

*\*For correspondence students only:*

*After you have completed these Bible studies and can quote word perfectly each of the five Scripture memory verses, please return this booklet to your teacher in person or by mail. Your Bible study will then be corrected and returned to you in the same manner, along with the next course, "The Timothy Training Course." Space is provided below for your instructor's name and address and for your name and address.*

*Instructor's name:*

*Student's name:*

*Instructor's address:*

*Student's address:*

# **The Gospel of John Bible Studies**

## **A Basic Follow-up Course**

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# Lesson 1:

## UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

- (1) Review the Good News Bridge
- (2) Check John 5:24
- (3) Read "Assurances"

### Assurances

Jesus said, "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me." (Revelation 3:20)

Along with this wonderful truth the Scripture also says, "Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:12)

If you have to the best of your knowledge received Jesus Christ, God's Son, as your own Savior, according to the Scriptures quoted above you have become a child of God in whom Jesus Christ dwells.

Too many people make the mistake of measuring the certainty of their salvation by their feelings. Don't make this tragic mistake. Believe God! Take him at his word: "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life" (1John 5:13).

You have become a child of God; you have been born into his family as a spiritual babe. You have the potential to live the rest of your life in victorious obedience to God. It is our desire to share with you a few simple truths that will strengthen you, and keep you safe from the onslaughts of Satan.

In 1Peter 2:2 you will read, "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation." And in Acts 20:32 you will read, "Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up." His word will now serve as your spiritual food and will build you up in the faith.

If you don't have a Bible, please get one and begin to read it faithfully every day. It is important that you begin to set aside time, preferably in the morning, to read and study the word of God, and to pray. A good place to start reading would be the Gospel of John or the Gospel of Mark.

A very effective way to get the Bible into your life is to begin memorizing key portions of it. Why should we do this? In Psalm 119:9 we read, "How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word." Then in verse 11 the psalmist says to the Lord, "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." God's word gives us answers to everyday problems. So we challenge you to hide Scripture in your heart--to memorize it--to become stronger in your Christian life. In this course we have

14. Of whom did John the Baptist witness? (Jn 1:6-8)
15. How many miracles did John the Baptist perform in persuading many people that Jesus is the Son of God? (Jn 10:41-42)
16. What is God's command to the Christian concerning the places where Christ has not been preached? (Jn 20:21; 10:16; 4:35-36)

- (5) Memorize Hebrews 10:24-25

### Fellowship

Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25

**Congratulations! You have completed the Gospel of John Bible Study. We encourage you to continue to worship and fellowship at your local church.**

#### (4) Complete the Bible study below

1. What is the condition for a Christian's prayer to be answered? (Jn 14:13-14; 15:16)
2. What usually follows when Christian's prayers are answered? (Jn 16:24)
3. What does Jesus emphasize as more important than the place in which you pray? (Jn 4:20, 23)
4. Rather than asking God to permit Him to escape suffering, what did Jesus pray? (Jn 12:27-28)
5. What is Jesus' prayer for the believer who faces the evils of this world? (Jn 17:15)
6. When can you be assured that God hears your prayers (Jn 9:31)
7. What new commandment did Christ give to His disciples? (Jn 13:34-35; 15:12)
8. How can I prove that I have a sincere love for the Lord Jesus Christ? (Jn 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 14)
9. What blessing follows when we strictly obey the Word of God? (Jn 13:17)
10. In what way is every Christian chosen to glorify God? (Jn 15:8, 16)
11. Of what can the Christian, who has passed from darkness into the light of Christ, testify from the moment he receives Christ as his Savior? (Jn 9:25)
12. What did Andrew and Philip do as soon as they had come to Jesus Christ? (Jn 1:42, 45, 46)
13. What words should I use in witnessing to others? (Jn 7:18; 3:34)

included a few key passages with which you may begin.

But first, let us consider the new enemy you now face. Before you trusted Christ, Satan may not have bothered you particularly, but now you have left his crowd and joined the ranks of those who believe in and follow the Son of God and his word. You are no longer in Satan's domain. You belong to Christ, who has bought and paid for you with a price—the price of his own blood shed on the cross.

You may be sure that Satan will attempt to trouble you. His attacks assume many forms, but we want to speak of some of the most common ones, and help you resist them successfully. The five verses of Scripture in this course will equip you for your first encounters with the enemy.

