who served during the time of Jesus.
- Other priests are **Eleazar** and **Phinehas**.



Lesson 3: THE JUDGES AND THE KINGS



THE JUDGES (*Judges 2:1-23*)

They were chosen by God to judge and deliver the Israelites from bondage. This was a cycle when the Israelites sinned, God sent judgment using the enemies to oppress them. They then cried to God and He would send a judge to help them and forgive them.

Here are some of the Judges.

- **Deborah** – She was a prophetess and the only woman who was a judge in Israel.

- **Gideon** – He was from the tribe of Manasseh, which was the weakest tribe.
- **Samson** – He led Israel against the Philistines and had supernatural strength.
- **Samuel** – He was a prophet and the last judge of Israel.
- Other judges are **Othniel** and **Ehud**.

THE KINGS - (1 Samuel 8:1-9)

The Israelites wanted to be like other nations and asked Samuel to give them a king. The first king was Saul who was later rejected by God and David was chosen instead. David was promised an everlasting Kingdom through Jesus Christ. (2 Samuel 7: 12-17). In fulfillment, Jesus was born from the lineage of David.

Here are some of the Kings:

- **Saul** – He was the first King of Israel but God rejected him because of his disobedience.
- **David** – He was the youngest of the sons of Jesse. He was anointed by prophet Samuel and succeeded Saul.
- **Solomon** – He succeeded his father David. He built the temple in Jerusalem. He married many pagan wives who led him astray.
- Other kings are **Rehoboam**, **Jeroboam**, and **Ahab**.



Lesson 4: THE PROPHETS



The prophets warned the people of their sinfulness and gave them the way forward. They were all used by God to fulfill His plan of salvation. Examples of the prophets who predicted about Jesus are: *Isaiah 7:14* (The virgin birth); *Micah 5:2* (Bethlehem as the birthplace).

Here are some other Prophets:

- **Elijah** – He was a prophet during the time of King Ahab. One of the notable events was the Mt. Carmel contest where God defeated the 450 prophets of Baal and 400 of Asherah.

- **Elisha** – Elisha was a disciple of Elijah and succeeded him. He received a double portion of Elijah’s anointing. At one time, he ordered Naaman, a Syrian army commander who had leprosy, to wash himself seven times in the Jordan River for him to be healed (2 Kings 5:1-14).
- Other prophets are **Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, and Micah.**

Further reading and discussion about the law and the promise.
Galatians 3:10-22.

We now live under the promise and grace given to us through Jesus Christ, who has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us.



Answer the questions

Q1. a) Share some lessons you have learned from the life and ministry of Moses.

.....

.....

b) Quote and discuss the ten commandments.

.....

.....

.....

Q2. Discuss one king, one prophet, one priest, and one judge.

King

.....

Prophet

.....

Priest

.....

Judge

.....

Summary and application

- ☒ God raised up Moses and used him to deliver the Israelites from Egypt with great signs and wonders. He was mandated to lead the children of Israel to the Promised Land (Canaan).
- ☒ The Israelites rebelled against God and God gave them the law through Moses of which they could not live up to its demands. He later used the following groups of people to lead them; the priests, judges, kings and prophets.
- ☒ God was for all this time working out His plan for the Salvation of man.
- ☒ There is no bondage so great that God cannot deliver us from.

☒ ACTIVITY

In groups of three, discuss the lessons you learned from the event that took place at Mt. Carmel between Elijah and the false prophets. (1 Kings 18:1-39).

Chapter Four



JESUS, THE SAVIOR



⁴But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons”.

Galatians 4:4-5



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, learners should be able to;

- Describe the birth of Jesus and its uniqueness.
- Name the twelve disciples of Jesus.
- Explain the three parts of Jesus ministry.
- Describe the betrayal of Jesus.

1.

Lesson 1: THE BIRTH OF JESUS



- An angel appears to Mary (*Luke 1:26-38, Isaiah 7:14*). An angel called Gabriel was sent to the town of Nazareth in Galilee to a virgin called Mary who was pledged to be married to Joseph. He told her that she would conceive and give birth to a son by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- An angel appears to Joseph: (*Matthew 1:18-25*). Joseph wanted to leave Mary secretly but God spoke to him in a dream through an angel and told

him that Mary had conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. The birth of Jesus at Bethlehem.

- **The birth of Jesus at Bethlehem (Luke 2:1-7; Micah 5:2).** Jesus was born in Bethlehem in a manger as they could not secure a decent place for his birth.
- An angel appeared to some shepherds at night and announced the news of the birth of Jesus. *Luke 2:8-20.*
- Jesus was born from the lineage of David from the tribe of Judah. *Matthew 1: 1-16.*

EARLY CHILDHOOD

- **Circumcision of Jesus and presentation in the temple (Luke 2:21-38).** Jesus was circumcised on the eighth day according to the Jewish customs. He was later presented in the temple, where Simeon and Anna welcomed him.
- **The visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12).** The Magi visited Jesus in the house. A bright shining star guided these wise men from the East to the place where Jesus was. King Herod called the Magi secretly and asked them to find the child and report back to him. He was planning to eliminate Jesus.
- **The flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15).** Herod wanted to kill Jesus but an angel informed Joseph through a dream and the family fled into Egypt.
- **Herod, in his zeal to kill Jesus, ordered the murder of all the male children who were two years and below (Matthew 2:16-18).**
- **Jesus' return to Nazareth. (Matthew 2:19-23).** After Herod's death, Jesus and his parents returned from Egypt to Nazareth.
- Jesus, at the age of 12 years, went up to Jerusalem for the Passover feast. His parents unknowingly left him behind on their way home and started looking for him. He was found reasoning with the teachers in the temple (God's house). He continued to increase in wisdom, stature and in favor with God and man (*Luke 2:41-52*).
- **The silent years.** This is the period between 12 years and when Jesus is mentioned again at the age of 30 years.



Answer the questions

Q1. Discuss the prediction and the fulfillment of the virgin birth of Jesus.

Q2. Who were the first people to know about the birth of Jesus?

Q3. How does *(Luke 2:41-52)*, describe the preparation of Jesus ministry.

Q4. Quote *Luke 2:52* from memory.



Lesson 2: MINISTRY



- John the Baptist prepares the way. *(Matthew 3:1-12, Mark 1:1-8 Luke 3:1-18)*.
John had been sent by God to prepare the way for Jesus.
He told people to repent and be baptized.
- Jesus Christ's baptism in River Jordan. *(Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Mark 3:21-23)*.
At the age of 30, Jesus went to River Jordan and was baptized by John.
The Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."
- *Mark 1:11*.

- The Spirit led Jesus into the desert of Judea, where Satan tempted him (*Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13*).
Jesus prayed and fasted for 40 days and 40 nights. He was thereafter tempted three times by Satan, but He overcame. It was a time of preparation for His public ministry.
- At the onset of His ministry, Jesus chose 12 disciples to work with him (*Mark 3:13-19*).
For three years, Jesus preached, healed, cast out demons, and performed many miracles.

The three parts (threefold) of the ministry of Jesus on earth.

Matthew 4:23: Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

- i) **PREACH:** Preaching the gospel of (Salvation).
- ii) **TEACH:** Teaching the Word for (Sanctification).
- iii) **HEAL:** Healing diseases and illnesses among the people (Service).

The threefold ministry of Jesus can be summarized in 3S's: Salvation, Sanctification, and Service.

Luke 4:18:

"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed".

Today we are called to do the same; **PREACH** (proclaim), **TEACH** (God's word) and **HEAL** (including works of service for example, education, medical care, and other works of service - these are parts of healing of the hurting world).



Lesson 3: BETRAYAL



a) The last supper (Luke 22:1-20)

Jesus had longed to have this supper with His disciples. ²⁶ *And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."* ²⁷ *Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you."* ²⁸ *For this is my blood of the new covenant, which was shed for many for the remission of sins" (Matthew 26:26-28)*

Jesus commanded his disciples to observe it in His remembrance. (Luke 22:19).

b) His Agony in Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-45; Luke 22:41-46)

Jesus knew the agony that he would go through and was sorrowful and deeply distressed. He left the disciples and went to pray, saying, *"O my father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."* He said the same prayer three times. An angel appeared from heaven to strengthen Him, and after praying more earnestly, His sweat became like great drops of blood falling to the ground.

c) Judas Iscariot betrays Jesus (Luke 22:47-62; Matthew 26:46-50; John 18:1-12)

Judas went to the Jewish rulers and betrayed Jesus in exchange for 30 pieces of silver. The leaders, together with the soldiers, led by Judas Iscariot, went to where Jesus and His disciples were at night. Simon Peter cut off the ear of the high priest's servant (Malchus) but Jesus healed the soldier instantly. The disciples fled and Jesus was taken to Caiaphas' (the high priest) house.

Peter followed at a distance up to the high priest's courtyard. Jesus had said to him, *"before the rooster crows you will have denied Me three times."* Peter indeed denied Jesus three times and the rooster crowed. Jesus turned and looked at Peter who went out and wept bitterly.

d) Jesus before the rulers: (Luke 23:1-11)

- **Caiaphas** – Caiaphas and other leaders took Jesus to Pilate expecting nothing less than a death sentence.
- **Pilate** – After learning that Jesus was from Galilee, Pilate sent him to Herod who had longed to see Jesus perform miracles.

- **Herod** – After Jesus declined to answer any of his many questions, Herod with his soldiers treated Him with contempt, mocked Him, arrayed Him with a gorgeous robe and sent him back to Pilate.

Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews demanded the release of Barabbas (a notorious criminal who had been imprisoned for a certain rebellion and for murder - (*Luke 23:18-19*). Pilate sentenced Him to death by crucifixion.



Answer the questions

Q1. (a) What was the significance of Jesus' baptism?

.....

(b) How did Jesus overcome the temptations by the devil?

.....

(c) What lesson(s) do you learn from the temptations of Jesus?

.....

.....

Q2. (a) Read *Mark 1:16-20* and describe the calling of the disciples.
How would you respond to God's call today?

.....

(b) Name the disciples of Jesus.

.....

Q3. State and explain the three parts of Jesus' ministry.

.....

.....

Q4. In the last supper, what does the bread and wine symbolize?

.....

Q5. a) Who betrayed Jesus and why?

.....

(b) Name the three leaders whom Jesus was presented before?

.....

.....

Summary and application

- ☒ Jesus Christ was born of the Holy Spirit through the virgin birth by Mary in Bethlehem.
- ☒ He spent His childhood with His parents, Mary and Joseph (His earthly father), and grew in wisdom, stature and in favor with God and man.
- ☒ Jesus started His ministry at the age of 30. After being baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan river, He was led by the Spirit into the desert where He was tempted by the devil for 40 days and forty nights.
- ☒ Jesus overcame the devil and we too can overcome trials and temptations through our Lord Jesus.
- ☒ He chose 12 disciples whom he trained to carry on with His work. We also should work as a team in fulfilling the Great Commission.
- ☒ His ministry is summarized in the three S's: Salvation, Sanctification, and Service.
- ☒ Jesus was betrayed by one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, for 30 pieces of silver.

✓ ACTIVITY

Watch the Jesus film. What do you learn about the cruel death and crucifixion of Jesus Christ? What was the significance?

Chapter Five



CRUCIFIXION, DEATH, BURIAL, RESURRECTION, AND ASCENSION



*“Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You”
John 17:1.*



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, learners should be able to;

- Describe the crucifixion and the death of Jesus.
- Describe the characters around the crucifixion of Jesus.
- Describe the significance of the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus.



Lesson 1: CRUCIFIXION



The Roman soldiers mocked Jesus, stripped Him, and put on Him a scarlet robe, a crown of thorns, and a reed in His hand.

Jesus bore His cross off the city gate where He was relieved by Simon of Cyrene, whom the soldiers had compelled to carry it. (*Matthew 27:31-34*).

Jesus was crucified at a place called Golgotha or Calvary, which is to say, Place of the Skull (The place is skull-shaped). (*Matthew 27:35-44; Luke 23:33-38*).

Jesus was crucified between two criminals who had also been crucified.

Jesus said, *"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."*

The two criminals – One of the criminals mocked Jesus, while the other asked Jesus to remember him. Jesus said to the one who made the request, *"Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."*

Darkness for 3 hours – From 12 pm to 3 pm, the sun was darkened, and the whole land was dark. At about 3 pm, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, *"Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"* which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" *Mark 15:34*.



Lesson 2: DEATH AND BURIAL



DEATH

Around 3 pm, Jesus cried out with a loud voice. He said, *"Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit."* (*Luke 23: 46*) And he yielded up His spirit. Three things happened: (*Matthew 27:51-52*).

1. The veil of the temple was torn into two from top to bottom.
2. There was an earthquake, and the rocks split.
3. The graves were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised.

The centurion (a professional officer of the Roman army commanding 100 men)

When the centurion, who stood opposite Him, saw that He had cried out like this and breathed His last, he said, *"Truly this Man was the Son of God."* – *Mark 15:39*.

Many women who had accompanied Him during His ministry were also there.

THE BURIAL

John 19:31-34 - They broke the legs of the two thieves who had been crucified with Jesus, but when they came to Jesus and realized that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. One of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. *Matthew 27:57-65*.

Joseph of Arimathea was a rich man who had become a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. When he had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, laid it in his new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock, and he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb. Some of the leaders asked Pilate to make sure that the tomb was sealed, citing that they had heard Jesus saying that He would rise on the third day. They said that His disciples might steal Him away and claim that He has risen.



Lesson 3: THE RESURRECTION



On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, certain women went to the tomb carrying spices. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb and went inside but did not find Jesus' body. Two angels appeared to them and told them that Jesus had risen! (*Luke 24*).

In *John 20: 15-18*, Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene and gave her a message for the disciples.

Jesus later appeared to His disciples. He told them that everything happened according to the prophecies and that He had fulfilled what is written in the Old Testament. (*Luke 24:27; 36-49*).

Luke 24:44-45 says; ⁴⁴*Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me."* ⁴⁵*And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures"*.



Lesson 4: THE ASCENSION



Jesus stayed on earth for 40 days after the resurrection. He appeared nine times to His disciples and other people for a testimony of His resurrection. After commissioning the disciples, Jesus blessed them at Bethany, was parted from them and was carried up into heaven. (*Luke 24:50-51*).



Answer the questions

Q1. Where was Jesus crucified? (a) Golgotha (b) Nazareth (c) Bethlehem

.....

Q2. What happened to the two criminals who were crucified together with Jesus?

.....

.....

.....

Q3. What was the significance of the death of Jesus?

.....

.....

Q4. What impact does the empty tomb have on your life?

.....

.....

Summary and application

- ☑ Jesus was scourged, flogged, and finally crucified between two criminals at Golgotha for our sins. One of the criminals asked Jesus to remember him. Jesus promised to be with him in paradise.
- ☑ Jesus died and rose again from the dead. He appeared to His disciples and others as a witness of His resurrection and the fulfillment of the scriptures.
- ☑ He gave His disciples the Great Commission and promised to be with them until the end of the age. He then blessed them and ascended into heaven. The 12 disciples did their part and it is up to us who are living on earth to continue with the work of Jesus.

✓ ACTIVITY

1. Share about the day you believed and accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior.
2. How has your belief in Christ changed your life? How can your testimony encourage others who do not know the Lord?

Chapter Six



ASSURANCE OF SALVATION



"And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of my hand."

John 10:28.



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, learners should be able to;

- Understand about the new creation.
- Understand the assurance of salvation and eternal life.
- Describe God's love and gift as demonstrated in *John 3:16*.

GOD ETERNALLY LOVES US

We define assurance of salvation as a complete conviction or guarantee of a believer that through the finished work of Christ upon the cross, the believer has eternal life.

When you become a Christian, there are certain truths that you need to know. Among them are the assurance of salvation and the promise of eternal life. You want to be sure that the faith you profess and the hope you look for is assured. As a Christian, you need to know what God has done for you.



Lesson 1: YOU NEED TO KNOW THAT GOD HAS SAVED YOU



John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

a) God loved (unconditional love).

Of all God's creation, human beings are the most special and loved, such that God was willing to give His only Son to die for our sins. His love for us is so strong and the scriptures say that there is nothing that can separate those who have believed in Jesus from His love.

Romans 8:38-39.

"³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord".

There is no greater assurance than this.



Lesson 2: GOD GAVE (A GIFT-YOU DID NOT DESERVE).



God gave His Son as the only way of salvation for us not because we deserved it but He gave Him as a gift. Therefore no one can boast of having to work hard to earn salvation.

"⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast." – Ephesians 2:8-9.

The best thing you can do when a gift is presented to you – is to take it! Jesus died on our behalf and brought this gift of salvation, which is for all.

Whoever believes in Him (Trust and faith in God).

The only way to get saved is by believing in the One that God sent to die on our behalf. The scripture tells us how to do it; believe in our heart and confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ died and rose from the dead for our sins (Romans 10:9-10). When we do this, we get saved, and Jesus becomes our Lord and Savior.



Lesson 3: WILL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE (LIFE AFTER DEATH).



When we get saved, the scripture assures us that we have eternal life. Eternal life is the life of God, which is never-ending. God wants us to know that we have eternal life, and this life is available to everyone who believes in Jesus Christ.

You become a new creation when you get born again.

1 John 5:11-13

"¹¹ And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹² He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³ These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God".

God wants us to know that we have eternal life and this life is available to everyone who believes in Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new".



Lesson 4: BENEFITS OF THE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION.

- **Helps not to live in the past.** That is, we no longer have to feel guilty of the things we did before we got born again (*John 4:18*). There is now no condemnation for those who are in Jesus Christ (*Romans 8:1*).
- **Casts out fear.** We might be tempted to think that we'll be left behind when the saints will be marching in, but we thank God for the assurance that we'll be amongst the number.
- **Helps us to be focused on fulfilling the Great Commission.** With this assurance, it is easy to focus on reaching out to the lost and bringing many into the Kingdom of God.



Answer the questions

Q1. Read *John 5:24*: Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My Word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

What three things does God promise?

Q2. Read *1 John 5:11-12*: ¹¹And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹²He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life."

a). Who gives eternal life?

b). Who has eternal life?

c). Who does not have eternal life?

Summary and application

Sometimes our sinful nature, the world, and Satan try to make us doubt our salvation but remember the scriptures assure us that:

- ☒ Since we have believed and confessed Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we have eternal life. It is Him who gives us eternal life.
- ☒ By believing in Jesus, we have become a new creation and the old has passed.
- ☒ No one can snatch us from Jesus' arms. He is our shepherd and we are the flock of His sheepfold.
- ☒ No situations or powers (in heaven and under the sun) can separate us from the Love of God.



ACTIVITY

With the scriptures' support, let each person in the group affirm why they believe they are saved.

Chapter Seven



VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN LIVING



*"And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in prayers."*

Acts 2:42



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, learners should be able to;

- Describe the four spiritual disciplines practiced by the early church.
- Understand the benefits of the Word of God according to 2 Timothy 3:16-17.
- Describe what a balanced prayer entails.
- Understand the importance of prayer and fasting.
- Describe the four broad spiritual principles used in evangelism.
- Understand the benefits of fellowship.

SPEND QUALITY TIME WITH GOD

As Christians, there are things that God wants us to do in order to live victorious lives. Whether you are a new believer or you have been saved for some time, you need to know God in a personal way. The only way to know people very well is to spend time with them. We all spend a considerable amount of time with our friends and family.

We need to spend time with God. We need to commit ourselves to healthy habits where we spend time in reading God's word and in prayer.

Acts 2:42 says, "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers."

We will discuss four things that you need to do as part of your growth process in your faith in God.

- a) The Word
- b) Prayer
- c) Fellowship
- d) Evangelism (witnessing)



Lesson 1: THE WORD



The Word of God is an essential element for growth. It shows who God is and how we are to live as followers of Jesus Christ. The Bible is the primary way that God talks to us and His message for us.