#### Assurance of Salvation

Satan's first approach is often to cast doubt on the work God has done in your heart. Although you won't hear his audible voice, he will whisper this in your mind: "You don't think you are saved and your sins forgiven just by believing and receiving Christ? Surely that is not enough!"

What will your answer be? Your only hope of successfully resisting such an attack is to resort to God's word. What does God say about the matter? That is the important thing. The first memory passage, John 5:24 is entitled **Assurance of Salvation**, and says, "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my words and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life."

Please use this verse to get rid of the doubt and fear Satan whispers into your heart. God promises us that whoever believes in Jesus Christ will surely be saved. Salvation is based on God's word; this is why we know we are saved. It is not based on "feelings", or good deeds or being a good person.

Notice in this verse that Jesus clearly says if you have heard the gospel and believed in God and Jesus the Savior God has sent, you have crossed over from death to life – you are saved right now and have the eternal life. In the future you will definitely not be condemned to Hell – the place God prepared for Satan and his demons, together with all those who are not willing to believe in Jesus Christ. Please memorize this verse to get rid of the doubt and fear in your heart, and extinguish the flaming arrows of the evil one. (Eph 6:16)

#### (4) Complete the Bible study below

The purpose of this lesson is to help you understand the Gospel of John through your own study. The answer to each question is found by looking up the Bible verse which is given. Do not merely copy the verse, but after studying the passage, answer the questions in your own words.

(Note: All the references are from the Gospel of John.)

1. Why was the Gospel of John written? (Jn 20:31)  
(a)

- (b)
2. What did Jesus call Himself? (Jn 8:12)
  3. Where does the light of Jesus shine? (Jn 1:5)
  4. Why do some men prefer to live in darkness rather than light? (Jn 3:19)
  5. What happens to the man who does not believe in Jesus? (Jn 8:24)
  6. Why did Jesus come into the world? (Jn 3:17)
  7. But who is already condemned by God? (Jn 3:18)
  8. What is the end result of those who refuse to believe in the Son of God? (Jn 3:36)

Through studying these verses you have realized that Jesus is the Son of God, the Light of the World. He came to a world living in darkness to bring light and life. However, many people do not believe in Jesus and choose to remain in darkness. These will die in their sins under the wrath of God.

9. Who is able to take away the sin of the world? (Jn 1:29; 36)

Note: In the Old Testament the priests regularly sacrificed a lamb for the sins of the people, but this was only a temporary solution. A Perfect Lamb, Jesus Christ, must be killed on the cross to take away our sin forever.

10. How did Jesus prove His love for the people? (Jn 15:13)
11. Was the Lamb of God a perfect lamb? What fault could even His enemies find in Jesus at His trial? (Jn 18:38; 19:4)
12. Tell of the sufferings that Christ bore when He died for our sins:
  - (a) Jn 19:1-
  - (b) Jn 19:2-

## Baptism

Baptism is a wonderful celebration of our new relationship with Christ and His people. According to Romans 6, when we believed, we died, were buried and were raised again with Christ. Baptism is the visible picture of this spiritual transaction. It is a declaration to brothers and sisters, as well as to friends and family outside the church, of our faith in Christ. Having entered into the fellowship of believers through faith in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on our behalf, the new Christian now has the responsibility and privilege to publicly proclaim what Christ has already done in his or her heart. This is accomplished through baptism. Christ commanded that His followers be baptized, and in obeying this command, we reveal our faith in Him. Therefore, every believer should be baptized.

## Communion

Jesus himself established Communion, also called the Lord's supper. The Lord told his disciples to keep this celebration in remembrance of Him (1Corinthians 11:24-25). Whenever we drink the cup and eat the bread, we are to remember that the Lord died for us. The death of Christ was God's greatest display of love (John 15:13). For this reason, every Christian should remember the Lord and His death at all times. The communion bread represents His body which was broken for us; the cup His blood which was shed for us. Therefore, Christians should share in communion in order to keep fresh his remembrance of God's grace and his relationship with Christ.

Communion also reminds us that we have been united as brothers and sisters. "Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf" (1Corinthians 10:16-17). Through the bread and cup, the Lord reminds us that we should receive and live in unity with one another. So communion is a very important part of Christian fellowship.

Before we participate in communion, we need to prepare our hearts. "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup" (1Corinthians 11:28). We should search our hearts for any recent sins or wrong doing toward others, especially our brothers. If we find any, we need to confess it to God, and if possible, reconcile with those brothers beforehand, for "anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1Corinthians 11:29, NIV).