What is the Word of God? (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21).

The Word of God contains verbally inspired scriptures that are authoritative and infallible. The writers were inspired by the Holy Spirit.

As we spend time reading God's Word, we are being changed. We mature from children in Christ to adults.

1 Peter 2:2-3 - "2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious."

Elements of a personal relationship with God.

1. Spend time with God. Intentionally plan to spend time with God for the relationship to grow. Take moments of quiet time alone with God.
2. Establish clear two-way communication with God. Know God's heart through reading His word and share your heart through prayer.

Benefits of studying the Word of God. (2 *Timothy* 3:16-17). It is profitable for:

- i) Doctrine: Tells us what to believe.
 - ii) Reproof: Shows us where we are wrong.
 - iii) Correction: Helps us get back on track.
 - iv) Instruction in righteousness: Guides and directs our lives so that we do not stumble.
- Read and meditate God's Word daily.
 - *Read the entire Bible in one year.*

Quick statistics:

- ☑ The whole Bible has 66 books, 39 in the Old Testament and, 27 in the New Testament.
- ☑ There are 1,189 chapters.

TESTAMENTS	BOOKS in the Bible	CHAPTERS in the Bible
1. OLD	39	929
2. NEW	27	260
TOTAL	66	1,189

- ☑ The longest chapter is *Psalms* 119.
- ☑ The shortest and the middle chapter is *Psalms* 117.
- ☑ The shortest verse is *John* 11:35, "Jesus wept".

Note: *If one reads six chapters per week, he or she will have read the entire New Testament within a year.*

Bible Chronological Story Summarized

- i). God created a perfect fellowship with man (Adam and Eve).
- ii). Man sinned against God.
 - Sin came with consequences.
 - God chose Israel and gave them a law.
 - God led His people from Egypt to the Promised Land.
 - Prophets warned people when they sinned against God.
- iii) God solved the sin problem-Jesus paid the penalty.



Lesson 1: PRAYER



What is prayer?

Prayer is a two-way communication or conversation between man and God. The primary way to talk to God is through prayer. You can pray as an individual, as a family, with friends or prayer partners, church or community. As you pray, you gain spiritual strength and grow in faith.

We live in days when there is an increase of darkness in the world. There are many disasters, wars, droughts, floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, and terrorist attacks worldwide. There have been cases of strange diseases invading the world. The most recent is the coronavirus pandemic that spread around the world bringing pain, death, grief, and economic breakdown.

In the Old Testament, the people of Israel built physical altars and attracted God's presence in difficult times. Today, we still need to build altars. These are not physical altars but altars in our hearts. We need to draw God's presence as we worship Him for who He is. We need to establish a personal prayer altar as well as family altars, churches, and workplaces.

Key aspects of prayer:

- a) **Pray always** (*Ephesians 6:18*).
- b) **Be Persistent** - Parable of the persistent widow (*Luke 18:1-8*).
- c) **Be Specific in prayer** - A Blind man received sight. The blind man cried, "have mercy on me" and Jesus asked him what he wants Jesus to do for him, and he became specific "Lord, that I may receive my sight" (*Mark 10:46-52*).

What is an altar?

According to Mark Daniel and John Mulinde in their book "Prayer Altars: A strategy that is changing nations." An altar is a place of light in the impenetrable darkness of sin, a doorway linking the physical realm to the spiritual realm. They continue to say that, "A network of altars dedicated to the Lord will create a spiritual atmosphere that gives the Lord God the opportunity to intervene in the affairs of men in a sin-darkened world." When you spend time with God, you draw His presence in your life.

Psalms 42:1-2 says, “¹ As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God. ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?”

Forms of Prayer Altars;

Family – One can start an altar for God at home. It can be a daily activity where family members meet (in the morning or probably in the evening) and pray together.

Church - Church members can set a particular day that is specifically a prayer day.

Prayer Partners and Friends - Friends or covenant prayer partners can establish a commonplace for prayers. Nowadays, it can also be done on social media platforms-You can pray with someone on the phone or through zoom, messenger, and WhatsApp.

Spiritual Warfare – *Ephesians 6:10-18*: The scriptures clearly state that our warfare is not carnal but spiritual. It also says that we must be fully armed in the spiritual as soldiers of Christ.

Balanced prayer

Philippians 4: 6-7: “⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus”.

Forms of Prayer. (the ACTS method)

- a) *Adoration: 1 Chronicles 29:11 (Honor and Praise)*
- b) *Confession: 1 John 1:9 (Dealing with sin in your life)*
- c) *Thanksgiving: Philippians 4:6 (Be grateful to God)*
- d) *Supplication: Matthew 7:7, John 16:24 (Praying for needs)*

Discussion

Read and study *Matthew 6:9-13* on the Lord's Prayer as taught to the disciples.

Prayer and fasting

Fasting is the voluntary abstinence or reduction of some or all food, drink, or both, for a period of time. It is the renouncing of the natural things to seek God with the right motives. An example of a wrong motive is the case of the 40 men who had resolved that they would not eat or drink anything until they had killed Apostle Paul (*Acts 23:12*). That is a wrong motive.

Why do we fast?

- i) To have some solitary time with God – We are distracted by so many activities, and this is a time when you can pay total attention to God.
- ii) For direction – *Acts 13:2* (Barnabas and Saul set apart for ministry).
- iii) Divine intervention (Some spiritual warfare needs more than just prayer).

Matthew 17:21 - Jesus admonishes the disciples to pray and fast for specific situations.

Two kinds of fasting

There are several types of fasting. For this study, we are going to discuss two types of fasting.

1. **Partial fasting:** This is where one skips a meal or abstains from eating selected foods for some time. Example - The Daniel fast (*Daniel 10:2-3*).
2. **Dry fasting** – This is where one goes for some days without food or drinks.
 - a) Moses - *Exodus 34:28* - 40 days and 40 nights.
 - b) Esther and the Jews – *Esther 4:16* – 3 days.
 - c) Elijah – *1 Kings 19:8* for 40 days and 40 nights.
 - d) Jesus – *Luke 4:1-2* for 40 days and 40 nights.

Fasting may be done individually or as a group. Always be mindful of your health condition before you embark on fasting. Fasting should progress smoothly. Start by missing one meal, then two meals, and so on. Do not start with several days for the first time. Remember, water or fluids are very essential in your body. As you pray and fast, plan, know clearly what you are praying for, and set clear prayer goals.

It is a good practice to write down your prayer items. That way, when God answers, you know it is done, and you can thank Him.

1 John 5:14 says, “Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.”



Lesson 3: FELLOWSHIP



The scriptures urge us to continue in fellowship to build one another up in a loving relationship.

In *Hebrews 10:24-25*, the writer says, “²⁴ And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching”.

Fellowships may consist of a large number or a small number of people. Christians make the church of Christ. *Matthew 18:20* says, “For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”

Home fellowship or Home church

There are many instances where we see the early church meeting in houses for fellowship, prayer, breaking of bread, and eating. An example is the Church at Aquila and Priscilla’s house (*1 Corinthians 16:19*).

Other examples are *Acts 2:46*, *Acts 1:13*, and *Acts 20:7*. Today, there are many nations where Christians are persecuted, and they meet in house churches.

One of the institutions that facilitate fellowship is the church. As said earlier, the church of Christ comprises of all believers who have put their faith in God. However, the word church also means a local fellowship of believers.

It is important to belong to a local community of Christians who often come together to worship God. In the church, you connect with other members who help you to grow. You also have an opportunity to help other people in your area of strength. You discover and develop your gifts in a church, a fellowship of believers or a Bible study group.

It is important to belong to a church family. When looking for a church, you should look for a church that: Worships the one true God, preaches God’s word, and participates in Holy Communion and water baptism. Also, you

want a church that evangelizes to the non-Christians through local outreach and missions, and encourages believers to exercise their gifts. Don't look for "a perfect church," but there are many churches that revere God and strive to obey God's word.

Some of the benefits of Christian fellowship are;

- 1) God commands blessings (*Psalms 133*).
- 2) Fellowship provides us with strength and growth (*Matthew 18:19-20, 1 Corinthians 14:26*).
- 3) Gifts are exercised, and Believers are sharpened (*1 Corinthians 12:7-11, Proverbs 27:17*).



Lesson 4: EVANGELISM



Evangelism is communicating the good news to others. It is actively getting involved in the daily sharing of the Christian faith. Christians have a responsibility to tell the world the Good News of Jesus. The scriptures say that:

- We are witnesses of Jesus Christ. – *Acts 8:1*.
- We are ambassadors of Christ - *2 Corinthians 5:18-20*. As ambassadors, we are representatives of Christ here on earth.

In *Acts 8:4*, we learn that after the disciples of Jesus had scattered due to the persecution, they preached the Good News wherever they went.

In evangelism, we help others find Christ. Some people are just "an ask away" from becoming Christians. They are waiting for someone to ask them if they would like to follow Christ. Being born-again is an eternal change.

Be a witness of Jesus Christ. Every disciple of Jesus must be involved in evangelism for Jesus said,

Matthew 9: 37-38 says, "³⁷ Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. ³⁸ Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest'".

The four broad spiritual principles used in evangelism are;

- 1) **Love** (God created us, and He loves us).
- 2) **Sin** (Man sinned and is sinful).
- 3) **Way** (Through Jesus, who is the way, we are forgiven and reconciled back to God).
- 4) **Confess** (We need to confess Jesus as Lord and Savior).

Methods of evangelism

There are several methods used to evangelize. Some of them are:

a) **One on one**

One of the most effective methods of evangelism is one on one (person to person) or door to door. It allows an opportunity to deliver the good news to a person we come in contact with. You build a relationship with the person and then share the gospel with them. After sharing the good news, give them an invitation. Ask them if they want to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of their lives. Pray with them. This method can be extended to a small group of people.

An excellent example of one-on-one evangelism is the meeting between Jesus and the Samaritan woman.

Read *John 4:7-15* and discuss how Jesus interacted with her and shared the Good News.

- b) **Christian Film suitable for evangelism.** An example is the "The Jesus Film."
- c) **Social media** – Examples; Facebook, WhatsApp, Skype, and Zoom, among others.
- d) **Sports evangelism.** Sporting activities for the purpose of Evangelism- This method is popular with youth ministry.
- e) **Crusades or mass evangelism.** This is done in open-air places like in a stadium.

FOLLOW-UP (DISCIPLE NEW CHRISTIANS)

After leading a person to Christ, you need to help them grow in the Lord. This is the true meaning of discipleship. They need to know how to pray, read the word, and fellowship with other believers.

DISCIPLE MAKING WHEEL

(DAWSON TROTMAN)

VERTICAL

- Word: Pure milk of the word (1 Peter 2:2).
- Prayer: Ask, Seek, Knock (Matthew 7:7).

HORIZONTAL

Fellowship: Gathering of two or three (Matthew 18:20), House to house meetings (Acts 3:46). Witness/Evangelism: I will make you fishers of men (Matthew 4: 19).

The HUB represents Christ at the center. Jesus is the center of all that we do. Jesus is in control. The wheel shows this is a Christ-centered life.

The RIM-represents obedience, which is the internal habits and attitudes that are reflected in outward actions.

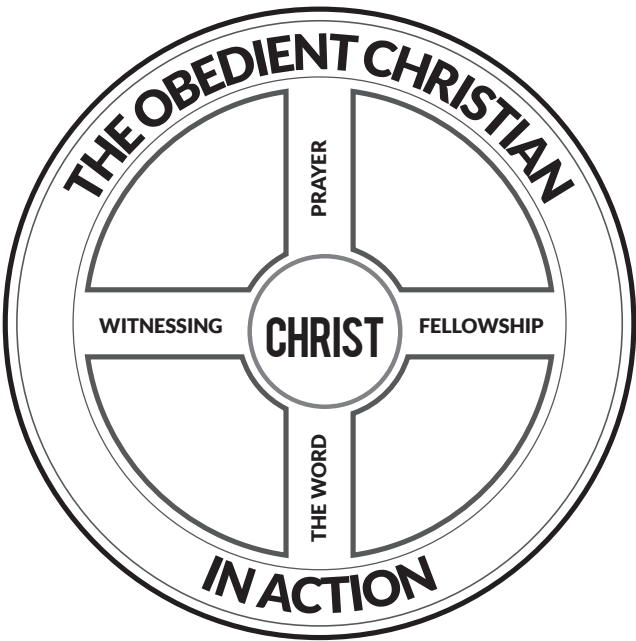


Figure 1: Disciple making wheel



Answer the questions

Q1. Quote *Acts 2:42* from memory.

.....

.....

Q2. Name the four spiritual disciplines that the early church practiced according to *Acts 2:42*.

i). iii).

ii). iv).

Q3. State 4 ways in which the word of God is profitable according to *2 Timothy 3:16-17*.

i). iii).

ii). iv).

Q4. a). State the elements of a balanced prayer.

i). iii).

ii). iv).

v).

b) What should be our attitude toward God when praying?

.....

Q5. What is the significance of fellowship with believers?

.....

Summary and application

- ☑ The early church continued in the following four practices: The Word of God, fellowship, in the breaking of bread and prayers. We ought to continue with these Christian disciplines.
- ☑ The word of God is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness.
- ☑ We should develop a habit of reading and studying the Word of God daily.
- ☑ Prayer is two-way communication between God and man. It is essential for Christian growth.
- ☑ We should pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17).
- ☑ In fellowships, Christians build one another. The Bible commands us not to forsake the habit of meeting together.

✔ ACTIVITY

1. Write a prayer list of your individual or family prayer needs.
2. Write a prayer list of people you want to pray for.
Make a list of people you want to pray for today. People who are sick, relatives, or friends who are not saved. People you know who are struggling with alcoholism, family challenges, and drugs.
3. Write a prayer list of leaders of nations and countries you want to pray for-salvation, disaster, etc.

Chapter Eight



CHRISTIAN DOCTRINES



*“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.”*
Acts 2:42.



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, learners should be able to;

- Explain the Trinity.
- Describe the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- Describe the primary Christian doctrines.

A) TRINITY

TRI means three, and UNIT means one, single, or complete.

God exists in three Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. These three are one God. Thus:

- One God.
- Exists in three Persons.
- Equal and Eternal.
- Distinct yet acting in unity.
- Co-equal and co-eternal having the same nature and attributes and worthy of the same worship, confidence, and obedience.

Matthew 3:16-17, Matthew 28:19-20, Mark 12:29, John 1:14, Acts 5:3-4, 2 Corinthians. 13:14.



Lesson 1: GOD THE FATHER AND THE SON



God the Father

The first person in the Trinity.

Creator of the world and Father of the world.

- God is the Father of all because he created all, and His love and care are extended to all. *Matthew 5:46.*
- He is the Father of all who believe. *John 1:12.*
- Believers have an intimate relationship with the Father calling Him, Abba, Father. *Romans 8:15.*

The Son (Jesus)

Jesus is the second Person in Trinity. He is also called “The Word.” All that was created was created through Him. Jesus was sent by the Father to die for the sins of the world. He loved the world so much that He was willing to lay down His life for us.

- He was in the beginning. *John 1:1.*
- He was given to us as Son. *Isaiah 9:6.*
- The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. *John 1:14.*
- He is the Savior of the world. *John 3:16-17.*
- He is the Way, the Truth and the Life. *John 14:6.*
- He is the soon coming King. *Acts 1:11, Matthew 24:30, Revelation 22:12.*



Lesson 2: THE HOLY SPIRIT



The third Person in Trinity. *John 14:16-18, John 15:26.*

- He is the helper who teaches and reminds us of all things. *John 14:26.*
- Convicts the world of sin. *John 16:7-8.*
- Dwells in believers and fills them. *1 Corinthians 3:16.*
- Source of revelation, wisdom, and power. *1 Corinthians 2:10-11.*
- Guides to all truth. *John 16:13-15.*
- Helps in Christian weaknesses and intercedes for them. *Romans 8:26-27.*

- Sanctifies and enables believers to bear good fruit in their lives. *Galatians 5:16-21, 22-25.*
- He is the seal in the lives of believers. *Ephesians 1:13.*



Lesson 3: THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



The gifts of the Holy Spirit are special and unique abilities given to believers to build the Body of Christ.

Table 2: The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

<i>1 Corinthians 12:8-10</i>	<i>Romans 12: 6-10</i>	<i>Ephesians 4: 11 (Gifts of Ministry)</i>
Word of Wisdom	Prophecy	Apostles
Word of Knowledge	Ministry/Serving	Prophets
Faith	Teaching	Evangelists
Gifts of Healing	Exhortation/ Encouragement	Pastors
The working of Miracles	Giving	Teachers
Prophecy	Leadership	
Discerning of spirits	Mercy	
Different kinds of tongues		
The interpretation of tongues		

They are distributed to each one individually by the same Spirit as He wills. (*1 Corinthians 12:11*).

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

They are certain habits produced in our lives by the Holy Spirit when we yield to Him.

The fruit of the Spirit is: (*Galatians 5:22-23*). Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

We must remain in Him for us to bear fruit for we can do nothing without Him (*John 15:5*).



Lesson 4: TENETS OF FAITH



1. The Bible is the only inspired, the only infallible and the authoritative Word of God (*2 Peter 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:16-17*).
2. There is one true God, eternally existent in 3 persons: Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit (*Matthew 28:19; John 14:16*).
3. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ – He is the eternal Son of God (*1 Corinthians 15:3; Acts 1:9*).
4. The fall of Man – man sinned, and the entire human race has the sinful nature that is acquired at conception. (*Genesis 3:1-19; Romans 5:12-19*).
5. The Salvation of man – Man is born a sinner and needs to be saved by Jesus Christ (*John 3:16; Romans 6:23*).
6. The ordinances of the Church - Water Baptism and the Lord's Supper or the Holy Communion. (*Matthew 28:19; Romans 6:4; Luke 22:18-20*).
7. The baptism in the Holy Spirit – all believers are entitled to the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit who empowers them to witness and for ministry (*Acts 11:14-16; 10:44-46; 1 Corinthians 12:13*).
8. The Church – It is the body of Jesus Christ. Its mandate is to fulfill the Great Commission here on earth. (*Hebrews 12:23; Revelation 19:7*). The word church is also used to mean a local assembly of Christians.
9. Sanctification – the believer is being separated from evil daily by the help of the Holy Spirit when he submits. (*Hebrews 12:14; 1 John 3:1-30*).
10. The Ministry – The Holy Spirit has given gifts in the church that are meant to serve the body of Christ (*Ephesians 4:11-16*).
11. The Blessed Hope – the second coming of Jesus Christ where the church will be raptured (*1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Titus 2:13*).
12. The Final Judgment – the wicked dead will be judged together with the devil and his angels. They will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake of fire which burns with fire and brimstone which is the second death. (*Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 20:11-13, Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48*).
13. The New Heavens and The New Earth – Believers look forward to this promise (*2 Peter 3:12-13; Isaiah 65:17*).



Answer the questions

Q1. What is the Trinity?

Q2. What are the attributes of the Trinity?

Q3. Who is God the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit?

Q4. What is the fruit of the Holy Spirit according to *Galatians 5:22*?

Summary and application

- ☒ Trinity refers to the three persons that God exists. God is three distinctive individuals; God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit- in one true God.
- ☒ The Holy Spirit gives believers gifts as He wills. They are to be used to evangelize and build up the Body of Christ.

ACTIVITY

The Group to organize a special fellowship and have members exercise their gifts and talents that God has given them.

Chapter Nine



THE GREAT COMMISSION



"¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Matthew 28:19-20



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, learners should be able to;

- Understand the Great Commission and its importance.
- State the practical ways of fulfilling the Great Commission.
- Understand the urgency of sharing the Gospel.
- Explain the role of the Holy Spirit in sharing the Gospel.