## Lesson 4: CHRISTIAN LIVING

- (1) Review the Good News Bridge
- (2) Check Jn 5:24, 1Cor 10:13, 1Jn 1:9, Jn 16:24
- (3) Read "Fellowship"

### Fellowship

Ephesians 4:11-16 God has appointed some to lead in the church in order to prepare those who follow for works of service. The leaders serve by teaching and training God's people to serve. Pastors make clear the Word of God so that those who hear can understand and apply it accurately to their lives. In fact, God has given every believer different gifts, and we are called to use these gifts to help others grow in their faith and service to God. As we work together, we can build each other up toward unity in faith, knowledge and maturity in Christ, who is the head of us all. This is accomplished through lovingly meeting the needs of brothers and sisters, and lovingly challenging each other in our walk with Christ. We are all called to serve whether we are leaders in the church or not--and our service is to build one another up in our faith, knowledge and understanding of Christ.

Hebrews 10:24-25 tells us to consider how to encourage each other on into more love and more good deeds. This is true fellowship. It is possible to attend church and yet not really fellowship. We are not to discontinue meeting together--fellowshipping together is vital to the healthy development of not only individual Christians, but to the whole body as well. We need one another and one another's gifts so that each one of us can grow together into the unity of maturity in Christ.

Proverbs 27:17 says, "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." To grow toward maturity, we need to be challenged by older, mature Christians. We need to learn from their understanding of Christ and the Scriptures; we can learn from their experience of Christ in their daily lives. Even young Christians recently starting out on this journey can encourage those just beginning. The excitement a young Christian has at the newness of this life can help keep fresh an older Christian's relationship with Christ. Young and old mutually benefit from fellowship with one another.

### Sacraments

Within the fellowship of the church there are two important sacraments. These are baptism and communion.

(c) Jn 19:3-

(d) Jn 19:17-

(e) Jn 19:18-

13. Why did God allow His only Son to die? (Jn 3:16)

14. Where was the body of Jesus placed after death? (Jn 19:41-42)

15. What happened three days after Jesus' body was put in the grave? (Jn 20:1-9; 19-20)

The heart of the Gospel is the fact that Jesus, God's only begotten Son, died on the cross for our sins. He was buried to prove His death, then He conquered death and rose again. Hallelujah!

16. What happens to those who believe this Gospel and receive Jesus into their hearts? (Jn 1:12)

17. Have you become a child of God? When?

### (5) Memorize 1Corinthians 10:13

#### Assurance of Victory

1Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

1Corinthians 10:13

## Lesson 2: GOD'S PROTECTION AND LOVE

- (1) Review the Good News Bridge
- (2) Check John 5:24, 1Corinthians 10:13
- (3) Read "Assurance of Victory" and "Assurance of Forgiveness"

### Assurance of Victory

Another attack from Satan may be along this line: He will whisper to you, "You have life, all right, but you are a weakling; you have always been a weakling." He will remind you of some sin, which has gripped you for years. He will point to something of which you are keenly aware, and say, "You are weak, and you will not be able to stand against this temptation. You may be able to stand against others, but not this one."

How will you answer him? Will you attempt to reason? Will you try to produce your own arguments? Will you run to see what other people say? Or will you rely on God's word? The second verse to memorize -- 1Corinthians 10:13 -- is chosen especially to meet this attack of Satan. "No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it."

This gives **Assurance of Victory**. God promises victory. It belongs to you as his child. Believe him, and you will see how God does things that are impossible with men. It will thrill you to see chains of lifetime habits broken by his mighty power.

### Assurance of Forgiveness

Now let us take a look at the third step of Satan's attack. Although victory over sin is rightfully yours, there will be times when you miss the way of escape and you will fail and sin against God. Once you do, your enemy will be on the job immediately: "Now you've done it. Aren't you supposed to be a Christian? Christians don't do those things."