CREATED FOR A PURPOSE

God has a plan for all of us today. We were created to fulfill a specific purpose. God called Jeremiah to be a prophet to the nations (*Jeremiah 1:4-5*). He called John the Baptist to prepare the way of the Lord (*Matthew 3:3*). Moses was called to lead the people of Israel out of slavery in Egypt (*Exodus 3: 10*). The disciples of Jesus Christ were called to be fishers of men (*Matthew 4:19*).

We are called to a great commission. We are not only called to be disciples but also commanded to:

- a) Go
- b) Make disciples
- c) Baptize
- d) Teach.



Lesson 1: THE GREAT COMMISSION



a) What is the Great Commission?

It is the sending of the disciples by Jesus to the whole world to preach the Good News of the Kingdom of God (**Matthew 28:18-20**). This is the core mission of the disciples of Jesus. It is what we live for. Jesus invites us to follow Him and gives us an obligation to go and make disciples. The disciples took the Lord's command seriously and went around the world, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. They were so passionate that the accusers said that they were turning the world upside down-(Acts 17:6). We must be willing to take the challenge and finish the task in our generation.

b) The importance of the Great Commission.

It is the mission of God. It is not the will of God that any should perish, and therefore we need to preach to all without discrimination of gender, tribe, race, or status. More than two billion people are still waiting to hear the good news.

We must understand that God is loving and also a righteous judge. **Revelation 20:15** says, "And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire." We must strive to tell others about Jesus.

c) The process of fulfilling the great commission (what to do, where to start)

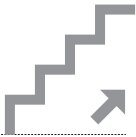
What to do –We have a duty to act once we receive the truth. We have been sent as Christ's ambassadors (**1 Corinthians 5:20**). Our commission is to make disciples, not converts.

Where to start – (**Acts 1:8**). It begins in our homes. We should witness to our families, friends, and neighbors. We should witness in our workplaces and in

our social activities. God calls us to witness in other villages, towns, cities, and countries. This is our core mission, and we should heed to it.



Lesson 2: PRACTICAL STEPS IN FULFILLING THE GREAT COMMISSION



GO.

PRAY.

GIVE.

i) **GO** – Take a move and get engaged. We can get involved by preaching to our neighbors, fellow students, workers, and preaching to the unreached in villages, towns, cities, and countries. God commands us to go and preach the gospel to every creature (*Mark 16:15*). Preaching also involves our lifestyle-being, the salt and light of the world (*Matthew 5:13-16*).

ii) **PRAY.** We can pray:

- For more workers to be sent into the harvest field (*Matthew 9:9:38*).
- For opportunities to preach the gospel (*Colossians 4:3*).
- For boldness and power in speaking God’s word (*Acts 4:29-31*).
- For protection for those who are witnessing (*Romans 15:30-31*).

iii) **GIVE**
We can support churches, ministries, and ministers
The New Testament teaches Christians to be cheerful givers.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 says, “⁶ But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver”.

As Christians, we need to give to our churches and organizations engaged in mission work. It takes financial resources to spread the gospel. We should give our finances and other resources necessary for evangelism. God gives a promise to those who give. *Luke 6:38* says, “Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”

The urgency of sharing the gospel (unreached people groups)

There is a Judgment Day, and those who will reject Christ here on earth will suffer eternally. They will be eternally separated from God.

God does not want anyone to be lost (*1 Peter 5:8; John 10:27-30*). We need to have compassion for the lost as God has. We should therefore see the great commission as an urgent call and preach the Gospel to all. We must start where we are and then desire to go and reach the rest of the world.

Power for Witnessing

Acts 1:8. We need the empowering of the Holy Spirit within us. Jesus instructed the disciples to wait before going so that they might receive power from on high. Likewise, we should also pray and wait for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

Finishing the task in our generation

Matthew 24:14 “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

We ought to be faithful to this Gospel that has been entrusted to us by our Lord. We should be His ambassadors and preach the Gospel in and out of season before the end comes.



Lesson 3: WATER BAPTISM



In *Matthew 28:19-20*, Jesus commanded His disciples to **GO, MAKE, BAPTIZE, AND TEACH.**

Facilitators will discuss water baptism during the weekly bible study. Pastors can also take time to preach on water baptism during a Sunday service. It is vital to allow learners to ask questions and allow discussion.

During the teaching, you can address the questions of *What? Why? When?* and *How?* to help Christians understand the meaning and importance of water baptism.

What is Baptism?

This is an outward expression of what has happened within. It expresses a spiritual act that takes place when one believes in Jesus. *Romans 6:3-4* says, “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore, we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

In water baptism, we identify with the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

When?

When should one be baptized? (*Acts 2:41; 8:38-39; 10:48; 16:33*).

Why?

Reasons for baptism. (*Matthew 28:19, Matthew 3:13-17, Acts 22:16, Acts 2:41; Acts 10:47-48*).



Lesson 4: THE TWELVE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST



Jesus had a strategy of training men for the ministry. He chose twelve disciples whom he trained for about three years.

Mark 1:16-20 says, “¹⁶ And as He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ Then Jesus said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” ¹⁸ They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

¹⁹ When He had gone a little farther from there, He saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the boat mending their nets. ²⁰ And immediately He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went after Him”.

Jesus had the big picture of His mission of saving the world and He started by choosing these twelve men who would work with Him.

The twelve disciples were:

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| 1.Simon Peter. | 2. Andrew. | 3. James. |
| 4. John. | 5. Philip. | 6.Bartholomew (Nathaniel). |
| 7. Matthew. | 8. Thomas. | 9. James (Son of Alpheus). |
| 10. Simon (Zealot). | 11. Judas. | 12. Judas Iscariot. |



Answer the questions

Q1. What were Simon and Andrew doing when Jesus met them?

.....

.....

Q2. What did Jesus invite Simon and Andrew to do? How did they respond?

.....

.....

Q3. What was different between the situation of Simon and Andrew and John and James?

.....

.....

Q4. How might God be calling you in the Great Commission?

.....

.....

Q5. Discuss: What is your purpose on earth? Why are you here on earth?

.....

.....

Summary and application

- ☑ The Great Commission is the sending of disciples by Jesus to take the Good News of the Kingdom of God to the whole world.
- ☑ We ought to treat the task as urgent since those who will not believe will be lost forever.
- ☑ There are different ways in which one can take part in evangelism; Going out for missions, praying, and financial support.
- ☑ Water baptism is an outward expression of what has happened within. In water baptism, we identify with the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- ☑ Jesus began His ministry by choosing 12 disciples whom He trained to carry on with what He had begun.

✓ ACTIVITY

1. a) Divide participants into small groups.

Witness to one another and let the facilitator help you with witnessing skills.

b) Remember when evangelizing, try to follow some basic steps to be consistent with the message.

- i). Creator's love.
- ii). Man sinned.
- iii). The **Way**/Forgiveness. Believe in Christ.
- iv). Confess Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Relevant scriptures to remember from memory when sharing the gospel: *John 3:16, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, John 14:6, and Romans 10:9-10.*

2. Plan for an outreach in your neighborhood, village, city, or institution.

Chapter Ten



MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES



*"And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."
2 Timothy 2:2.*



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, learners should be able to:

- Understand why we need to teach disciples to make other disciples.
- Describe the model of multiplication of disciples, as shown in *2 Timothy 2:2*.
- Explain ways in which we can apply the multiplication of disciples' model.



Lesson 1: MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES



The PROCESS OF MULTIPLICATION

- Step 1: Evangelism produces a new believer or disciple
- Step 2: Discipleship produces a mature disciple and a disciple-maker.
- Step 3: Coaching produces a leader
- Step 4: Mentoring produces leaders of leaders

First, we are called to go and make disciples (*Matthew 28:18-20*). Part of the task is to teach them to observe all that God has commanded. So, we need to teach disciples to make other disciples. Saints are added to the Body of Christ daily through Spiritual multiplication. This is not a task for a chosen few but for all Christians. Jesus, on the onset of His ministry, set forward this principle by choosing the 12 disciples whom He spent about three years teaching and training on how to bring souls into the Kingdom of God. After the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples (120 people), they spread out to win souls to the kingdom of God wherever they went. The challenge lies on us to multiply disciples and finish the task in our generation.



Lesson 2: DISCIPLESHIP MULTIPLICATION MODEL OF JESUS



Jesus did not ignore crowds during his ministry. However, he invested most of His time in small groups who would eventually change the world. He understood the importance of training a few individuals who would train others and achieve more remarkable outcomes.

- Exceptional investment in three apostles (Peter, John, and James)
- Jesus personal investment in the 12 apostles
- Delegated authority to the 70 disciples
- Ministry to the 120

After the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples (120 people), they spread out to win souls to the kingdom of God wherever they went. The challenge lies in us to multiply disciples and finish the task in our generation.

- Ministry to the crowd



Lesson 3: DISCIPLESHIP MULTIPLICATION MODEL OF PAUL (2 Timothy 2:2)



(PAUL) - (TIMOTHY) - (FAITHFUL MEN) - (OTHERS)

First, Paul is the model, as Timothy observes.

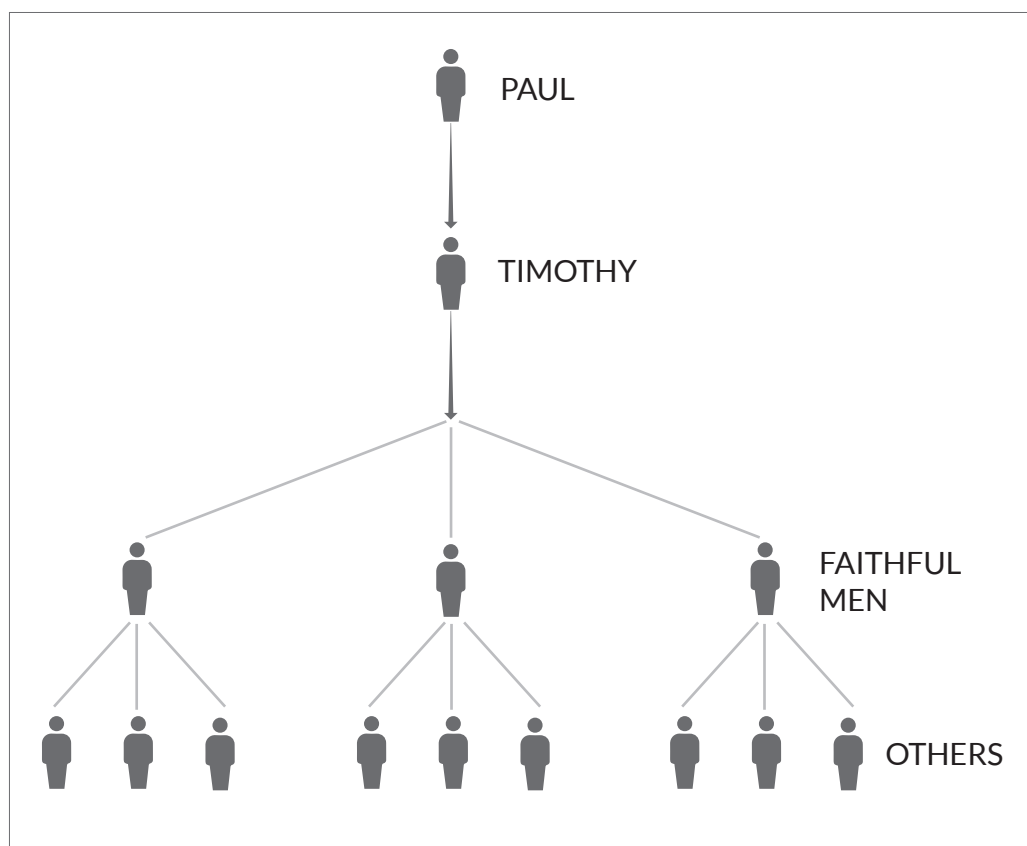
Then Timothy becomes the model as faithful men observe.

Finally, the faithful men become models as others observe, and the process repeats itself as “others” take the place of “Paul.”

- i) **Paul** – Paul got saved and was entrusted with the Gospel. He taught Timothy before many witnesses.
- ii) **Timothy** – He was instructed by Paul to commit the teachings to faithful men.
- iii) **Faithful men (people)** – Are instructed to teach others.
- iv) **Others** – It is evident that these others are to teach others and so forth. If we use this principle as disciples of Jesus Christ, we will be amazed at the number of disciples added to the church daily.

DISCIPLES MULTIPLICATION MODEL

By Trinity Bible Chapel



Disciples multiplication model



Lesson 4: PRACTICAL APPLICATION



Paul, in *Philippians 4: 9* says, “*The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.*” We can also use the models and the teachings on discipleship and multiplication to reach special interest groups, as described below.

- a) **Professions:** We can disciple Christian doctors, nurses, teachers, pilots, social workers, politicians, and other professionals to reach their colleagues.
- b) **Gender:** There are areas where gender is a barrier. We can teach women, for example, to reach fellow women in their communities or among tribes where cross-gender ministry is prohibited.
- c) **Age** -Sometimes, age is a barrier, and people in different age groups can reach their peers more effectively. An example is a youth reaching out to fellow youth since they understand their language and culture.



Answer the questions

Q1. Quote 2 *Timothy* 2:2 from memory.

.....

Q2. Explain how we can use the principle of multiplication to win many to Jesus.

.....

Q3. How can you use multiplication to develop the next generation of leaders?

.....

Summary and application

- ☑ Jesus and the apostles used the principle of multiplication to win many to the Kingdom of God.
- ☑ Jesus chose twelve disciples and trained them for three years.
- ☑ Paul invested time in Timothy and challenged him to teach others.
- ☑ In Christian multiplication, believers train converts who become disciples. The disciples train others, who in turn, train others.

✓ ACTIVITY

In small groups (2-3), discuss the following points and then present to the whole team.

1. Share how you became a Christian. Who preached to you, or what was the setting (church, crusade, home)?
2. a) Who taught you the foundations of Christian faith and helped you mature in faith?
b) How was that process?
3. Today, are you intentionally helping someone to grow in faith? Who and how?
4. As a church or fellowship, what are you doing to train people to make disciples?
5. Describe what model you use in discipleship. If none, the facilitator will explain to you what and how you can multiply disciples.

Group Action point: Start Discipleship Groups in your church or fellowship (Plan and implement).

Chapter Eleven



A DISCIPLINED CHRISTIAN LIFE



“But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints.”

Ephesians 5:3



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, learners should be able to;

- Understand what is meant by the purity of life.
- Describe and illustrate the three things that are in the world, according to *1 John 2:15-17*.
- Understand the things that tempt us and how we can overcome temptations.
- Define Servant leadership and how we can be good examples.
- Describe family as God intended it to be.



Lesson 1: THE PURITY OF LIFE



When we get saved, God expects us to lead a life that is pleasing before Him. We are not saved by our works (*Ephesians 2:8-9*), but when we get born again, we are expected to produce good fruit-to do good works by God's grace (*Ephesians 4:22-32*).

Two areas will help a believer lead a life that is pleasing to God:

- a) **Holy lives:** The scripture says that God is holy, and therefore we should also be holy. It means that we should live a life of separation from evil (*Ephesians 1:4, 1 Peter 1:15; Ephesians 5:18-21*).
- b) **Abstinence for youth:** Young people should refrain from indulging themselves in immoral behaviors. The Bible commands the youth to treat the older women as mothers and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity (*2 Timothy 2:22; 1 Timothy 5:1-2*).



Lesson 2: TEMPTATIONS



"No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."
-1 Corinthians 10:13.

When one becomes a born-again Christian, he or she enters into constant battles with the flesh, the world, and the devil. However, Jesus conquered them all, and He promises us victory.

What is temptation?

Temptation is a seduction to do wrong or evil, often brought about by Satan, whose end goal is for one to sin against God. According to John Webb, it is desire to engage in short term urges for enjoyment that threatens long term goals. *John Webb (Incorporating Spirituality into the Psychology of Temptation - Sep 2014)*.

Who or what tempts us?

- a) Satan is not happy that we are saved. He fights, hoping to destroy us (*1 Peter 5:8*).
- b) Sinners who entice us (*Proverbs 1:10*).
- c) The old self inside us with its evil desires and passions. (*Colossians 3:9-10; Romans 7:21-25*).

God does not tempt anyone. The Bible says in *James 1:13-14*. “Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.”

Forms of temptations

Temptations come in three basic forms as indicated in *1 John 2:15-17*:

“¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

The three forms of temptation can be illustrated well in the temptation of Adam and Eve (*Genesis 3:1-7*) and in the temptation of Jesus by Satan. (*Matthew 4:1-11*).

Let's look at *Genesis 3:1-7*:

i). **Lust of the flesh** – “...the tree was good for food...”

Lust is an intense craving or desire, often of a sexual nature. In the scriptures, lust relates to a strong desire for sexual immorality or idolatrous worship.

For believers, our flesh and the Spirit are contrary to one another, so that we do not do the things that we wish (*Galatians 5:17*).

The results of giving in to the lust of the flesh are as described in *Galatians 5:19-21* adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries and the like.

ii). **Lust of the eyes** – “...it was pleasant to the eyes...”

The eyes provide a doorway to our mind and heart. The things that we see and perceive can affect our whole being (*Matthew 6:22, Genesis 3:6*).

iii). **Pride of life** – “desirable to make one wise...”

- Pride is one of the things that God hates and therefore has terrible consequences (*Proverbs 16:5*).
- Lucifer, who later earned the name Satan, was an esteemed angel in heaven but he wanted to overthrow God and sit upon The Throne.

- He was cast down to earth together with the angels who had joined him (*Ezekiel 28:12-19; Isaiah 14:12*).
- God even created hell, where He will cast Satan and his angels forever (*Matthew 25:41*).
- The Bible warns us that pride comes before a fall - (*Proverbs 16:18*) and that God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble - (*1 Peter 5:6-7*). The giving in of Adam and Eve to Satan's temptations in the three areas brought dire consequences upon the entire human race.

Ways in which Christians can overcome temptations

"...be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33).

- a). Use the Word of God as Jesus did (*Matthew 4:1-11*).
- b). Submit to God and resist the devil (*James 4:7*).
- c). Do not give the devil an opportunity in your life (*Ephesians 4:27*).
- d). Put on the whole armor of God for you to stand against the wiles of the enemy (*Ephesians 6:10-18*).
- e). By watching and praying so that you may not fall into temptations (*Mark 14:38*).
- f). Avoid bad company for it corrupts good morals (*1 Corinthians 15:33*).
- g). By yielding to the guidance and help of the Holy Spirit.

Temptations are different from trials in that the latter is a testing of faith brought about or allowed by God whose end goal is to strengthen our faith and bring out the best in us.

James 1:2-3 says; ²*"My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."*

In the case of trials, God's grace is sufficient to help us pull through.

BECOME AN EXAMPLE TO OTHERS:

"Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity." - (1 Timothy 4:12).

We should strive toward being examples in the five areas below:

- i) **Word or speech** - This refers to the way we talk. We should be mindful of our conversations.

- ii) **Conduct** - This refers to the way we behave and carry ourselves. We ought to do the right thing even when no one is watching us.
- iii) **Love** - The love we have for our fellow brethren and others.
- iv) **Faith** - Keeping faith in the culture of unbelief.
- v) **Purity** - This is staying away from all worldly immoralities.

Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' be 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one (*Matthew 5:37*). Integrity is being the same in heart, mind and actions. You show integrity by keeping your word and your commitments.

Your word can be trusted if you are a person of integrity.



Lesson 3: SERVANT LEADERSHIP



Luke 22:24-27 says, ²⁴ Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest. ²⁵ And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called 'benefactors.' ²⁶ But not so among you; on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves. ²⁷ For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? Yet I am among you as the One who serves".