But God makes provision in his word for the failures of his children, as we see in the third verse on **Assurance of Forgiveness**, 1John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." In this verse God promises not only

7. What is the prophecy concerning the temple of the body of Christ? (John 2:19-20; 20:9--many Old Testament verses prophesy this truth.)
8. After I have believed in Christ, what must I do to be a faithful disciple? (John 8:31)
9. What causes a Christian to be sanctified? (John 17:17)
10. What does God do for those who abide in His Word? (John 15:7)
11. What is the work of the Holy Spirit concerning God's Word? (John 16:13; 14:26)
12. What benefits may I obtain from God's Word?
  - (a) John 6:63-
  - (b) John 15:3-
  - (c) John 15:11-
  - (d) John 16:33-

### (5) Memorize John 16:24

#### Assurance of Answered Prayer

John 16:24

Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

John 16:24

**(4) Complete the Bible study below**

1. What causes people to believe in Christ? (John 17:8; 4:41,50)
2. What kind of people are those who reject God's Word? (John 8:37, 47)
3. What two things happen when the teachings of God's Word are brought before sinful men? (John 15:22; 12:48)
4. What is able to release me from the bondage of sin? (John 8:32)

"And now I have told you before it is come to pass that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe" (John 14:29). The proof of the Word of God is borne out by the fact that the prophecies recorded by the Holy Spirit hundreds of years before, were minutely fulfilled in Christ's life, death, and resurrection.

5. What is the prophecy concerning Christ's death on the cross? (Compare John 13:18; 18:2,5 with Psalm 41:9)
6. What prophecies were fulfilled by Christ's death on the cross?
  - (a) Concerning His clothes (Compare John 19:23-24 with Psalm 22:18)
  - (b) Concerning His suffering? (Compare John 19:28-30 with Psalm 69:21)
  - (c) Concerning His side? (Compare John 19:34-37 with Zechariah 12:10)
  - (d) Concerning His body being kept whole? (Compare John 19:33,36 with Psalm 34:20)

to forgive us, but also to cleanse us. What a gracious provision!

**(4) Complete the Bible study below**

1. Is it more important to spend your life seeking after physical things or eternal things? (Jn 6:27)
2. What did Jesus say was the only acceptable work for receiving eternal life? (Jn 6:29)
3. Having received salvation by God's grace apart from any works, will Jesus ever cast aside our salvation? (Jn 6:37)
4. If I have heard His Word and believed, then... (Jn 5:24)
  - (a) What do I now possess?
  - (b) Will I ever be condemned by God and sent to hell?
  - (c) What condition have I crossed over from?
5. Who is able to snatch away God's sheep who have eternal life? (Jn 10:27-28)
6. Who joins with Jesus Christ to safeguard the salvation of the Christian? (Jn 10:29-30; 17:11)
7. According to Jn 14:16-17...
  - (a) Who is the Comforter?
  - (b) How long does He abide in the believer's heart?
  - (c) Does He live in me?

God's love is so great and so complete that nothing can separate us from it. "For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of GOD, which is in CHRIST JESUS or LORD" (Romans 8:38-39)

8. How does God's love for His only Son compare with God's love for us? (Jn 17:23)
9. In what way is Christ's love manifested to us? (Jn 10:11; 15:13)
10. Does Jesus love me in the midst of sickness and death? (Jn 11:3; 15:13)
11. What happened when Jesus spoke to Lazarus whose body was in the grave? (Jn 11:43-44)
12. Even after death what will happen when Christ calls us? (Jn 5:28; 6:40)
13. Why should the Christian never fear death? (Jn 11:25)
14. What kind of place has Christ prepared for those who believe in Him? (Jn 14:2-3)

**(5) Memorize 1John 1:9**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

1John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1John 1:9

## Lesson 3: THE WORD OF GOD

- (1) Review the Good News Bridge
- (2) Check John 5:24, 1Cor 10:13, 1John 1:9
- (3) Read "Assurance of Answered Prayer" and "How to Memorize a Verse"

### Assurance of Answered Prayer

A spiritual babe needs to learn that he can speak directly to his Heavenly Father through Jesus Christ. He can confidently enter God's presence and talk to Him about everything that affects his life (*Philippians 4:6*). In memory verse John 16:24, Jesus gives us the assurance that He will answer our prayers.

### How to Memorize a Verse

- Read the verse several times to get the meaning.
- Start with the topic and reference: Assurance of Salvation, John 5:24, and say it several times with the first phrase of the verse.
- Then when you can say that by heart, add the next phrase, and say the topic and reference together with both phrases.
- Continue phrase by phrase until you can say the entire verse from memory.
- Then each time you review the verse, state the topic, the reference, the verse, and the reference again at the end.
- By repeating the reference before and after the verse, it helps you remember the location of it in the Bible.

The key to successful Scripture memory is daily review. Review the verse every day until it becomes part of you. Carry cards with you so that they are handy for use during your spare time. Scripture memory can become a lifetime habit that will give you blessing and strength as you learn to apply the verses to your life.