Jesus Christ is the best example of a servant leader. His primary concern was His followers. He was a servant leader. He washed His disciples' feet to demonstrate servant leadership (*John 13:1-17*).

Marks of a Servant Leader:

- a) **Humble** - Not puffed up.
- b) **Loving** - Loves his followers and others in word and deed.
- c) **Generous** - He understands that it is more blessed to give than to receive.
- d) **Prays** for his followers.
- e) **Honest** - Tells the truth and doesn't live a life of pretense.
- c) A person of **Integrity** - Aspires to do right even when no one is watching him.

Case study of servant leadership:

i) Paul's instructions to the Ephesian elders (*Acts 20:18-36*).

Paul, despite being an apostle:

- Served with all humility.
- He coveted no one's silver.
- His own hands provided for his necessities and for those who were with him.

ii) Samuel's address to the Israelites (*1 Samuel 12:3-5*).

Despite being in leadership and thus in an influential position:

- He had not taken anyone's ox or donkey.
- He had not cheated anyone.
- He had not oppressed anyone.
- He had not received any bribe.



Lesson 4: BUILD FAMILY AS GOD INTENDED

Marriage– (*Genesis 2:18-24*)



1. God created the first couple - Adam and Eve. God ordained marriage. It is Him who saw that it was not good for man to be alone. Therefore, marriage should be conducted in God's way.
2. God created a woman out of a man's rib and presented her to him. No one else and nothing else could fit Adam's description of the woman who was brought to him: Adam said, "This is now bone of my bones, And flesh of my flesh".
3. Thus, marriage is between a man and a woman (one man and one woman). It is not between a man and another man or a woman and another woman.
4. Every living thing was incomparable and not helpful to man. Marriage should not be between man and animals, other living things, or non-living objects (*Genesis 2:23*).

Husband and Wife

- Believers should marry believers
(*1 Corinthians 7:39; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18*).
- Sex before and outside marriage is prohibited
(*1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Hebrews 13:4*).
- The relationship ought to be built on love (*1 Corinthians 13:4-8*).
- They have different roles, but each should support each other
(*1 Timothy 5:8; Proverbs 31:13-16*).
- The wives should submit to and respect their husbands
(*Ephesians 5:22, 33*).
- Husbands should love their own wives (*Ephesians 5:25-29*).

Children in a Family

- They are a blessing – (*Psalms 127: 3-5*).
- They ought to be trained from a tender age – (*Proverbs 22:6*).
- They should be disciplined (with love) by the parents. (*Proverbs 13:24*)
- They have a duty to obey and honor the parents (The first commandment with a promise) but parents should not provoke them to anger (*Ephesians 6:1-4*).



Answer the questions

Q 1. Name the three things that are in the world according to *1 John 2:15-17*.

i).

ii).

iii).

Q 2. Who is the greatest and perfect example of a servant leader, and why?

.....

.....

.....

Q 3. Briefly discuss family as God intended in the following areas

i). Marriage

ii). Husband and wife

iii). Children

Q 4. In what areas have you been tested lately?

.....

Summary and application

- ☒ As believers, we must beware of the three things that are in the world and lead people to sin; they are 1) the lust of the flesh, 2) the lust of the eyes, and 3) the pride of life.
- ☒ Temptations will come but we will overcome by God's grace.
- ☒ Jesus is the greatest and the perfect example of servant leadership. Believers must be people of integrity and show marks of a servant leader.
- ☒ God ordained marriage and family.
- ☒ We must understand the importance of family for successful leadership.

✓ ACTIVITY

1. Discuss a temptation you have encountered recently and how you overcame it.
2. In small groups, discuss how you have been a good example in your family or to other people.

Chapter Twelve



FINISHING WELL AS FAITHFUL STEWARDS



*"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have kept the faith."
– 2 Timothy 4:7.*



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, learners should be able to;

- Describe a steward and stewardship.
- Identify and describe some Bible characters who finished well and those who did not.
- Explain how to finish well as believers.
- Explain how to be good stewards of time, talent, and treasure.



Lesson 1: FINISHING WELL



As believers, we should make sure that we finish well. We should stand firm in our daily walk with God and use time wisely to evangelize the world. It's not about how long we live here on earth but about finishing our God-given purpose. We should fight a good fight, finish the race, and keep the faith.

Paul said, “But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.” - Acts 20:24.

Finishing well (1 Corinthians 9:24)

1 Corinthians 9:24 says, “Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.”

In this scripture, we learn that:

- We are in a race and should run according to the rules.
- We should discipline our bodies and bring them under subjection.
- We should run with perseverance, knowing that we shall get a reward.

Paul started right. The Bible says that after he got saved, he began to preach in the synagogue that Jesus is the Son of God (Acts 9:20-22).

Paul faced many challenges in his walk with God and ministry. However, he endured and finished his race victoriously. He completed his work by saying, “I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race and I have kept the faith. (2 Timothy 4:7).

PAUL STARTED WELL AND FINISHED WELL.



Lesson 2: CHARACTERS WHO FINISHED WELL AND THOSE WHO FAILED



Discuss the following Bible characters who finished well:

1. PAUL:

I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race and I have kept the faith. (2 Timothy 4:7).

2. JESUS

Jesus was determined to complete His mission on earth (Luke 9:51).

Discuss the following Bible characters who failed on the way:

1. SOLOMON:

He started well and showed his love for the Lord by walking according to the statutes of his father David (*1 Kings 3:3*), but as he grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and he did evil in the eyes of the Lord (*1 King 11:4-6*). It takes one step in the wrong direction, and before long, one has drifted away.

2. SAMSON: *Judges chapters 13-16*

Samson started well, and later, he was overtaken by worldly pleasures. He lost his focus on God and turned to women.

Read and discuss *Judges 16:20-21*. When the Philistines came to him, he did not know that the Lord had departed from him.



Lesson 3: FOUR POTENTIAL DANGERS



- a) Money
- b) Sex
- c) Power
- d) Pride

- i) Discuss how the four potential dangers affect Christian life and ministry.
- ii) How would you overcome these dangers?



Lesson 4: FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP



A steward is a manager or someone who has been entrusted with something that belongs to someone else. Stewardship, therefore, is being responsible and accountable for anyone or anything that has been entrusted to a person by another person. It may refer to a family, job, properties, business, money or other resources entrusted to you by God or people.

Psalm 24:1 teaches that God owns everything. Paul told Timothy that we brought nothing into this world, and we can carry nothing out. (*1 Timothy 6:7*).

Human beings are, therefore, only stewards of what God owns. As stewards, we are required to be faithful (*1 Corinthians 4:2*). One day, we will also stand before God to give an account of our stewardship.

THREE ASPECTS OF STEWARDSHIP

1. TIME

Every person, poor or rich has 24 hours in a day. What do you do with your time? Do you use it wisely, or you waste it away? Time lost cannot be recovered.

TIME MANAGEMENT: The process of organizing and planning on how to divide your time between specific activities. Proper time management enables you to work “smarter,” not “harder,” so that you get more done in less time, even when time is tight, and pressures are high.

The following are some of the ways that can help one manage time:

- **Organize** – having a clear picture of what you want to complete and when.
- **Prioritize** – Prioritize important things that need your attention and planning. Avoid urgent activities that are not important. Facilitator to share on Time Management Strategies (High importance, Low importance, High Urgency, Low Urgency).
- **Set Goals** – Goal setting is the first right step in becoming a good time manager. It enables you to clearly understand your end goal and what exactly you need to prioritize to accomplish it.
- **Communicate** – Good communication skills allow you to make your plan and goals clear to people you work with or serve (family, ministry, church, business, organization, savings group, Bible study group, women group, men fellowship, youth, or children ministry)
- **Plan** – Thinking about activities required to achieve the desired goal.
- **Delegate** – Learn to allow others to do some of the work. Do not do everything. Other people can help accomplish the goals.

- **Manage Stress** - In ministry, we meet challenging situations that may give us stress. Being able to manage stress positively helps us stay motivated and perform well when going through our schedules.

2. TALENT

Talents may be God-given gifts or natural talents and abilities that we possess.

In the parable of the talents (*Matthew 25:14-30*), we learn that:

We have different gifts according to the grace given to us. Everyone should use their gift passionately. We learn that we are stewards of God's resources and the abilities that He has given us. We are also reminded that we will give an account of all that God has given us. We are therefore expected to add value to what He has entrusted to us.

As disciples of Jesus, we need to:

a) **Discover** b) **Develop**, and c) **Utilize** the gifts and talents bestowed upon us. As we serve God and His people, we glorify Him with our gifts.

God will reward faithful stewards according to *Matthew 25:21;23*, "Well done, good and faithful servant, you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord."

3. TREASURE:

The money, wealth, and riches that we have belong to God. We must use them as faithful stewards and glorify Him. As faithful stewards of God's treasure, we should:

- Use our wealth to further the kingdom of God by supporting the poor, orphans, and widows.
- Support mission work for many to be reached with the gospel.
- Give generously and cheerfully, knowing that there are rewards for giving (*2 Corinthians 9:6-7, Luke 6:38*).



Answer the questions

Q1. What lessons do we learn from the three servants with five talents, two talents, and one talent?

Q2. Read *Matthew 25: 14-30* and discuss how Christians should use God-given gifts in a church or Christian setting.

Summary and application

- ☒ God owns everything, and He is in control.
- ☒ People manage God's resources, and they are accountable to Him.
- ☒ We should aspire to finish well as disciples who are accountable to God.
- ☒ We should watch out for the four areas that lead people astray; Money, sex, power, and pride.

ACTIVITY

1. How would you meet the needs among yourselves? Have group members help a needy member (spiritual or physical need).
2. Plan to visit someone in your community who is sick or needy and address the needs.
3. Facilitators to help learners discover their area of gifts using Gifts Assessment Questionnaire.

OVERALL SUMMARY OF THE DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY ▲

Jesus calls us to follow Him in all that we do. As Jesus' disciples, we need to go (evangelize the world) and make disciples of Jesus Christ. In obedience, we need to baptize people into the community of believers. Finally, we must teach the disciples to obey what God has commanded us, including teaching them about the Great Commission.

Remember, discipleship is not a program but an intentional process of helping Christians to grow.

Jesus trained a few men, and that is the model we should follow. He called His disciples and said, "follow me and I will make you fishers of men." This is our core mission. Jesus invites us to follow Him and challenges us to make disciples. The disciples obeyed and passionately spread the gospel. Today, God is counting on us to finish the task.

Finally, He promises to be with us to the end of the age.
(Matthew 28:20).

APPENDIX 1

PART 2: READING THE NEW TESTAMENT IN ONE YEAR ▴

The Bible is God’s word to mankind. It is our guide in our walk with God. God speaks to us through His word. It is crucial to make a habit of reading the Bible in a systematic way—one book at a time—one chapter a day. To make it easy for you, we have scheduled a reading plan of six chapters per week. You will read one chapter a day for six days and have one day to revise or meditate. You plan for fifteen minutes every day for God’s word. Make it your goal to read the New Testament in one year. It is helpful to have your own Bible whenever possible.

As you read, pause to think about the stories you are reading about, mark, circle, or underline keywords, repetition, characters, interesting phrases, and areas you don’t understand. Think about the lessons you learned from the readings and how to apply them in your own life.

MONTH / WEEK	BOOKS AND CHAPTERS	NT WEEKLY DISCUSSION	DATE COMPLETED
1	W1 Matthew Chapters 1-6	Matthew 1:18-25 The Birth of Jesus	
	W2 Matthew Chapters 7-12	Matthew 8: 5-13 Centurion servant healed	
	W3 Matthew Chapters 13-18	Matthew 13:3-23 The parable of the sower	
	W4 Matthew Chapters 19-24	Matthew 21: 18-22 The story of the Fig tree.	
2	W1 Matthew Chapters 25-28	Matthew 28:16-20 The Great Commission	
	W2 Mark Chapters 1-6	Mark 4:35-41 Jesus calms the storm	
	W3 Mark Chapters 7-12	Mark 9:33-37 Who is the greatest?	
	W4 Mark Chapters 13-16	Mark 14: 3-9 Jesus anointed at Bethany	

MONTH / WEEK	BOOKS AND CHAPTERS	NT WEEKLY DISCUSSION	DATE COMPLETED
3	W1	Luke Chapters 1-6 Luke 4:1-13 The temptations of Jesus	
	W2	Luke Chapters 7-12 Luke 9: 10-17 Jesus feeds the five thousand	
	W3	Luke Chapters 13-18 Luke 15:11-32 Parable of the lost son	
	W4	Luke Chapters 19-24 Luke 19:1-10 Zacchaeus the Tax Collector	
4	W1	John Chapters 1-6 John 4:1-42 Jesus talks with a Samaritan woman	
	W2	John Chapters 7-12 John 11:1-44 The death of Lazarus	
	W3	John Chapters 13-18 John 16:5-16 The work of the Holy Spirit	
	W4	John Chapters 19-21 John 19:28-37 The death of Jesus	
5	W1	Acts Chapters 1-6 Acts 2:1-41 The Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost	
	W2	Acts Chapters 7-12 Acts 9:1-19 Saul's conversion	
	W3	Acts Chapters 13-18 Acts 12:1-19 Peter's miraculous escape from prison	
	W4	Acts Chapters 19-24 Acts 20:7-12 Eutychus raised from the dead at Troas	
6	W1	Acts Chapters 25-28 Acts 26:1-32 Paul before Agrippa	
	W2	Romans Chapters 1-6 Romans 6:1-14 Dead to sin, alive in Christ	
	W3	Romans Chapters 7-12 Romans 12:1-8 Living Sacrifices	
	W4	Romans Chapters 13-16 Romans 13:1-14 Submission to the authorities	
7	W1	1 Corinthians Chapters 1-6 1 Corinthians 3:1-23 Divisions in the church	
	W2	1 Corinthians Chapters 7-12 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 One body many parts	
	W3	1 Corinthians Chapters 13-16 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Love	
	W4	2 Corinthians Chapters 1-6 2 Corinthians 5:11-21 The Ministry of Reconciliation	

MONTH / WEEK	BOOKS AND CHAPTERS	NT WEEKLY DISCUSSION	DATE COMPLETED
8	W1	2 Corinthians Chapters 7-12 Giving	
	W2	2 Corinthians Chapter 13 Self-examination	
	W3	Galatians Chapters 1-6 Life by the Spirit	
	W4	Ephesians Chapters 1-6 Made alive in Christ	
9	W1	Philippians Chapters 1-4 Imitating Christ's humility	
	W2	Colossians Chapters 1-4 & I Thessalonians Chapters 1-2 Rules of the Holy Living	
	W3	1 Thessalonians Chapters 3-5 2 Thessalonians Chapters 1-3 Living to please God.	
	W4	1 Timothy Chapters 1-6 Paul's charge to Timothy	
10	W1	2 Timothy Chapters 1-4 Perilous Times in the last days	
	W2	Titus & Philemon Qualification for Elders	
	W3	Hebrews Chapters 1-6 Jesus greater than Moses	
	W4	Hebrews Chapters 7-13 The High Priest of a New Covenant	
11	W1	James Chapters 1-5 Faith and deeds.	
	W2	1 Peter Chapters 1-5 Be Holy	
	W3	2 Peter Chapters 1-3 False Teachers and False doctrines	
	W4	1 John 5, 2 John, 3 John, Jude Children of God.	
12	W1	Revelation Chapters 1-6 The seven (7) churches	
	W2	Revelation Chapters 7-11 The Great Multitude in White Robes	
	W3	Revelation Chapters 12-16 The Woman and the Dragon	
	W4	Revelation Chapters 17-22 Jesus is coming	

APPENDIX 2

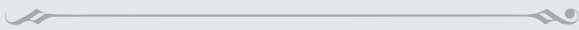
DIVISIONS OF THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE ACCORDING TO THEIR CLASSIFICATIONS ▲

The division below gives an overview of the Old and New Testament. Facilitators will help learners to understand how the Bible is structured and how the message of salvation flows throughout the entire Bible.

Law - 5 Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy	Prophetical -17 Major 5 Isaiah Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel Minor 12 Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi	Epistles -21 Pauline 13 Romans 1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians 1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians 1 Timothy 2 Timothy Titus Philemon General 8 Hebrews James Peter Peter 1 John 2 John 3 John Jude
Historical -12 Joshua Judges Ruth 1 Samuel 2 Samuel 1 Kings 2 Kings 1 Chronicles 2 Chronicles Ezra Nehemiah Esther		Prophecy -1 Revelation
Poetical -5 Job Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon	Gospels -4 Matthew Mark Luke John	
	History -1 Acts	

A PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

You may be reading this workbook and are not saved, or you are wondering how to help someone who wants to repent and be reconciled to God. It is not the prayer that saves, but Jesus, who is already at work, transforming you or the person you are helping. The prayer below is a response to what is happening in your heart, or the heart of the person you are helping.



Dear heavenly Father, I come to you in humility through this prayer. I have heard your word. I have learned that you loved the World, and that You gave your begotten Son Jesus Christ that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Dear Lord Jesus, today, I acknowledge that I am a sinner before you.

I repent of my sins and ask you to forgive me now. I denounce Satan together with his sinful nature, and I turn to you. Wash me with the precious blood that You shed on the cross for my sins.

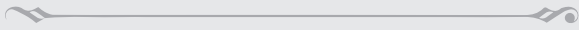
Thank you for writing my name in the book of life. From this day forward, I commit my life to You to be my Lord and Savior.

Fill me with Your Holy Spirit to be my guide in my new life of salvation.

I believe that I am now a new creation and that my old sinful self is gone.

Thank you for saving me. I am now born again. I pray this through Jesus Christ, my Lord.

Amen.





ABOUT - PIPES INTERNATIONAL

PIPES stands for Partnership for Indigenous Peoples. PIPES International is a global Christian organization partnering with indigenous peoples, local churches, and communities to make disciples and end poverty

PIPES was founded in 2011 and has advanced the gospel of Jesus Christ in more than twenty countries. We care about Mission and Discipleship, Community Development, Family Transformation, and Education and Training. We serve where the need is greatest, and we have witnessed the transforming power of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We encourage you to partner with PIPES International to spread God's love and fight abject poverty to the most impoverished communities in the world. You can join our Missions team, Prayer partner's team, and the Global Partners for financial support.

To partner with PIPES, visit our website; www.pipesinternational.org or email us info@pipesinternational.org.



PIPES Mission Team 2019 in the Philippines



Pastor Isaac Maina, PIPES International Africa Coordinator, introducing Audio Bibles in Idjwi Island, DR Congo-2019.



*PIPES Mission Team 2018 in Indonesia.
The team comprises missionaries from Asia, Africa, and the United States.*



*PIPES Mission Team 2019 in Rwanda.
The team comprises missionaries from Africa and the United States*



PIPES Mission Team 2018 in Pakistan

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

SAMUEL MWANGI

Samuel Mwangi is a missionary, pastor, and author. He is the founder and President of PIPES International. Samuel holds a BSc from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, a Master of Divinity (MDiv) from Africa International University, and a Master of Social Work (MSW) -Social and Economic Development from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri-USA.

He is married to his dear wife and ministry partner, Esther Mwangi, and they are blessed with a son, Sammy Mwangi Jr.

His family lives in St. Louis, Missouri, and travels extensively for missions, international conferences, and to oversee PIPES work around the world.

ISAAC MAINA

Isaac Maina is the Africa Coordinator for PIPES International. He is based in Kenya, where he lives with his wife Irene and their two children, Benjamin and Priscila. He joined PIPES in 2012 and worked as a missionary in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He worked among the pygmy communities and helped build the Hope Academy to educate orphans and vulnerable children.

Pastor Isaac travels extensively in East and Central Africa to coordinate projects and programs, train pastors, and oversee PIPES work. He holds a Diploma in Theology from KAG EAST university.